

2008 ART COMPETITION GUIDELINES

General Guidelines

- The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions will be made for schools that have 7th through 12th grades in one building.
- In order to allow an artwork to hang in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol, the following restrictions are necessary:
 - Piece must be two-dimensional
 - Each piece can be **no larger** than 30 inches by 30 inches to the outside dimensions of the frame
 - No more than 4 inches in depth
- Artwork will hang in the Capitol for **the entire year** of the exhibition and cannot be returned to students earlier. Students, therefore, should submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.
- Artwork categories are as follows:
 - Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
 - Drawings: pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, markers
 - Collage: must be two dimensional
 - Prints: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints
 - Mixed media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, etc.
 - Computer generated art
 - Photography
- Each entry must be an original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate any U.S copyright laws.

Note: Any entry which has been reproduced from an existing photo, painting, graphic, advertisement or any other work produced by another person is a violation of the competition rules and **will not** be accepted.
- The final decision regarding the suitability of all artwork for the exhibition in the Capitol will be made by panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the Capitol.

Framing Guidelines

- **All artwork**, except for oil paintings, must be protected by a Plexiglas or glass frame.
- All works, **when framed**, should be **no larger** than 30 inches high, 30 inches wide, and 4 inches deep including the outside dimensions of the frame. Due to wide participation of Member offices, framed work larger than the specified dimensions will be turned away.

- Frames should be kept as simple and sturdy as possible. Metal frames are recommended.
- No “snap on” frames with glass are to be used. Plexiglas is better to use than glass over the artwork in order to avoid breakage. **Do not attach labels, ribbon, etc.** to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.
- Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully prepared.
- Use sturdy picture hangers. Two hooks should be attached at the right and the left sides of the back of the work in order to prevent the work from leaning forward or hanging unevenly.
- Since frames will be suspended by wire from overhead molding, please do not put wire between the hooks.
- If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the back side which side is up with arrows.
- As directed by the House Oversight and Standards of Official Conduct Committees, each district winner is responsible for framing his or her own entry. Any hardship cases should be assisted at the district level; works can no longer be framed by the Architect of the Capitol.

Suitability Guidelines

- As outlined in these guidelines, the final decision regarding suitability for exhibition in the Capitol is left to 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 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 portions not in consonance with the Commission’s policy will be omitted from the exhibit.

For a complete list of all guidelines and requirements:
<http://www.house.gov/house/ArtGuidelines.shtml>.