"An Artistic Discovery"
Congressional Art Competition
2015

Congressman Patrick E. Murphy
Serving Florida's 18th District

Application and artwork submissions are due April 29, 2015

January 12, 2015

Dear Participants,

I am pleased to inform you that the Eighteenth Congressional District of Florida will participate in the *2015 Congressional Art Competition*, "An Artistic Discovery", which provides high school students the opportunity to showcase their talent.

This competition allows high school students living in the Eighteenth Congressional District to submit their artwork and compete for the grand prize of having their art displayed in the Halls of the Capitol for one year. In addition, the winner of the district level competition and a guest will be invited to Washington D.C. to attend a ceremony honoring winners from across the country. Southwest Airlines will provide free air travel to and from Washington D.C. for the winner and his/her guest.

Participants should deliver the provided application and artwork to one of my office locations:

MARTIN COUNTY OFFICE
171 SW Flagler Avenue, Stuart, FL 34994
Phone: (772) 781-3266 Fax: (772) 781-3267

PALM BEACH COUNTY OFFICE
2000 PGA Blvd Suite A3220, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33408
Phone: (561) 253-8433 Fax: (561) 253-8436

ST. LUCIE COUNTY OFFICE
121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd, Room 187, Port St. Lucie, FL 34984
Phone: (772) 336-2877 Fax: (772) 336-2899

Students should be advised to submit their application and artwork to one of the mentioned locations by **Wednesday, April 29, 2015**. Please note that deadlines and artwork size requirements are strictly enforced. Late submissions or failure to meet requirements will result in disqualification from the competition. A panel of judges will select three semifinalists at the district reception on **Saturday, May 2, 2015** and will be announced on **Monday, May 4, 2015** via Facebook.

The winner will be chosen by the highest number of votes via Facebook. The voting period on Facebook will begin on **Monday, May 4, 2015 thru Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 12 p.m.** The semifinalist with the highest number of votes on Facebook will be declared the winner of the 2015 Congressional Art Competition of the Eighteenth Congressional District of Florida.

2015 Congressional Art Competition
Student Information & Release Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. THIS INFORMATION IS USED FOR CERTIFICATES AND AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

MEMBER/DISTRICT INFORMATION	
MEMBER OF CONGRESS NAME:	STATE & DISTRICT:

STUDENT INFORMATION		
NAME:		GRADE:
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT):		
STUDENT EMAIL:	STUDENT PHONE (CELL):	
T-SHIRT SIZE:		
PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME(S):		
PARENT PHONE (HOME):	PARENT PHONE (WORK or CELL):	

SCHOOL		
SCHOOL NAME:		
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
ART TEACHER NAME:		
ART TEACHER PHONE:	ART TEACHER EMAIL:	

ART COMPETITION ENTRY
TITLE OF ENTRY:
MEDIUM:
DESCRIPTION: Please include a detailed description of the artwork, clearly identifying the major elements of the piece.
For office use only: FRAMED DIMENSIONS: Height:_____ inches Width: _____inches Depth: _____ inches See official guidelines for framed size and artwork weight restrictions.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE RELEASE FORM ON PAGE 2.

2015 Congressional Art Competition
Student Information & Release Form

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)	
STUDENT NAME:	STATE & DISTRICT:
TITLE OF ENTRY:	

ORIGINALITY CERTIFICATION	
I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the art entry described above is an original work of authorship by the undersigned student and that it is not copied from, nor does it include, any other person's copyrighted work.	
STUDENT SIGNATURE	ART TEACHER SIGNATURE

