

WESTERN GOVERNORS'  
FOUNDATION

# CELEBRATE THE WEST STUDENT GUIDE



## Now Accepting Submissions for 2022 Competition!

### WHAT IS CELEBRATE THE WEST?

**Celebrate the West** is a high school visual arts competition hosted by the Western Governors' Foundation (WGF). Entrants will create an **original**, two-dimensional piece of artwork inspired by their home state or otherwise evocative of the West. Ask yourself, what does it mean to *you* to live in the West? What does the West look like? Feel like? What *is* the West?

### AM I ELIGIBLE?

1. Entrants must be in grades 9-12 in public, private, charter, or alternative schools. Home-schooled students in this age group may also enter.
2. The competition is open to students attending school in states and territories actively represented in the Western Governors' Association:

Alaska | American Samoa | Arizona | California  
Colorado | Guam | Hawaii | Idaho | Kansas | Nevada  
New Mexico | North Dakota | Northern Mariana  
Islands | Oklahoma | Oregon | South Dakota  
Utah | Washington | Wyoming

### WHAT DOES "ORIGINAL" MEAN?

We take plagiarism and forgery very seriously. All artwork goes through a rigorous vetting process to ensure originality and confirm the work does not violate any U.S. copyright laws. "Original" is defined as artwork which is unique in concept, design, and execution and is created directly and personally by the student. "Original" work is not a copy or imitation of another person's work either online or offline.

### HOW TO APPLY

Students must submit a **digital copy of their entry via email, along with their entry form**, to [WGAart@westgov.org](mailto:WGAart@westgov.org) by **April 30, 2022**. The entry form can be found on our website:

<https://westgov.org/celebrate-the-west>. Our panel of art experts will

select one finalist from each state and territory. State finalists will then compete for overall first, second, and third place at the regional level. Winners will be announced at the Western Governors' Association's annual meeting on July 26-28, 2022 in Coeur d'Alene Idaho.

### STUDENT AWARDS

**First Place** - \$1,500

**Second Place** - \$750

**Third Place** - \$500

**State Finalists** - \$200

Governors may also offer students additional opportunities for recognition. They often meet with winners and finalists, as well as display winning entries in the state capitol or other public spaces.

### DOES MY ARTWORK FIT THE GUIDELINES?

- Artwork must be two-dimensional.
- Eligible media include: painting (oil, watercolor, acrylic, etc.), drawing (pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, ink, markers, pastels, etc.) lithography, silkscreen, mixed media, computer graphics, and collage. 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 24" x 36" unless prior approval is given to the student by WGF.



First place 2021: *Beauty Draped in Gold and Crimson* by Isabella Tarantino of New Mexico