

Art Colony Association 2025 Middle School Art Competition Packet

Dear Middle/Intermediate Art Educators,

We welcome the participation of your students in the Art Colony Association's 12th Annual Middle School Art Competition, an education initiative offered by the producer of Bayou City Art Festivals. The competition culminates in an exhibition of the finalists' artwork at the **Bayou City Art Festival Downtown, March 29-March 30, 2025.**

This is a rare and privileged opportunity for **Middle School** students to:

- enter their art into a juried competition
- have their art displayed in public
- win valuable prizes for themselves and for their schools

How to Get in on This Awesome Contest!

1. Art teachers complete and submit the [Online Registration Form](#) November 1 – December 13, 2024.
Teachers promote student participation in classrooms—see **Competition Rules**
2. Students' artwork must be submitted at the Art Colony Association office January 24-25, 2025.
 - a. **Student Application, Permission and Media Release Form must be firmly attached to the back of each piece of artwork submitted.**
 - b. **Student Artwork ID cards must be attached on the lower right side of the submitted artwork in a hinged fashion. (Use a Rodeo competition styled hinge format.)**
3. Art will be judged by professional working artists. The Thirty Finalists will be announced during a reception to be held on Saturday, February 8, 2025, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at **Ecclesia Houston, 1100 Elder Street, Houston, TX 77007.** Schools with finalists will be notified by February 6, 2025.
4. Bayou City Art Festival is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged artwork. Artwork is displayed at public venues including an outdoor venue.

Links to Competition Rules and Forms: Please download the forms to fill them out.

1. [Competition Rules](#)
2. [Consent Form](#)
3. [Art ID Cards](#)

The Artwork Delivery/Pick-Up Form **will now be completed at Drop Off**

Thank you for giving your **middle/intermediate school students** the opportunity to participate in this competition and gain exposure to people who share a love of art. This could be the launch of some bright and colorful fine arts careers.

Competition Rules

The Art Colony Association is hosting our 12th annual, **2-D, original art competition** for Middle/Intermediate students in grades 5-8. Private schools, Charter schools, and public independent school districts are eligible to participate. Awards will be presented at the Bayou City Art Festival Downtown on Sunday, March 30, 2025. Competition pieces will include:

- Drawing
 - Pencil, colored pencil, pastel, marker
- Painting
 - Watercolor, acrylic, tempera, oil
- Mixed media
 - Any combination of the 2-D media listed above, excludes works in bas relief

Artwork Criteria:

- **No 3-D art will be accepted.**
- **No art rendered with the aid of photo transfer, projection system, any mechanical processes or representation of existing images, copyrighted and including internet images other than reference sources, will be accepted.**
- **NO LOGOS of any kind. If in doubt, leave it out.**
- **All work must be the student's original composition and design. The artwork must be produced during the current school year.**
- **No names or identifying factors may be included in the artwork.**
- **Originality/copyright issues will continue to be evaluated for the duration of the contest.**

Timelines:

- November 1 - December 13, 2024: Art teachers submit Registration Forms online to indicate the number of anticipated submissions in the 2025 Middle School Art Competition.
- **Only artwork received in the Art Colony Association office by noon on January 25, 2025, deadline will be considered for judging.** Artwork must be submitted in a **portfolio** by a district, private/charter school representative or art teacher.

Drop off address for all artwork between January 24-25, 2025:

- Art Colony Association, Inc.
7026 Old Katy Road, Suite 281, Building C
Houston, TX 77024 713/521-0133

The deadline for receipt of artwork is Noon on Saturday, January 25, 2025.

Hours for delivery: Artwork will be accepted as follows:

- Friday, January 24, 2025, between 2:00-6:00 pm.
- Saturday, January 27, 2025; 9:00 am-12:00 pm.

Limit: Each school may enter up to 10 pieces of art. **Submit only one piece per student.**

Size: Artwork—**no larger than 16" x 22"**, including the mat/mounting.

Submission Format:

- ALL artwork must be matted or mounted and produced during the **current school year**.
- Paintings on stretched canvas or artboard do not need a mat but must have a hanging device.
- Frames are no longer allowed.
- Artwork must be fixed. It must not smudge or smear.
- Artwork must NOT be covered with laminates, acetate, or shrink wrapped.
- No 3-D elements may be incorporated into the artwork.
- Only pieces that meet these format criteria will be accepted for judging.
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- **Artwork MUST be submitted in a clean PORTFOLIO that will remain with us and be returned to you at artwork pick-up.**

Judging Criteria:

- Judging will be based on:
 - Creativity
 - Subject matter
 - Composition
 - Use of medium/technique
 - Artistic skill
- Artwork must be submitted by district, private/charter school representative or art teacher.
- **Entry must be received by the January 25, 2025, deadline.**
- **Each entry must have a fully completed Student Application, Permission Form and Media Release firmly attached to the back of the artwork.**
- **Student ID cards must be attached on the lower right side of the submitted artwork in a hinged fashion.** (Use a Rodeo competition styled hinge format (see attached Artwork Example)).
- **The ID cards must be typed or printed in a legible manner. These will be displayed after the judging at the Spring Street Studio events.**
- All artwork must be the **student's original idea**, and only the student may work on the art. Teachers can submit **only one piece** per student.
- No art rendered with the aid of photo transfer, any mechanical processes, or projection system or representation of copyright images will be accepted (NO LOGOS).

