



## 2014–2015 ART COMPETITION GUIDELINES

### Eligibility

Any student in kindergarten through 12th grades may participate.

### Age Categories

Finalists will be chosen from each grade (K-12).

### Judging and Winners

- A panel of judges will review entries by grade level.
- A finalist will be selected from each grade.
- A Best-in-Show winner will be named in addition to grade-level finalists.
- All finalists' artwork will be featured in the K<sup>12</sup> online Art Gallery.
- Grade-level finalists will receive:
  - A canvas of submitted artwork
  - A plaque of recognition
  - A sketch book
- The Best-in-Show winner will receive:
  - A canvas of submitted artwork
  - A trophy
  - A sketch book
- All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

### Artwork Theme

The K<sup>12</sup> Art Competition theme for 2014–2015 is **Heroes**. We want to see who the heroes are in your life, whether that's the doctors who are working hard to find a cure for cancer, your aunt or uncle who are soldiers overseas, or the service dog who helps a visually impaired neighbor.

Artwork can be realistic or abstract. You may include people and animals in your artwork.

## Medium and Technique Requirements

Any of the following medium or techniques may be used:

- Paint (watercolor, tempera, poster, acrylic, etc.)
- Drawing materials (pencil, charcoal, colored chalk, pastels, oil pastels, colored pencils, markers, etc.)
- Collage materials (cut and glued papers, such as construction paper, tissue paper, wrapping paper, aluminum foil, etc.)
- Prints (handmade stencils, gadget printing, collographs, block prints, etc.)
- Original digital illustration
- Photography
- Artwork can be two-dimensional (clay, origami, etc.)

Students are encouraged to use bold colors and strong lines.

## Size Requirements

- Photo files of artwork should be no larger than 50 MB
- Photo files must be .jpg or .png, all other files types are not compatible.
- Photo resolution should not exceed 3000 x 3000 pixels.

## Judging Criteria

A selection committee will review artwork submissions based on the following criteria:

- Interpretation of the theme
- Technical skill
- Originality

## Copyright Law

Any artwork that depicts copyrighted images will be rejected. For example, no artwork depicting characters from television shows, movies, video games, or books will be accepted. All artwork must be original ideas and created entirely by the student.

## Multiple Entries

One entry per student.

## SUBMISSION OF ARTWORK

1. Go to [stories.k12.com/node/add/story](http://stories.k12.com/node/add/story). You will need to enter the required information (i.e. age, name, etc.). Please note that if your child is not 13 years of age or older, a parent can submit on their behalf by entering the student's name, the parent's DOB, and they will need to make a note in the "Your Story" box that they are submitting for them. Create a separate story for each student you wish to enter.
2. Create a digital image of your artwork by either of these methods:
  - Scan your artwork.
  - Take a digital photograph of your artwork. Create your digital image at the largest size possible that does not exceed 50 MB. For example, a 5" x 7" digital photograph of your artwork should be large enough for judges to see detail while still being less than 50 MB. If your digital image is larger than 50 MB, you can use a photo editing program (such as Photoshop or Microsoft Office Picture Manager) to resize it by either lowering the resolution (DPI) or by shrinking the image dimensions.

You can also change the settings on your scanner or digital camera to create an image with a lower resolution.

Another way to resize your photo is to use an image optimizer, such as [imageoptimizer.net](http://imageoptimizer.net).

3. Save your digital image as a .jpg using the following file name and type:  
**[your last name]\_[school initials]\_[grade].jpg**  
Example: Gomez\_WAVA\_9.jpg
4. Upload your file by selecting the "Upload Photo or Video" dropdown menu, and clicking "Photo."
5. In the "Your Story" box give us a brief description (up to 800 words) of your artwork explaining who your hero is, and why you chose them. Your artwork must be uploaded no later than October 31, 2014, to be eligible for the competition.

### Deadline for Entries

All entries must be received no later than 5 PM (ET) on **Friday, October 31, 2014**. Entries submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

### Notification of Finalists

Finalists will be selected in November and notified shortly thereafter.