

Congressional Art Competition Guidelines 2012

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions may be made for schools that have 7th through 12th grades in one building.
- **Only one entry permitted per student.**
- In order to allow an artwork to hang in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol, the following restrictions are necessary:
 - Two-dimensional only
 - Each artwork **when framed** can be **no larger than** 28 inches by 28 inches to the outside dimensions of the frame and no more than 4 inches in depth
 - No more than 15 lbs in weight (framed)
- 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
 - Computer generated art
 - Photography
- A copy of the Student Participation/Release Form must be signed by the teacher and the student to certify the originality of the art piece **and attached to the back of the artwork.**
- 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 or any other work produced by another person is a violation of the competition rules and WILL NOT be accepted.
- The final decision regarding suitability for the exhibition in the Capitol will be made by a panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the Capitol.
- The winning entry will hang in the Capitol for the entire year of the exhibition and cannot be returned earlier. The runner-ups will hang for one year in Congressman Van Hollen's offices. The entries selected for inclusion in the VisArts exhibition will hang until May 17th. **Students, therefore, should submit artwork they will not need for other purposes during this time period.**

FRAMING GUIDELINES

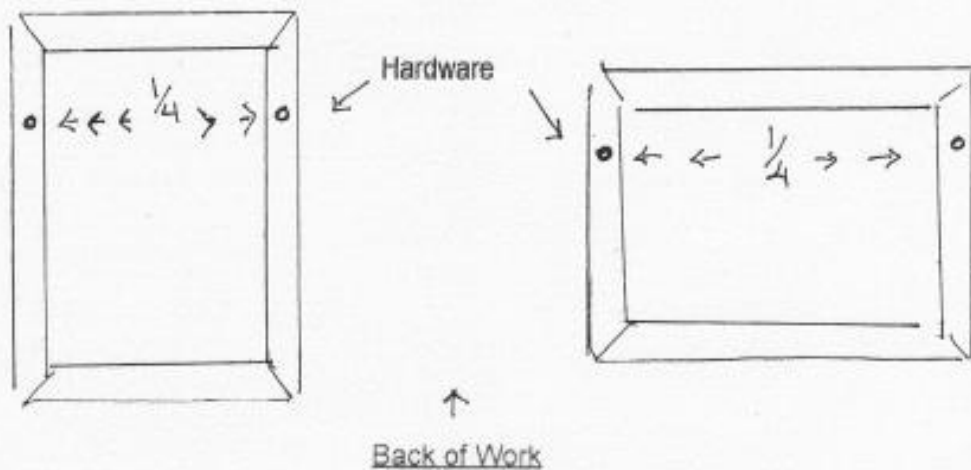
- Two-dimensional work only. All work must be framed. Prints, collage & works on paper must be behind glass or Plexiglas.
- The artwork selected to hang in the Capitol will need to be protected by glass or Plexiglas.
- **Framed work** should be **no larger than** 28 inches high, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep **including the outside** dimensions of the frame and no greater than 15 lbs in weight. (Please double-check size before submitting; framed work larger than the dimensions will not be accepted.)
- Frames should be kept as simple and as sturdy as possible. Wood or metal frames are recommended. (For framing and hardware questions, contact Linda Pepper at 301-657-8650 or pepper461@aol.com.)

(over)

- No "snap on" frames with glass may be used.
- Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully prepared.
- Use sturdy picture hangers. Two screw eyes (with openings of $\frac{1}{4}$ " or greater) should be attached, $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way down from the top of the frame (see diagram below), 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. **Please do not place wires between these hangers**, since frames will be suspended by overhead wire for exhibition.
- Do not attach labels, ribbon, etc. to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.
- If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the back side which side is up.
- A copy of the Student Information/Release Form **must be** attached to the back of the artwork.

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 of 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.



Do Not Put Wire on Back of Frame



Screw Eyes



Do NOT use these