



Rivanna Ridge Professional Building
200 Hansen Road, Suite 2
Charlottesville, VA 22911

December 5, 2025

TO: School Board Chairs
Division Superintendents
Clerks
Public Information Officers

FROM: Gina Patterson, Executive Director

RE: Student Art Contest for Regional Forums

Your school division is invited to participate in the VSBA Student Art Contest held in conjunction with the annual VSBA Spring Regional Network Forums. **PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION TO YOUR DIVISION'S ART COORDINATOR AND/OR DIRECTOR.**

Enclosed are:

1. 2026 VSBA Regional Spring Network Forum Schedule
2. 2026 VSBA Regional Spring Network Forums Art Contest Guidelines
3. 2026 VSBA Regional Spring Network Forums Art Contest Permission Slip (please duplicate as needed)
4. List of 2025 Regional Art Contest First Place Winners

Please make sure that all submitted artwork complies with the guidelines, and that the artwork is at the forum prior to the social hour (judging takes place during the social hour; consult your particular forum schedule for time) and ensure that someone is responsible for taking back the art that is not selected.

The representative from the school division bringing the artwork must stay through the entire forum. No artwork can be dropped off and picked up.

Artwork selected for First Place will be framed and displayed at the Virginia School Boards Association office throughout the year. It will be returned at the 2027 Regional Spring Network Forum. VSBA staff will follow up with the first-place winners once they are selected.

All first-place winners are **automatically entered** into the Second Annual VSBA Statewide Student Art Contest. One winner will be selected for each category (elementary, middle, and high school). Winners will be announced in a press release in early June and recognized in person during the 2026 VSBA Conference on Education, taking place July 16, 2026. All winners will be presented with a commemorative trophy and a \$1,000 award.

We look forward to seeing your school division represented in this year's Student Art Contest. Information on the exact locations of the 2026 VSBA Regional Spring Network Forums will be sent at a later date. If you have any questions regarding the Regional Spring Network Forums, please contact Mikaela Coffey at 434-295-8722 ext 7, or mikaela@vsba.org. Thank you for your participation.

2026 Regional Spring Network Forum Schedule

<u>Region</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Eastern	March 3	King William County
Central	March 17	Louisa County
Southside	March 24	Greensville County
Southern	March 25	Danville City
Blue Ridge	April 14	Patrick County
Tidewater	April 23	Norfolk City
Southwest	April 29	Wise County
Valley	April 30	Harrisonburg City
Northeastern	May 12	Spotsylvania County

2026 VSBA Regional Spring Network Forums Art Contest Guidelines

Each school division is requested to submit three pieces of student art (one per category). Below are the guidelines for submission of art to the 2026 Student Art Contest, which is held in conjunction with the Spring Regional Forums:

1. **Acceptable entries must be art or photography** that were created by a student during participation in a school art program. **No sculptures or 3-D objects.**
2. All work must be in a displayable form (matted or mounted) and **covered with material (plexiglass, shrink wrap, etc.) or framed, suitable to ensure it is not damaged during handling.** Please do not laminate your artwork.
3. **Art must be no larger than 18" x 24" in size, excluding matting and framing. This will be strictly enforced. If entries are larger than this, they will be disqualified.**
4. **Very Important:** each piece of work **must** include on the **back** of the artwork the student's name, age, school name, school division, and category (elementary, middle, or high — as defined by the local school division).
5. All art pieces are to be delivered to the regional meeting prior to the start of the social hour by an **attending** designee of the school division (a school board member, division superintendent or school division personnel). Pieces that did not place first must be taken from the meeting by the division designee at the close of the meeting. **Artwork may not be dropped off and then picked up at the end of the forum by a non-attendee.** VSBA is not responsible for the upkeep and tracking of artwork aside from the pieces that win first-place.
6. Each regional vice-chair will work with the host division to confirm that a display area is available for the art.
7. Judging is to be done by a 3-to-5-member jury that will be selected by the regional chair and vice chair.
8. Judging should be completed during the social hour and three winners selected (one from each category). Ribbons will be provided by VSBA.
9. The winners will be announced during the business meeting.

