



**“An Artistic Discovery”
2019 Congressional Art Competition Guidelines
U.S. Representative Warren Davidson**

General Guidelines

- “An Artistic Discovery,” the 2019 Congressional Art Competition, is only open to high school students (9th – 12th grades).
- Entries will be accepted through Congressman Davidson’s offices for residents of Ohio’s 8th District. Students not residing in the 8th District will be referred to their respective United States Representative. The 8th District is comprised of the following counties:
 - **Butler, Clark, Darke, Miami, Preble, and portions of Mercer.**You can look up your congressional district on the U.S. House of Representatives website, www.House.gov, using your ZIP code +4.
- Students may submit piece of artwork for each of the three categories (**Photos, All Other Media, and Ohio-8**). All artwork will be judged (Ohio-8 will be judged as a separate category and not eligible for grand prize status).
- Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. **Note:** 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. For more information on copyright laws, we recommend you visit the Scholastic website: <https://www.artandwriting.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/A-Guide-to-Copyright-and-Plagiarism.pdf>
- Except for “Ohio-8” category, the original artwork must be submitted, not a scanned copy.
- There will be two groups judged (see separate explanation of Ohio-8 category):
 - 1 – **Photography**, and
 - 2 – **Other Permissible Media**.Each group will be awarded 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention(s) awards. The grand prize winner will be chosen between the two first place winners. Permissible media include:
 - 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

- **Size guidelines for artwork submitted for "An Artistic Discovery":**
 - Piece must be two-dimensional
 - Each piece can be **no larger** than 26" (high) x 26" (wide) x 4" (deep). ** The winning piece will be framed and must comply with dimensions, including frame. Please keep these dimensions in mind when designing your piece.
 - Artwork cannot weigh more than 15 lbs.
 - Artwork that is too heavy to be displayed via Velcro tabs should include a wire or appropriate hanger/hook for hanging.

- **Framing guidelines for "An Artistic Discovery":**
 - Artwork submitted for this display must be ready for hanging at the art center (framed, matted, or framed and matted).
 - Lightweight pieces must be matted or mounted on stable/heavy-weight backing board.
 - Heavier pieces must have hooks, wire, or an appropriately sturdy hanger installed.
 - Framed artwork must also include a wire for hanging. The **winning** artwork will be appropriately framed prior to being sent to the Capitol.
 - You should consider providing a piece of Plexiglas or other clear (non-glass) covering to protect your artwork. Pieces utilizing delicate mediums (i.e., Pastels) should be appropriately fixed to avoid damage.
 - If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate with arrows on the back side which direction is up. Use the provided labels to identify artwork.

- **NEW Category - Scenes from Ohio's 8th District:**
 - This new category will feature only images from Ohio's 8th district. Using any permissible medium, present a piece of art depicting a scene, sight, or setting within the boundaries of Ohio's 8th district.
 - Six winners chosen, ideally one image from each county: Butler, Clark, Darke, Mercer (part), Miami, or Preble.
 - Entries will be submitted electronically; artwork must be formatted for 8x10 or 10x8 display. Files should be submitted to Sharon Hughes; filename = County_ArtistLastName_Title.
 - Winners displayed in district and DC offices for one year.

- **Suitability Guidelines for "An Artistic Discovery":**
 - 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, gruesome, or violent 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.
 - 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.

- A copy of the Student Release Form, signed by the teacher, student, and parent/guardian, must be submitted for each piece of artwork to certify the originality of the piece. (This form may be copied, or additional forms may be requested from the West Chester District Office). A release form **is** required for Ohio-8 entries. Also, please complete and attach the provided label form to each piece of art, oriented as the piece should be displayed.
- Artwork must be submitted to Congressman Davidson's Troy, Springfield, or West Chester District Offices during in-take hours (see enclosed information). Final deadline is 4:30 pm, Thursday, April 16th.
- All suitable entries will be displayed at the Springfield Museum of Art in Springfield, Ohio, April 23rd – May 5th.
- A reception will be held on Saturday, April 27th at the Springfield Museum of Art, for all participants and interested parties (10:00am – 12:00 pm). The winning entries will be announced at this event. Light refreshments will be served.
- The **Grand Prize Winning** artwork will hang in the Capitol for **the entire year** of the exhibition and cannot be returned to the student earlier. Students, therefore, should submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.
- The **Grand Prize Artist** will also receive two free round-trip airfares to attend the national winners' reception in Washington, D.C. and be eligible for a \$3000 scholarship to an art and design college.
- The other **First Prize Winning** artwork will hang in the Washington, DC, Office of Rep. Warren Davidson for **the entire year** of the exhibition and cannot be returned to the student earlier. Students, therefore, should submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.
- The **six winning Ohio-8 images** will hang in the offices of Rep. Davidson for a year.
- Every effort will be made to deliver artwork back to the school in the week following the exhibit. You may also make prior arrangements to pick up your artwork in Rep. Davidson's Troy, Springfield, or West Chester District Offices.

Note: Additional In-Take Information, Guidelines, Art Label Forms, Important Dates, Student Release Forms, and other information regarding the 2019 Congressional Art Competition may be obtained by contacting Sharon.Hughes@mail.house.gov.