



**ART
INSTRUCTION
SCHOOLS**

ANNOUNCING THE

2017

ANNUAL ART COMPETITION

1 **\$500 Grand Prize**

One award for a current student or graduate entered in the Annual Competition category.

5 **\$250 First Place Awards**

Five awards are reserved for current students and graduates entered in the Annual Competition category.

10 **\$175 Second Place Awards**

Ten awards are reserved for current students and graduates entered in the Annual Competition category.

15 **\$100 Third Place Awards**

Fifteen awards are reserved for current students entered in the Annual Competition category.

Entries will be accepted between January 1 and March 31, 2017

See complete rules inside...

2017 ANNUAL ART COMPETITION

OFFICIAL RULES

Purpose

The primary purpose of this competition is to acknowledge and reward our best artists and their work. In addition, we hope to foster goodwill and a competitive spirit throughout our student body.

Eligibility

This competition is open to all current students and graduates of Art Instruction Schools.

Rules

1. Artwork must be uploaded digitally to your student account. If you do not have a student account, please register at artinstructionschools.edu
2. Submission of your artwork will be reviewed online. You will be notified if your artwork has been approved for physical review. Only one approved piece of artwork per student can be entered.
3. Once the artwork has been approved, send in your original to the school – no photocopies, photographs or computer generated digital prints allowed.
4. Your artwork may depict any subject or use any technique, but your artwork may not be copied from published materials, copyrighted images, lesson examples or another artist's original work. If copied artwork is discovered before judging, the entry will be disqualified. If discovered after awards have been distributed, the award winner must return all prize money to Art Instruction Schools.
5. Entries are limited to 2-dimensional artwork only. Sculptures, in any medium, will not be accepted.
6. Maximum dimensions are 20"x 24" . Send in your artwork flat – do not fold or roll your artwork into a shipping tube.
7. Framed artwork, or glass-covered artwork, will not be accepted. (Broken glass will damage your artwork!)
8. Entries will not be accepted if sent in with assignments or in assignment envelopes.
9. Entries must be postmarked between January 1 and March 31, 2017. Entries that are postmarked after March 31, 2017 will be disqualified.
10. Entry labels will be emailed to you upon approval. ALL LABEL INFORMATION MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY.
11. Grand Prize and First Place winning entries will be retained for display and production purposes and will not be returned.
12. Art Instruction Schools reserves the right to reproduce award-winning entries and Finalists' artwork in publications and advertising.
13. FOREIGN ENTRIES – Art Instruction Schools will not pay duty or post bond to return a foreign entry. Foreign contestants – including those from Canada and Mexico – should attach a copy of the following affidavit to the back of the entry: "This is to attest that the original artwork herewith is entered in a contest and is not for sale." Add your signature and date signed.
14. Although every precaution will be taken for the safety of enteries while in our possession, we cannot be held responsible for damaged or lost artwork.
15. Monetary awards, if there is a balance due, will be credited to student's account first then remainder will be paid by check.
16. All winning contestants must have a signed release form on file for this year's competition before entries can be published.

Judging Criteria

1. Thirty-one (31) winning entries will be selected by a panel of outstanding artists.
2. Winners will be determined, based on the following criteria:
 - COMPOSITION – The effective use of visual elements and principles of artistic design
 - MEDIUM – Control of technique and materials (pencil, ink, paint, whatever medium you choose)
 - ORIGINALITY – Original content and creative interpretation of subject matter
3. The entries selected for the Grand Purchase Prize award and the First Place awards will not be returned.

Awards

1. One (1) \$500 Grand Purchase Prize will be awarded. This entry will become part of the Art Instruction Schools Permanent Gallery Collection and may be on display at the school or other locations.
2. Five (5) \$250 First Place awards will be given – two of these awards are reserved for current students. These five entries will not be returned.
3. Ten (10) \$175 Second Place awards will be given – five of these awards are reserved for current students. These ten entries will be returned after final judging.
4. Fifteen (15) \$100 Third Place awards will be given – ten of these awards are reserved for current students. These fifteen entries will be returned after final judging.

2017 ANNUAL ART COMPETITION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I qualify to enter the contest?

In order to submit artwork for consideration, you must be a current student or graduate of Art Instruction Schools. Pre-approval of your artwork must be granted from one of our judges. **Please sign in to your student account at www.artinstructionschools.edu to begin.** Even graduates can access this by registering! If you have any questions or need assistance, please call 1-800-ARTISTS.

What's the best way to pack and ship my artwork?

To protect the front image surface of your artwork, just tape a sheet of clean, white paper to the top edge of your art, and let this "travel flap" fold over to protect your art. This works best if your art is mounted on a heavier backing material. Tape the Entry Label directly onto the back surface, so it's easy to read.

The best protection for shipping flat artwork is corrugated cardboard - two layers on top, two layers on the bottom, and taped with packing tape around the outside edges. Often, you can even reuse the cardboard we use to ship your artwork back to you from a previous competition. Tape the Address Label we provide right onto the cardboard. If you can easily bend your package, someone else may actually damage it due to mishandling or an accident.

When is the judging period?

This year, we will hold all packages (unopened) until April 1, 2017. In early April, the packages are opened, we verify any address changes, record all return postage and insurance amounts and separate the images by size.

During the month of April, several judges will review each entry and a score will be given for each of the three judging criteria - Composition, Medium and Originality. Your entry may score higher in one area and lower in another. These scores are tallied and the top 100 finalists are selected. Another round of judging determines the top 31. This is a tough job, because we get so many good entries!

When will my entry be returned?

When the judging is complete, we repackage the entries. This takes several weeks. You should receive your artwork back by July, 2017.

What can I do to make sure my entry has a chance of winning?

Winning entries have several things in common - they all are well thought out, well executed and the artist has practiced the techniques a lot, sometimes for years. The best suggestion, and advice, we can give you is practice, practice, practice. Be confident when you draw or paint or sketch, but don't be afraid to take some risks or challenge yourself. Creative expression is about learning the rules and then deciding which rules you want to follow and which you want to break. Enjoy your art - it shows in your work!

What happened to the professional category?

The professional category has been eliminated from the 2017 Annual Art Competition. We value each and every Art Instruction Schools graduate and respect the work they've done in their fields. The professional category was limited only to those who've won a grand purchase prize in past competitions. This prevented the judges from allowing others to compete on an equal level.

Take your time and do a good job. We look forward to seeing your best work!