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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4709

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Congressman Adam Smith's 2008 Congressional Art Competition Guidelines

The competition is open to students grades 9-12 who reside in the 9th Congressional District and/or attend a high school that is in a school district that has schools in the 9th Congressional District. For a listing of schools, please see list at:
<http://www.house.gov/adamsmith/students/art.shtml>

In order to reduce out of pocket expenses for students, **entries are not required to be framed, only matted.** If the entry is framed, the framed piece must be no larger than 30 inches by 30 inches to the outside dimensions of the frame. If the entry is matted, the entry will need to be 28 inches by 28 inches or smaller to meet size guidelines for the Capitol display. If the artwork is framed, it must also have hanging hardware in order to be considered for display at Tacoma Art Museum in May. Due to space limitations, it may not be possible to display all work.

The winner of the competition will receive a free narrow metal frame with plexi glass covering. If the piece is already framed, the winner may select another piece of art for framing no larger than 28 inches by 28 inches to the outside dimensions of the frame.

In addition, the winner of the contest will receive a \$5,000 a year (renewable for four years) scholarship from the Savannah College of Art and Design and 3 round trip tickets from Southwest Airlines to attend the opening ceremony on **Wednesday, June 25 in Washington DC.**

The winning entry will hang in the Cannon tunnel of the U.S. Capitol for one year. All entries must when framed:

- ❖ Be two-dimensional only.
- ❖ Be no larger than 30 inches by 30 inches to the outside dimensions of the frame.
- ❖ Be no more than 4 inches in depth.
- ❖ Be an original in concept, design and execution and may not violate any U.S. copyright laws.
- ❖ Have an attached Student Information/Release Form signed by both the teacher and the student to certify the originality of the art piece.

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 or judged. The final decision regarding suitability for the exhibition in the Capitol will be made by a panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol.

An art teacher is expected to confirm that the student art complies with the guidelines. Entries will not be accepted without signature from a teacher, student, and guardian parent.

Artwork Categories

- Paintings: Oil, Acrylics, Watercolor, Etc.
- Drawings: Pastels, Colored Pencil, Pencil, Charcoal, Ink, Markers
- Collage: Must be 2 dimensional
- Prints: Lithographs, Silkscreen, Block Prints
- Mixed Media
- Computer Generated Art
- Photography

Framing Guidelines for display at the Capitol

Please note that art does not have to be framed for entry to the competition

- **All work**, except for oil painting, needs to be protected by a plexiglass or glass frame.
- **Framed work** is to be **no larger** than 30 inches high, 30 inches wide, and 4 inches deep including the outside dimensions of the framed.
- No "snap on" frames with glass are to be used.
- Picture hangers must be sturdy. 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.
- Do not attach labels, ribbon, etc. to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or plexiglass.
- If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the back side which side is up.

Suggestions

- Frames should be kept as simple and as sturdy as possible. Metal frames are recommended.
- Plexiglass is preferred to glass to avoid breakage during transport.
- Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully prepared.

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.

Dates and Deadlines

Congressman Adam Smith will be accepting entries at his district office located at the Fabulich Center, 3600 Port of Tacoma Rd, Suite 106, in Tacoma during regular business hours from **8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, March 1 through April 4**, and after hours by prior arrangement. Please contact Ms. Tina Johnson at (253) 896-3775 to make after hour delivery arrangements.

Students must complete the release form and a teacher and guardian parent must sign it. One copy of the release form must be attached to the back of artwork when it is delivered. Another copy is to be handed in unattached to the artwork. **Contest entries must be delivered by 5:00 pm on Friday, April 4 to be considered.** Selected entries for the 9th Congressional District Art Contest will be on display at Tacoma Art Museum **May 2008**. Due to space limitations, it may not be possible to display all work. Tacoma Art Museum is located at 1701 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, Washington 98402.

Entries will be judged by a panel of experts who will announce the winner at the **Art Exhibition and Reception at Tacoma Art Museum on Saturday, May 10 at 1:00 pm**. Students will have the opportunity to meet with the Adam and the judges.

Students are highly encouraged to attend this event. Tacoma Art Museum has graciously offered to waive admission for contest entrants, their families, their teacher, and sponsors for this event. If you are interested in attending this reception, please **RSVP by Wednesday, May 7** to Arif Jamal at (253) 896-3775 or email: OfficeAssistantWA09@mail.house.gov

After display, the artwork needs to be picked up from the District office no later than **Friday, June 13**. If prior arrangements have not been made, the art will be released to the school of the student.

The winner of the contest will receive a \$5,000 a year (renewable for four years) scholarship from the Savannah College of Art and Design and 3 round trip tickets from Southwest Airlines to attend the opening ceremony and reception on **Wednesday, June 25 in Washington, D.C.**

Due to space limitations, the winning student is allowed one guest to the opening reception that will be located in the Cannon Caucus Room.

The winning student will need to check in with Congressman Adam Smith's office at 2402 Rayburn House Office Building upon arrival to Washington, DC.

With respect to our nation's capitol and the 9th Congressional district, the contest winner and guardians are expected to act in a responsible manner during their visit. The contest winner is expected to have appropriate supervision during the trip and airline tickets will only be released to a guardian parent.

Contacts

Questions may be directed to Ms. Tina Johnson at (253) 896-3775 or tina.johnson@mail.house.gov. Congressman Adam Smith's District Office is located at 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Suite 106, Tacoma WA 98424.

Copy of 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 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, and the United States the right to reproduce the art entry for any non- commercial purpose.

The undersigned further grant the Member, the House, their employees and agents, and the United States 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, and the United States 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.