

MARK DESAULNIER  
11TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND  
THE WORKFORCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
WORKFORCE TRAINING

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND  
GOVERNMENT REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC ASSETS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE, BENEFITS, AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

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

327 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
PHONE: (202) 225-2095  
FAX: (202) 225-5609

101 YGNACIO VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 210  
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596  
PHONE: (925) 933-2660  
FAX: (925) 933-2677

440 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 2ND FLOOR  
RICHMOND, CA 94804  
PHONE: (510) 620-1000  
FAX: (510) 620-1005

2015 Congressional Art Competition Announced by  
Congressman DeSaulnier

March 25, 2015

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to invite your students to participate in the 11<sup>th</sup> District 2015 Congressional Art Competition. This event is open to all high school artists across the nation, with a winner chosen from each Congressional District. The winning artwork from each district is displayed in an eleven-month exhibit in the U.S. Capitol and the winner and one family member will be flown to Washington DC free of charge to attend an official event organized annually by the Congressional Art Competition in June. The winner will also have the opportunity to compete for a national college art scholarship.

Every interested student in the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District has the opportunity to participate in this exciting event. All entrants will be able to include the experience in their art portfolios and the winner will have additional once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for travel and education. Participants may submit art in a variety of mediums, but must enter their art according to the required enclosed guidelines. Submissions must arrive at one of my district offices **no later than April 30, 2015**. Students will have their art displayed at a May event here in the community, where a panel of local judges will select the winner.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Christopher Whitmore on my staff by phone at (510) 620-1000 or by email at [Christopher.Whitmore@mail.house.gov](mailto:Christopher.Whitmore@mail.house.gov). To make this process as easy as possible for your students, a member of my staff will make arrangements to pick up your school's art submissions in your main office during the week of April 27<sup>th</sup>. I have also enclosed promotional materials that you may wish to circulate. To inform their students, many schools add announcements to their newsletters and social media sites, promote the opportunity in their fine arts classes, and post fliers around campus.

Thank you in advance for your participation, and best wishes in the competition.

Sincerely,



MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress  
11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, California



## **Congressman DeSaulnier Announces 2015 Congressional High School Art Competition**

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High school students living in the 11th Congressional District of California are invited to submit their original works of art! All entrants will have their work displayed at a local congressional event and the winner will fly with a family member, free of charge, to Washington DC to attend an event supported by the National Congressional Art Competition in June.

### **Important Deadlines**

- Art Submissions Accepted: Now until April 30th, 2015
- 11th Congressional Art Event & Winner Announced: Early May, 2015
- National Congressional Art Event in Washington, DC: June 25, 2015



For questions or additional information, please call (510) 620-1000  
or email [Christopher.Whitmore@mail.house.gov](mailto:Christopher.Whitmore@mail.house.gov).



## 2015 RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

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### General Information

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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.

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## Suitability Guidelines

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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.

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## Student Information and Release Form

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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.

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## Framing Guidelines (Overall Winner)

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**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 Congressional Art Competition

## Student Information & Release Form

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

<b>MEMBER/DISTRICT INFORMATION</b>	
MEMBER OF CONGRESS NAME:	STATE & DISTRICT:

<b>STUDENT INFORMATION</b>		
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):	

<b>SCHOOL</b>		
SCHOOL NAME:		
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
ART TEACHER NAME:		
ART TEACHER PHONE:	ART TEACHER EMAIL:	

<b>ART COMPETITION ENTRY</b>
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.

# 2015 Congressional Art Competition

## Student Information & Release Form

<b>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)</b>	
STUDENT NAME:	STATE & DISTRICT:
TITLE OF ENTRY:	

<b>ORIGINALITY CERTIFICATION</b>	
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.	
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> ART TEACHER SIGNATURE

<b>ARTWORK RELEASE</b>	
<p>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 <i>An Artistic Discovery</i> (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.</p>	
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18)

<b>MEMBER APPROVAL (FOR OVERALL WINNER ONLY)</b>	
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.	
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> MEMBER SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> PRINT DISTRICT OFFICE CONTACT NAME  <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> PRINT DC OFFICE CONTACT NAME



## 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.

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### 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.

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### 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".

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### 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.