

# Showcase of Excellence - Fine Arts Competition for High School Students

Art Exhibit for all Entrants: February 1-February 28, 2025

Opening Public Reception and Award Recognition Saturday, February 1, 2025 10:30AM

## Showcase of Excellence Opening Reception and Exhibit will be held in the JP Gallery on the lower level of TFAC

Tryon Fine Arts Center announces the 2025 Showcase of Excellence, a juried fine arts competition. This program celebrates the value of arts education in schools and encourages the talents of aspiring young artists.

### Rules of Entry:

- 1) **Eligibility:** Entrants must be students in grades 9-12 for the entire academic year and taking an art class in school or from a professional teacher.
- 2) There is no entry fee for the student or the school.
- 3) Teachers must submit work for the student. It is TFAC's expectation that teachers will pre-evaluate all entries and present the best works of their students.
- 4) **Deadline:** All entries must be delivered to Tryon Fine Arts Center's JP Gallery on Thursday, January 16 and/or Friday, January 17, 2025 between 3:00-5:00 pm.
- 5) Number of entries per school: **Each teacher may submit up to 8 pieces of student art (subject to change based on space).**
- 6) **Entries will be classified within one of six categories:**

- **Drawing** – Renderings in pencil, ink, crayon, oil sticks or charcoal.
- **Painting** - Works in oil, acrylic or any plastic paints, watercolors (including tempera, gouache, or casein).  
Entries that use more than one type of media should be entered in the Mixed Media category.
- **Printmaking** - Any form of printmaking, traditional (etching, lithograph, intaglio, silkscreen, woodcut) or
- **Sculpture** – Sculpture, metalsmithing, jewelry, ceramics, glass, textiles, or any mixed media with more than 3 inches in depth.
- **Digital Media/Photography** – Color or black and white photographs, computer illustrations, scanned and/or computer-manipulated original images and graphic design or commercial art created with assistance of a computer.
- **Mixed Media** – Entries in which two or more media are combined in a single two-dimensional entry. Collage is included.

**Entries that use more than one type of media should be entered in Mixed Media.**

### 7) **Entries should be finished and original works of art.**

- All work must be original: that is, developed and created by the student. If, with substantiated proof, an artwork is determined to be unoriginal, it will be disqualified from the show and any awards will be withdrawn.
- Work reproduced from the works of masters, from advertisements, materials from published sources, including downloaded images from the internet or from published photography, album covers, magazines, websites or any other source is considered plagiarism and is unacceptable.

**Each student artist must put his/her signature on the back of 2-D work, or on the bottom or inside for 3-D pieces. Student exhibit tag with student name, title of artwork, category, school and teacher should be affixed to each piece of art.**

**Tryon Fine Arts Center reserves the right to reject work deemed unsuitable, misrepresented, or not adhering to the conditions as stated in these Rules of Entry.**

Judges reserve the right to move a piece to a category other than the one specified on the entry form if it is deemed that the piece fits more appropriately in a different category. TFAC reserves the right to limit the number of winners in any single category.

#### **Presentation, Size Requirements and Labeling**

- 1) **Entry Form:** Each piece of artwork, both 2-D and 3-D, must be identified using the Entry Form available online at [www.tryonarts.org/showcase-of-excellence](http://www.tryonarts.org/showcase-of-excellence). Entry Form must be completed before artwork can be processed. Submission of teacher digital signature is considered binding for this competition.
- 2) **Parental Release:** A signed Parental Release form must be submitted or available for each student artist, if the student is under 18 years of age, as deemed necessary by the school district. Only one Parental Release is required per student, regardless of the number of pieces submitted.
- 3) **Title:** Each work of art must have a title which cannot be changed after submission. The title and medium will be put on a card and displayed next to the work at the gallery. Titling a piece "Untitled" is not acceptable for this show.
- 4) **Display Instructions:** Any special instructions for display should be carefully written and/or illustrated and accompany the work. Indicate and mark top of art work for proper display or any special hanging orders for multiple pieces.
- 5) **Size/Weight:** No piece of artwork will be accepted if it is more than 48 inches tall or 48 inches wide. Sculptures must be light enough for one person to lift and transport.
- 6) **Readiness:** Works using wet media such as paint, glaze or glue must be completely dry before delivery to TFAC. Charcoal and pastel works should be sprayed with fixative. All work must be assembled. TFAC will not attempt to assemble or repair work submitted.
- 7) **Mounting:** All flat work (with the exception of canvases or pieces where the mounting is integral to the artwork itself) should be shrink-wrapped or covered with protective film over corrugated or other stiff back board. To assure a similar presentation of all artwork for judging, flat work should not be framed.
- 8) **Display:** TFAC will supply hanging strips for each work of wall art, which should be ready to be hung. Sculptures and small pieces that do not have a flat bottom should be accompanied by a stand for display.