Judging: An independent panel follow a structured process to pick the Thirty Finalists. A jury of working artists will select the Top Three winners from the Thirty Finalists Group. The judges' results are final.

The Thirty Finalists will be announced during a reception for students, their families, and art educators on February 8, 2025, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at **Ecclesia Houston, 1100 Elder Street, Houston, TX 77007**. The Thirty Finalists will also be posted for web-based voting to determine the People's Choice Award. Online voting will take place from February 13 - 28, 2025. One vote per person. This "People's Choice award is in addition to the Top Three selected by the jury panel.

Winners: The top three winners and the **People's Choice Award** will be notified through their art teachers by March 6, 2025. Winners, their families, art teachers and supervisors are invited to attend the Bayou City Art Festival Downtown on **Sunday, March 30, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.** Awards will be presented during a recognition ceremony at the festival.

Artwork on Display:

- A reception will be held to announce the Thirty Finalists on February 8, 2025. Students, parents, teachers and district representatives are invited to view the students' art on display. A guest artist will speak during the reception. More details of the reception will be emailed the reception.
- The Thirty Finalist artworks will be posted online for People's Choice Award for web-based voting February 13 - 28, 2025.
- Artwork from all Thirty Finalists will be on display during the Bayou City Art Festival Downtown, March 29 - 30, 2025.

Awards:

- All participants will receive
 - Invitation to exhibit & reception.
- Top Thirty Finalists will also receive:
 - (2) Admission tickets to the Bayou City Art Festival Downtown 2025.
 - Invitation to a special reception with an artist and local dignitaries at the Bayou City Art Festival Downtown on Sunday, March 30, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.
 - BCAF Finalist ribbon
- The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will also receive
 - **1st Place** - \$1500 donated to the school for art education, Student Prize: Personal Tablet, gift card for art supplies of \$250 and a scholarship to Glassell School of Art summer class.
 - **2nd Place** - \$1000 donated to the school for art education, Student Prize: Personal Tablet, gift card for art supplies of \$150 and a scholarship to Glassell School of Art summer class.
 - **3rd Place** - \$500 donated to the school for art education, Student Prize: Personal Tablet, gift card for art supplies of \$100 and a scholarship to Glassell School of Art summer class.
 - **People's Choice Award** - \$300 donated to the school for art education, Student Prize: \$100 gift card for art supplies.
 - In the event there is more than one winner in a single school, only one art supply gift card will be awarded per school.
 - The district or charter/private school representative for each of the top three winners will receive two admission tickets for the Bayou City Art Festival Downtown 2025 (two tickets per representative).

All prizes, except for People's Choice and top three winners' ribbons and awards, will be administered through the student's art teacher.

All submitted art must be picked up by the students' art teacher at the Art Colony Association, Inc., 7026 Old Katy Road, Suite 281, Houston, TX 77024. Artwork will be available for pickup **only** on the dates listed below:

- April 4, 2025; 3:00pm – 5:00 pm
- April 5, 2025; 9:00 am – 12 noon

Artwork/portfolios not picked up will become the property of the Bayou City Art Festival. No artwork will be returned via mail.

Student Application, Permission and Media Release Form

All submitted artwork must be accompanied by the Student Application, Permission and Media Release Form to be considered eligible for the contest. This form must be attached to the back of the artwork.

All artwork **must** be submitted through the District, Charter or Private School Representative or student’s art teacher. **No artwork will be accepted from a student/parent.**

Student Name			
Grade			
Title of Artwork			
Media Used			
School			
District			
Art Teacher Name			
Art Teacher Mobile No.		Email	
<p>I have read the contest rules. The signatures below acknowledge acceptance of this information and the stated items of the contest rules. Rules are posted at www.artcolonyassociation.org/education</p>			
Student Signature		Date	
Art Teacher Signature		Date	
<p>STUDENT MEDIA RELEASE: My signature acknowledges my child’s participation in the Middle School Art Competition and hereby grants permission to the Art Colony Association and its agents to use photo or video, and likeness for the purpose of promoting the Bayou City Art Festival and this competition for the following, but not limited to, news releases, photographs, video, audio, website, marketing, advertising, trade, promotion, exhibition and social media for an indefinite period of time.</p>			
Parent/Guardian Signature		Date	
Parent/Guardian Name			
Parent/Guardian Mobile No.		Email	

Student Artwork ID Cards

<p>Bayou City Art Festival Middle School Art Competition</p> <p>Student First Name & Initial: _____</p> <p>School District: _____ Grade Level: _____</p> <p>Artwork Title: _____</p> <p>Artwork Medium: _____</p>	<p>Bayou City Art Festival Middle School Art Competition</p> <p>Student First Name & Initial: _____</p> <p>School District: _____ Grade Level: _____</p> <p>Artwork Title: _____</p> <p>Artwork Medium: _____</p>
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