



## Official Rules

### Western Governors' Association High School Art Competition 2017

NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN THIS COMPETITION

- 1. Eligibility:** The competition is open to high school students (Grades 9-12) in public, private, charter, and alternative schools. Home-schooled students in that age group also may enter. Students must be in a school in a WGA member state: Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.
- 2. Guidelines:** Artwork must be two-dimensional, and may be created using painting (oil, watercolor, acrylic, etc.), drawing (pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, ink, markers, pastels, etc.) lithography, silkscreen, mixed media, computer graphics, and collages. No photography or video-based submissions will be accepted. The un-framed artwork submitted shall not be smaller than 8" x 10" and shall not be larger than 22" x 28".
- 3. Subject Matter and Suitability:** Students shall submit entries conveying what their state means to them, how they are artistically inspired by their state, or the uniqueness of living in the Western U.S. All entries must be students' original work and not violate any U.S. copyright laws. Entries will be disqualified that unnecessarily depict violence or political controversy, are profane or pornographic, or promote illegal activities.
- 4. How to Enter:** All entries must be received on or before 11:59 p.m. Mountain Time on April 30, 2017. Students shall submit a digital copy (scanned, digital photo, etc.) of their entry via email to [WGAart@westgov.org](mailto:WGAart@westgov.org). If unable to submit electronically, students may deliver (Monday-Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.) or mail their entry to: Western Governors' Association, 2016 Art Competition, 1600 Broadway, Suite 1700, Denver, Colo., 80202. All entries must be received by 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2016, whether submitted via email, delivered to WGA, or mailed. Proof of depositing entry in the mail is not considered delivery or receipt. All entries must include a completed and signed copy of the Student Information Form available on WGA's website ([Download it here](#)). Students may submit more than one entry.
- 5. Judging:** Winners will be selected based on originality and imagination, artistic quality, and expression of the theme. At no time do judges have access to students' personal information. The judging panel consists of WGA staff, and may also include Denver-area media, museum representatives, and art educators. Judging will occur on or before May 20, 2016. WGA staff will select "Finalists" from states and flag islands, as well as a Grand Prize, Second Place, and Third Place winners. A second phase of judging will occur during an upcoming WGA Governors' Meeting. All Finalists will be displayed and meeting attendees will be given the opportunity to vote on the entries to determine a "Best of Show" winner. Attendees will not have access to students' personal information or the names of the states/U.S.-flag Pacific Islands, and each attendee will be given one sealed vote. The Finalist entry with the most votes will be named Best of Show. In the event of a tie, the Executive Director of the WGA will determine the Winner.

**6. Prizes:** The Western Governors' Foundation ("Sponsor") will award the following cash prizes: One (1) Grand Prize Winner will be awarded \$1,000; one (1) Second Place Winner will be awarded \$500; and One (1) Third Place Winner will be awarded \$300 ("Winners"). The remaining Finalists ("Finalists") from each state/U.S.-flag Pacific Island will be awarded \$200 each. Additionally, one (1) "Best of Show" Winner will receive \$200; this amount may be combined with another prize. Prizes will be mailed to all Winners and Finalists. All federal, state, and local tax liabilities are the sole responsibility of the Winners and Finalists. Any Winner receiving \$600 or more will be required to complete and return an IRS W-9 form (i.e. Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification).

**7. Finalist Notification and Entry Mailing Requirements:** The Winners and Finalists selected during the first phase of judging will be notified by email on or before May 20, 2017. Entrants agree that if their work is selected as a Winner or a Finalist, they will mat their original work and mail their original (not a duplicate) winning entry to the WGA office at 1600 Broadway, Suite 1700, Denver, Colorado, 80202, to be received by WGA no later than June 10, 2017. WGA will pay for, and help coordinate, shipping and matting if requested by Winners and Finalists. Winners and Finalists are not required to pay for shipping or matting. WGA will display all Winners' and Finalists' entries at the WGA Meeting for the second phase of judging.

The Best of Show Winner will be notified by phone and/or email on or before June 30, 2017. Winners and Finalists will be posted on WGA's website [www.westgov.org](http://www.westgov.org) beginning on or before July 31, 2017.

**8. Use and Return of Entries:** Sponsor shall not own any rights to entries submitted, other than the expressly granted right to publicly display entries and reproduce them for WGA's website and noncommercial promotional materials as described in these Rules. All winning entries shall be the property of Sponsor for up to one year following selection unless other arrangements are made. Artwork will not be returned through the mail without receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope and return mailing materials. Any artwork not retrieved or returned shall become the property of Sponsor. Arrangements to retrieve artwork can be made by emailing [WGAart@westgov.org](mailto:WGAart@westgov.org) or by calling 303-623-9378.

**9. Conduct of Participation:** By entering the competition, students agree to adhere to these Rules and to abide by the decision of the judges. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any student acting in violation of these Rules or found tampering with the entry process, or with the operation of the competition or website. Any attempt to deliberately damage or undermine the operation of the competition may be in violation of criminal and civil laws, and Sponsor and WGA reserves the right to seek damages and other remedies (including attorneys' fees) from any such individual to the fullest extent of the law, including criminal prosecution. The competition is governed by the laws of the United States and the U.S.-flag Pacific Islands, and by entering, all students submit to the jurisdiction and venue of the federal, state, and local courts located in Denver, Colorado.

**10. Limitations and Release of Liability:** BY ENTERING THE COMPETITION, STUDENTS AGREE THAT SPONSOR AND WGA AND ITS RESPECTIVE GOVERNORS, EMPLOYEES, SPONSORS, DIRECTORS, SHAREHOLDERS, AGENTS, REPRESENTATIVES, AND PARTICIPATING COMPETITION JUDGES SHALL NOT HAVE ANY LIABILITY OR OBLIGATION FOR ANY LOSS OR NON-DELIVERY OF, OR DAMAGE TO, ANY ARTWORK THAT IS NOT CAUSED DIRECTLY BY SUCH PERSON'S OR ENTITY'S WILLFUL OR RECKLESS MISCONDUCT. By entering the competition, students agree to release, discharge, indemnify, and hold harmless Sponsor and WGA and its respective Governors, employees, sponsors, directors, shareholders, and agents, and participating competition judges from and against any and all claims of any nature whatsoever, including but not limited to, claims of copyright infringement by any party whatsoever; as well as any other claims, damages or liability of any kind resulting in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, from acceptance, possession, misuse or use of any prize, participation in any competition related activity, or participation in this competition. Sponsor reserves the right to modify, suspend or terminate the Contest in the event that it becomes necessary due to circumstances beyond Sponsor's control. In the event the Competition is terminated early, Winners and Finalists will be selected from all eligible entries received at the time of termination.

**11. Winners List:** For an Official Winners and Finalists List (available after July 31, 2017) or a copy of these Official Rules, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Western Governors' Association Art Competition, 1600 Broadway, Suite 1700, Denver, Colorado 80202. All requests must be received by December 31, 2016.

**12. Sponsor:** Western Governors' Foundation, 1600 Broadway, Suite 1700, Denver, Colorado 80202