ARTWORK RELEASE	
We, the undersigned, represent that the art entry described above is an original work of authorship personally created by the undersigned student to which the student is entitled copyright protection. In consideration for the acceptance of the art entry by the Member of Congress designated above in *An Artistic Discovery* (the Congressional Art Competition sponsored by the U.S. House of Representatives) and intending to be legally bound hereby, the undersigned grant the Member and the House the right to publicly display the art entry, if it is selected for display, in accordance with the rules of the Art Competition, for a period of two years from the latest date on this form. The undersigned acknowledge that the final decision regarding the suitability of an art entry to be displayed in the Capitol will be made by a House panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. The undersigned also grant the Member, the House, their employees and agents, the United States, and the Congressional Institute, Inc., and its employees, the right to reproduce the art entry for any non-commercial purpose. The undersigned further release the Member, the House, their employees and agents, the United States, and the Congressional Institute, Inc., and its employees, from any and all liability for damage, loss, or misappropriation of the art entry during and subsequent to the Art Competition. The undersigned further agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Member, the House, their employees and agents, the United States, and the Congressional Institute, Inc., and its employees, against any and all claims of any nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, claims of copyright infringement, by any party whatsoever, arising out of or in any way related to the submission of the art entry in the Art Competition.	
STUDENT SIGNATURE	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18)

MEMBER APPROVAL (FOR OVERALL WINNER ONLY)	
I have viewed the above-signed student's artwork and approve of its content. I understand that by signing this form I am supporting this artwork and am responsible for its content.	
MEMBER SIGNATURE	PRINT DISTRICT OFFICE CONTACT NAME PRINT DC OFFICE CONTACT NAME

2015 RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

General Information

The rules and regulations included here apply nationwide. Each Member of Congress may issue additional rules for his or her district. Please consult with your Member's office to verify whether any additional rules apply.

The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions may be made for schools that have 7th through 12th grades on one campus. Teachers and/or students should verify their eligibility with the office of the Member of Congress.

Artwork must be two-dimensional. Each framed artwork can be **no larger** than **28 inches long, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep**. If your artwork is selected as the winning piece, it must arrive framed and must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions. No framed piece should weigh more than 15 pounds.

Accepted mediums for the two-dimensional artwork are as follows:

- Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
- Drawings: colored pencil, pencil, ink, marker, pastels, charcoal (It is recommended that charcoal and pastel drawings be fixed.)
- Collages: must be two dimensional
- Prints: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints
- Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, watercolor, etc.
- Computer-generated art
- Photographs

Each entry must be **original** in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Any entry that has been copied from an existing photo or image (including a painting, graphic, or advertisement) that was created by someone other than the student is a violation of the competition rules and **will not** be accepted.

Work entered must be in the original medium (that is, not a scanned reproduction of a painting or drawing).

Artwork will hang in the Capitol for the **entire year** of the exhibition and **cannot** be returned to the students earlier. Students should, therefore, submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.

Suitability Guidelines

As outlined in these guidelines, the final decision regarding the suitability of all artwork for the 2015 Congressional Art Competition exhibition in the Capitol will be made by a panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. While it is not the intent to censor any artwork, we do wish to avoid artwork that is potentially inappropriate for display in this highly travelled area leading to the Capitol.

Artwork must adhere to the policy of the House Office Building Commission. In accordance with this policy, exhibits depicting subjects of contemporary political controversy or a sensationalistic or gruesome nature are not allowed. It is necessary that all artwork be reviewed by the panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol and any portion not in consonance with the Commission's policy will be omitted from the exhibit.

Student Information and Release Form

Each entrant must submit a Student Information and Release Form. The Student Information and Release Form is available through the office of your Member of Congress.

The information requested on the first page of the form should be provided as thoroughly as possible. Students should be sure list their mailing addresses, if they differ from their home addresses. Students should also include contact information that will be valid for several years.

The form requires a description of the artwork, which should be detailed, clearly identifying the major elements of the work. For example, "self-portrait" or "a picture of two people" would be unacceptable, due to the large number of works that would fit that description. The following is an example of an acceptable description: "A painting of two people; the person on the left wears a green sweater and khaki pants; the person on the right wears a black shirt and a striped skirt. A dog sits at their feet."

The second page of the Student Information and Release Form contains a legal release and a certification that the artwork is original in design and execution. The student, an art teacher, and a parent or guardian must sign where appropriate. Entries without signed originality certifications and artwork releases may not be accepted.

