

# 2026 Congressional Art Competition Guidelines

## Congressman Steve Scalise

### *General Guidelines*

- The Theme for 2026 is "**America 250.**" The competition is open to all high school students who live within the First District.
- Artwork categories are as follows:
  - 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
  - Collages (must be two dimensional)
  - Photographs
- No unfinished or wet artwork will be accepted.
- Work must be in the original medium (that is, not a scanned reproduction of a painting or drawing)
- Artwork must have an adhesive label (at least 2"x 4") on the back for identification purposes (as show below).

Member's Name: Congressman Steve Scalise State and District: Louisiana, First District Title of Piece: Category: Student's Name: Student's Address and Phone Number: School:
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- Artwork will hang in the Capitol for the **entire year** of the exhibition and **cannot** be returned to students earlier. Students, therefore, should submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.
- A **TYPED** copy of the Student Release form, signed by both the teacher and the student, must be attached to the artwork to certify the originality of the piece.

***Framing Guidelines*** (Framing is required for the Best of Show winner in order to hang artwork in the U.S. Capitol. Framing is not required for the district-wide competition).

- **All artwork must be framed.** Frames should be kept as simple and sturdy as possible. Metal frames are recommended. No "snap on" frames with glass are to be used.
- Artwork must be protected by Plexiglas or glass. Plexiglas is preferred.

- All works, **including frame**, should be **no larger** than 26 inches high, 26 inches wide, and 4 inches deep, and 15 lbs in weight. *This includes the outside dimensions of the frame.* Please double check size before submitting an entry.
- Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully prepared.
- Use sturdy picture hangers on the back of the frame. Two sturdy eye hooks should be attached at the right and the left sides of the back of the work for hanging in order to prevent the work from leaning forward or hanging unevenly.
- Do not put wire between the hooks for hanging, these will be added when the artwork is hung in the Capitol.
- Do not attach labels, ribbon, etc. to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.
- If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the backside which side is “up” with arrows.
- A **typed** copy of the Student Information & Release Form **must be** securely attached to the back of the artwork.

***Overview of Deadlines:***

Thursday, April 23rd	Submit artwork and Student Information/Release form to the Mandeville District Office (must be received by 23 <sup>rd</sup> if mailed or in person delivery)
April 27 <sup>th</sup> -April 29th	All artwork will be judged.
Early May	Winning Artwork will be Announced.
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	National Reception in Washington, DC.

***Contact:***

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Congressional Art Competition please contact the Mandeville District Office at (985) 893-9064 or by email at [Danielle.evans@mail.house.gov](mailto:Danielle.evans@mail.house.gov)