

District Competitions

- Teachers nominate the most creative and technically executed work done in their classes for each category.
- Works are sent to the district coordinator for the first level of judging.
[The number of works that may be submitted is established by each individual District Coordinator]
- Districts provide professional development opportunities for teachers and workshops for students.

Art Classifications for Judging

For the purpose of identifying awards, each work must be submitted in one of the following categories. Please read descriptions carefully. Work will be judged for the unique attributes available in the categories described. Juries may not move works to a category not identified by the student. Teachers are cautioned to monitor process to ensure original work. Students are not permitted to submit exercises that copy the work of others from any source. Photographs as models should only be used if taken by the student artist in preparation for the finished work.

Painting	Painting technique should be the primary focus of the work. Media may include oils, acrylics, watercolors and even combined media as long as painting is predominant.
Drawing	Drawing technique should be the primary focus. Media may be pencil, ink, pastels, crayon, charcoal and even combined media if drawing is predominant.
Mixed Media	The combining of two or more varied media is the primary focus. Should be hand constructed in a 2-D format.
3-D/Craft	Three dimensional constructions as viewed equally dominant from multiple perspectives should be the primary focus of the work. May include sculpture, pottery, fabric design, jewelry, etc. Bas Relief should be included with multi-media.
Photography	Using raw image (original composition of the subject matter as seen through the camera lens at the time photo was made) as the majority of the finished work. Raw images may be slightly edited, such as cropping, using a color filter or other filter, changing a color photo to a sepia tone or black and white or vice versa, either at the time of creation or by photo editing. The integrity of the original composition should remain intact.
Printmaking	Woodblock, etching. Embossing
Computer Images	Composition created by the artist via computer using elements, which may include photographs or parts of photographs, to create a unique image. The artist may manipulate line, shape, color, texture, value, space, pattern and collage or any other elements to create a desired image. The finished product is in its majority the manipulation of such elements by digital processes.

Grade Levels

Juried exhibitions are divided into two groups based on the student grade level. **Group I** is for students in grades 6 through 8. **Group II** is for students in grades 9 through 12. Entries are nominated by art teachers in public and private schools throughout the state. As an arts in education awards program, VAAP does not accept works from private studios.

State Exhibition & Awards Ceremony

All artwork that receives a District Award will be exhibited in the professional artist gallery of the Alabama State Council on the Arts **for the month of April**. Every student who receives a District Award will be recognized at the **State Awards Ceremony**, which will be held on at **1:00 p.m. on the last Friday in April in Montgomery**. Additional recognitions will be made at the state level. The ceremony will be followed by a reception at the Alabama Artists Gallery, located on the first floor of the RSA Tower.

Preparing Entries:

- Deadlines are listed under each district. Call your coordinator to learn how many works may be submitted, and what other activities may be available to you.
- Work will be selected based on quality, creativity and **presentation** according to the category submitted.
- **All work must be original.** Copied or directed work from a teacher, another artist, an internet image, photograph or master work are not eligible. Teachers **must** monitor process of work submitted and sign entry forms to verify authenticity of original work. Teachers are discouraged from submitting student work derived from a specific assignment that copies content or a specific technique. Students are responsible for the entire creation from idea to development and completion.
- All artwork must be mounted or matted, framed or finished in a **manner appropriate for hanging or standing in a professional gallery**. Entry forms must include instructions on how to orient the work.
- Work prone to smudging must be protected by some permanent fixture or frame and transparent covering such as plexi-glass.
- All photographs must be enlarged to at least 30 square inches.
- Three-dimensional work must be carefully packed in separate cartons to avoid breakage, or hand delivered by appointment.



Jake Rice, St. James School, 11th grade

Submitting Entries:

- All artwork is collected by the District Coordinators.
- The number of works that may be submitted is determined by the District Coordinator.
- Each school must submit all work at the same time. Art work may not be delivered by the student or parent, without permission (see below).
- Work that is fragile and easily damaged must be hand delivered and picked up. Parents or students must request permission and make appointments to hand deliver and pick up fragile work.
- Every teacher must submit a teacher inventory form [click here](#). Attach copies of all student entry forms to this form.
- Each individual piece of art must have a student entry form attached to the work.
- We are not responsible for work that is damaged in the mail or while being handled by a representative of the Council.
- We are not responsible for work that is not retrieved within a reasonable period of time.

Entry Forms:

- All entry forms **must be typed** and completed fully. **Do not print out blank forms and hand write. Be sure to include directions for orientation of the work for display.** Students should complete their own forms to make sure spelling of student name is accurate and work is titled as desired. Teachers should review completed forms for accuracy of general school information and identification of category and media. **Teachers must sign student entry forms to verify originality of work.**
- Each work of art must have an entry form attached to it. For flat pieces, paste the entry form on the back of the work indicating the correct orientation for the exhibit. For three dimensional entries, paste the entry form on cardboard to form a tag and fasten the tag securely to the work. Including a photograph of the work as you wish it displayed will make it easier for curators to set up accurately.
- Teachers must submit an inventory form for all student work entered, with a copy of each entry form attached behind the inventory form. **This requires two copies of each entry form submitted** - one attached to the work and one included with the Teacher Inventory Form. Be sure original signatures are included on both copies.
- Keep a third copy of the entry form for your records.

Abbey Hudson, Mountain Brook Jr. High School, 8th grade



Morgan Drake, Holy Spirit Catholic, 11th grade

All VAAP Forms
may be obtained from our
[website](#) or contact
Diana F. Green
334/242-4076 Ext. 241
diana.green@arts.alabama.gov

**The Alabama State Council on the Arts
reserves the right to disqualify work
due to poor presentation, fragility or damage,
or due to a determination of a lack of originality.**