A **TYPED** copy of the Student Information and Release Form, signed by the teacher, a parent or guardian, and the student, **must be** securely attached to the back of the artwork to certify the originality of the piece. Please retain a copy for your records.

Framing Guidelines (Overall Winner)

Framing regulations apply only to the winning artwork that will be sent to Washington, DC. Each Member of Congress may include additional entry rules for his or her own District; please consult your Member's office to see whether a frame is required for the district competition. Even if your Member of Congress does not require a frame to enter the artwork in the district competition, **if your artwork is selected for display in the Congressional Art Competition exhibition, it must be delivered in a frame no larger than 28 inches long, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep.**

All winning artwork must be enhanced and protected by a sturdy frame. Frames must be made of wood or metal. No plastic "snap on" or metal frames that can easily come apart are to be used.

All artwork except paintings in oil or acrylic on canvas must be protected by Plexiglas or glass. Plexiglas is preferred. If glass is used, special packing and shipping arrangements are encouraged to ensure that the work is not damaged if the glass breaks.

All works, including frame, should be no larger than 28 inches long, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep, to the outside of the frame, and 15 pounds in weight. Ensure the framer is informed of the size and weight limit and double check the size before sending the entry to Washington, DC. ***Due to wide participation of Member offices, framed works larger than the specified dimensions will be turned away.***

Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully selected.

The artwork will be hung from vertical wires. Two sturdy eye hooks or the equivalent **must** be attached at the top right and left sides of the back of the frame for hanging in order to prevent the work from leaning forward or hanging unevenly. Wire between the hooks is not needed.

Do not attach labels, ribbons, etc., to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.

Please indicate which side is up by marking arrows pointing towards the top on the back.

Each work must have a label with this information securely applied to the back:

Student Name
Address
Phone Number

Title

Medium

Member's Name

State and District

Please use the largest label you have available. This information should be typed.

2015 Art Submission Checklist

When preparing for the Congressional Art Competition, please complete the following checklist. This will ensure that the Congressional Art Competition staff will accept the artwork.

Please consult the official rules and regulations for more information.

This checklist is based on the rules and regulations that apply nationwide. Each Member of Congress may institute other requirements in addition to these.

Requirements for All Students, Parents/Guardians, and Teachers:

- ☐ The artwork is no larger than 28" x 28" x 4" when framed. (Note: Each Member of Congress may specify whether or not all entries should be framed. Prior to sending the winning artwork to Washington, DC, it must be framed.)
- ☐ The artwork meets suitability and originality guidelines.
- ☐ The Student Information and Release Form is attached to the back of the artwork.
    - ☐ The release form has signatures from the student, parent/guardian (if necessary), and an art teacher.

Requirements for the Winning Student and Parents/Guardians:

- ☐ Frame the winning artwork.
    - ☐ Remove all labels, ribbons, etc., before framing.
    - ☐ *The artwork is no larger than **28" x 28" x 4"** and does not weigh more than 15 pounds, **including the frame**.*
    - ☐ Attach two sturdy eye hooks or the equivalent at the top right and left sides of the back of the frame.
    - ☐ Draw arrows on the back of the artwork to indicate which direction is "up".

Requirements for Congressional Offices:

- ☐ If there are questions about the winning artwork's suitability or originality, consult with the Curator of the Architect of the Capitol. For a consultation, please call 202-228-2700.
- ☐ Submit the winner's name, contact information, and artwork information to the Congressional Institute no later than May 6, 2015.
- ☐ Package the artwork and ship it to Washington, DC, so that it arrives no later than May 26, 2015.
    - ☐ If the art is covered by glass, pack the art in such a way that the pane will not break. (Consult a shipping expert for assistance.)
    - ☐ Mail the artwork to the home of a DC staffer, **not** directly to the Congressional office.
- ☐ The second page of the Student Information and Release Form attached to the back of the artwork bears the Member's signature.