**Although we will be as careful as possible, neither the TFAC directors, staff, nor volunteers will be responsible for lost or damaged work.**

#### **Delivery, Selection and Return of Work**

- 1) **All artwork must be received at the JP Gallery at TFAC on Thursday, January 16 or Friday, January 17, 2025 between 3:00 and 5:00 pm.** Teachers who anticipate problems with meeting this delivery deadline should contact TFAC by Friday, January 10 to make special arrangements.
- 2) During the juried show, the names of the students and their schools will not be visible to the judge.
- 3) **Awards:** All students whose work is accepted into the exhibit will receive a certificate of participation. Judging will take place shortly after the submission deadline. There will be first, second, and third place, and possibly honorable mention winners in each category, as well as a Best in Show selection. In addition, a separate People's Choice Award will be presented, based on votes received from gallery visitors during the exhibit of all works from February 1-February 28, 2025.

The first place winner in each category and Best in Show will each receive a \$100 cash prize. The participating teacher of each student who wins a First Place or Best in Show award will receive a \$250 cash award from TFAC for

use on a class project of the teacher's choice. Submission forms for teacher award projects will be provided by TFAC and due at the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Shortly after the judging, teachers will be notified regarding which students have received awards. On Saturday, February 1, 2025 winners will be announced to the public at the Opening Reception.. The winning students and their teachers are expected to attend and talk about their work with the public and media. All participating students, their families, friends and teachers/school administrators are invited to attend this reception as well as to visit the Exhibit between February 1 and February 28, 2025.

4) Assessment criteria for judging (not necessarily in this order):

- Fundamentals of design (sense of order and form)
- Originality, innovative interpretation
- Technical skill and manipulation of media
- Personal sense of style
- Market appeal

5) **Return of Artwork:** All artwork is to be picked up by the school either Friday, February 28 between 3-5 PM or Saturday, March 1 between 10 AM-12 PM. Artwork will be released to art teachers, who will be expected to sign a release form stating which piece has been released to them. No artwork will be allowed to leave TFAC without this signature and approval by a designated authority from the TFAC Showcase of Excellence committee. Every effort will be made to return artworks to student artists, but TFAC cannot be responsible for artwork not picked up by Saturday, March 1, 2025 unless prior arrangements have been made.

If you have any questions, please contact: Marianne Carruth, Executive Director, at (828)859-8322 or [marianne@tryonarts.org](mailto:marianne@tryonarts.org) or Amber Keeran at [jamberli@yahoo.com](mailto:jamberli@yahoo.com)

Forms can be found online at [www.tryonarts.org/showcase-of-excellence](http://www.tryonarts.org/showcase-of-excellence)

#### **Student Checklist – BEFORE SENDING ART to TFAC's Showcase of Excellence 2024 I have...**

\_\_\_ Filled out an **Entry Form** completely for each work entered.

\_\_\_ Provided a **Permission/Media Release** form indicating parent/guardian permission (if I am under 18 years of age) if deemed necessary by your school district. If I am 18 or older, I have signed the Permission/Media Release form.

\_\_\_ Attached artwork label to back of artwork including Student Name, Title of Artwork, Media, Category, School and Teacher

\_\_\_ Titled the artwork. (Using: "Untitled" is not acceptable for this show.) I realize that once titled, I cannot change the title.

\_\_\_ Checked the spelling of words in the title.

\_\_\_ Presented my work without framing of any kind.

\_\_\_ Prepared my work for display by:

**PLEASE**

- Indicate the TOP of wall mounted pieces
- Provide specific directions/illustrations for arranging multiple pieces in one entry · Provide a stand for 3-D pieces as needed

[Tryon Fine Arts Center ~ 34 Melrose Avenue ~ Tryon, NC ~ 28782 ~ 828-859-8322 ~ www.tryonarts.org](#)