Winning selections will be framed by the VSBA for display in the Virginia School Boards Association office. They will be returned to the school division at the 2027 Regional Spring Network Forum. **All first-place winners will be automatically entered into the VSBA Statewide Student Art Contest.** It is recommended that the art contest winners be honored at a special ceremony held in conjunction with a school board meeting. Parents and teachers can attend and be included. This is an excellent public relations opportunity for the school division. All winning pieces will be affixed with an engraved plate with the following sample information:

2026 VSBA Southern Region Elementary Winner
Student Jones
Schoolsville Primary School
Schoolsville County Schools

If you have questions regarding the art contest, please contact Bella Corbo, Member Engagement Specialist, at 434-295-8722 ext. 2, or bella@vsba.org.

2026 VSBA Regional Spring Network Forums Art Contest
Permission Slip

If my child's artwork is selected as a winner during the Spring Regional Forum Art Contest, I give permission for the artwork to be framed and displayed for one year at the Virginia School Boards Association office in Charlottesville. While every effort will be made to ensure the safety of the artwork, it is understood and agreed that the VSBA will not be held responsible for any damage to or loss of the artwork. I understand that, at the end of the year, the artwork will be returned. I also understand that if my student is to win first-place, their artwork will automatically be entered into the VSBA Statewide Student Art Contest.

Parent Signature (required)

Student's Name (please print LEGIBLY and fill in all blanks)

Home Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____

Age: _____ **Grade Level:** _____

Parent name (printed) _____

Parent's Email: _____

School: _____

School Division (e.g. Danville City):

Title of Artwork (*must have a title*): _____

Category: _____ Elementary _____ Middle _____ High School

IMPORTANT
This form must accompany the artwork to be eligible
for judging. Artwork without this form will not be
included in the competition.

2025 VSBA Regional Art Contest Winners

BLUE RIDGE

First Place Elementary School
Wyatt Owens
Craig County Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Midori Waycaster
Patrick County Public Schools

First Place High School
Kaeli Berry
Botetourt County Public Schools

CENTRAL

First Place Elementary School
Juniper Grimsley
Culpeper County Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Chloe Anne
Nelson County Public Schools

First Place High School
Piper Lenon
Culpeper County Public Schools

EASTERN

First Place Elementary School
Isabelle White
King William County Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Tarah McGuire
Middlesex County Public Schools

First Place High School
Fatima Mayorga
Gloucester County Public Schools

NORTHEASTERN

First Place Elementary School
Kingston Rosner
Manassas City Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Ruslin Rasdi Prithula
Manassas Park City Public Schools

First Place High School
Anna McMahon
Alexandria City Public Schools

SOUTHERN

First Place Elementary School
Te'Yona Blackwell
Mecklenburg County Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Kendall Parsons
Pittsylvania County Public Schools

First Place High School
Josiah Monroe
Campbell County Public Schools

SOUTHSIDE

First Place Elementary School
Nikolai Sandoval
Prince George County Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Jake Bowe
Dinwiddie County Public Schools

First Place High School
Cadence Martin
Colonial Heights Public Schools

SOUTHWEST

First Place Elementary School
Mia Grace Robbins
Dickenson County Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Kendle Fullen
Bristol City Public Schools

First Place High School
Presley Frye
Smyth County Public Schools

TIDEWATER

First Place Elementary School
Nova Thompson
Virginia Beach City Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Emily Monument
Suffolk City Public Schools

First Place High School
Kaylyn Jones
Portsmouth City Public Schools

VALLEY

First Place Elementary School
Quinn Marshall
Page County Public Schools

First Place Middle School
Emmy Myers
Frederick County Public Schools

First Place High School
Madelyn Grace
Frederick County Public Schools