



Current Art Contests

Entering art contests provides a range of benefits, from inspiring creation to having an audience for artwork, to scholarship awards. For a list of art contests from around the world, read on!

Last Updated: 4/20/2025

Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes

ARTEFFECT COMPETITION

DEADLINE: April 27, 2025

The ARTEFFECT annual competition invites submissions from all students in grades 6-12 interested in making a positive impact through their art. Since 2016, thousands of students have participated in ARTEFFECT from around the world. Students creatively interpret the story of an Unsung Hero by creating an original visual artwork, accompanied by a written Impact Statement (500-1,000 words).

WEBSITE: <https://www.lowellmilkencenter.org/competitions/arteffect>

My Hero

ROBERT SHETTERLY PORTRAIT CONTEST

DEADLINE: May 1, 2025

The MY HERO Project and Americans Who Tell the Truth partnership. Student Artists- are welcome to submit one or more hero portraits! Each work of art can represent someone you admire who has done something significant - for you, for your community, or for our planet. Each work of art can illustrate a heroic act that has impacted your world or our society as a whole. Each entry needs to include a sentence or more about the hero or heroic act which will be taken into consideration during judging.

WEBSITE: <https://myhero.com/portrait-contest>

The Japan Quality Assurance Organization

THE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHILDREN'S DRAWING CONTESTS

DEADLINE: May 31, 2025

We hold this contest to give an opportunity for children of the future generation to become more aware of their global environment through drawing picture under the theme of the environment of our Earth.

WEBSITE: <https://childrens-drawing.com/en/>

Bow Seat

OCEAN AWARENESS CONTEST

DEADLINE: June 9, 2025

Hosted by Bow Seat, the Ocean Awareness Contest provides a platform for young people to understand environmental issues through artistic creation and creative thoughts, explore their relationship with the changing world, and become advocates of positive change.

WEBSITE: <https://bowseat.org/programs/ocean-awareness-contest/contest-overview/>

Festival De Bande Dessinee de Lausanne

CARAN D'ACHE PRIZE 2025

DEADLINE: June 16, 2025

The competition is part of Festival de bande dessinée de Lausanne (BDFIL) The theme for this year's competition is "Working Blues". All interpretations of the theme are welcome. You may submit a complete comic story, on one board (A3 format, vertical), with or without text.

WEBSITE: <https://bdfil.ch/concours/prix-bdfil-caran-dache-2025/>

Rules in English: https://bdfil.ch/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Reglement_PrixBDFILCarandAche_2025_EN.pdf

Festival De Bande Dessinee de Lausanne

2025 SAVE THE FROGS! ART CONTEST

DEADLINE: November 1, 2025

The SAVE THE FROGS! Art Contest invites you to create your coolest frog artwork. The contest raises awareness of the amphibian extinction problem by getting people involved and interested, and the artwork is used on t-shirts, stickers and posters, and in greeting cards and books, to both publicize our cause and raise money for SAVE THE FROGS! amphibian conservation efforts.

WEBSITE: <https://savethefrogs.com/art/>

Ongoing Art Contests

Next Gen Artists

NEXT GEN ARTISTS AWARDS

DEADLINE: Ongoing

Ages 6-25 are welcome to participate! We at The NextGen Artists Awards are passionate about providing a virtual space to link current and successful professional artists with the next generation of creators. We are a platform that provides opportunities to create and engage with a network of talented and successful professional artists. We combine fun, creativity, and community into a professional career development framework that encourages young artists to create; successful artists to mentor; and communities to grow while providing the next generation of artists with opportunity, resources, and support to start their journey in the arts. Up to 5 artworks can be entered, and entry fee is \$40 per entry.

WEBSITE: <https://www.thenextgenartists.com/>

Worldwide Kids Drawings

WORLDWIDE KIDS DRAWING CONTEST

DEADLINE: Ongoing

This is a year round contest with no deadline. Winners will be announced when new drawings show on our winner's page. All contestants will be judged on their original style and artistic value. There is no theme to the drawing contest. Draw or paint what you feel represents your original style and artistic value. The contest is broken into three categories. Ages 6 through 8, ages 9 through 12 and ages 13 through 17. The contestants will be judged in these three categories, so everyone will have a great opportunity to win!

WEBSITE: <https://unric.org/en/category/united-nations-digital-engagement-hub/united-nations-competitions-and-contests/>

United Nations

UNITED NATIONS ART COMPETITIONS & CONTESTS

DEADLINE: Varies

Competitions and contests represent a fun and entertaining way for the United Nations family to communicate on its goals and objectives, informing and engaging citizens on issues of critical importance to the organization. The U.N. offers thousands of dollars in prizes to children and teens of all ages.

WEBSITE: <https://unric.org/en/category/united-nations-digital-engagement-hub/united-nations-competitions-and-contests/>

House of Representatives

CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION

DEADLINE: Varies

Each spring, the [Congressional Institute](#) sponsors a nationwide high school visual art competition to recognize and encourage artistic talent in the nation and in each congressional district. Since the Artistic Discovery competition began in 1982, more than 650,000 high school students have participated. Students submit entries to their representative's office, and panels of district artists select the winning entries. Winners are recognized both in their district and at an annual awards ceremony in Washington, DC. The winning works are displayed for one year at the U.S. Capitol.

WEBSITE: <https://www.house.gov/educators-and-students/congressional-art-competition>

US Kids Magazines

COVER ART CONTEST

DEADLINE: Ongoing

Children ages 2 through 12 are invited to make artwork based on this year's theme, "What is Your One Wish?". Winners are featured on the cover of Humpty Dumpty Magazine and Jack and Jill Magazine, with runners up featured inside the publications. Winners earn cash prizes of \$100-\$500 apiece!

WEBSITE: <http://uskidsmags.com/artcontest/rules.php>

Teen Ink

TEEN INK CONTESTS

DEADLINE: Ongoing

Each issue, one artist or photographer's work will be chosen to represent that month's issue. Check out some past covers to find inspiration for your cover! Submit your images now!

All photographs and artwork submitted to Teen Ink are automatically considered for the cover art contest.. The best images for the cover are clear, colored, high resolution, and vertically oriented. There are no deadlines; images are accepted and published throughout the year. Keep in mind if your submission has a seasonal or holiday theme, it's best to send it in early. If your submission is chosen for one of our covers, you will receive a \$25 gift card.

WEBSITE: <https://www.teenink.com/contests/CoverPhoto>

Scholastic

SCHOLASTIC ART COMPETITIONS

DEADLINE: Varies

Enter a number of contests, which rotate year-round, most of which provide scholarship funds. One of the largest art competitions in the U.S., affiliated with major colleges around the country. Create an account to view a range of contests.

WEBSITE: <https://www.artandwriting.org/awards/how-to-enter/>

Student Art Guide

MORE OPTIONS FOR TEENS

[Click here](#) for an encouraging article featuring another well-curated list of art contests for teens!



Every Child is a Masterpiece