

BRIAN HIGGINS  
27TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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GREAT LAKES TASK FORCE

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**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3227

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JAMESTOWN, NY 14701  
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**CALL FOR ART:**  
**The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Congressional Art Competition**  
**“An Artistic Discovery”**

March 31, 2009

Dear Student:

I want to invite you to participate in the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Congressional Art Competition, “An Artistic Discovery.” Over the years hundreds of thousands of high school students from congressional districts across the nation have participated. The winning entries from participating districts are proudly displayed in the Cannon Tunnel on the way to the Capitol Building in Washington, DC. The display exemplifies the significance of art education in our nation’s schools by highlighting the work of our nation’s most gifted young artists. I hope you will submit your original artwork in this nationwide competition. The deadline for artwork submission is 5:00 pm on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 2009. Your art teacher can submit your artwork to either the Buffalo office in the Larkin Building, Suite 601, 726 Exchange St. or the Jamestown office in the Fenton Building, Suite 300, 2 East Second St.

All submissions will be on public display in the first floor lobby of the Larkin Building at 726 Exchange Street in Buffalo from May 6<sup>th</sup> through May 16<sup>th</sup>. Local leaders from the art community will decide the winners of the competition. On May 16<sup>th</sup> I will host a ceremony and reception for teachers, students and their families where the winners will be announced. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner, and his or her parents, will be invited to attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the Nation’s Capitol on June 24<sup>th</sup>, where their artwork will be on display. Southwest Airlines will provide roundtrip airfare for three traveling from Western New York to Washington, DC. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will also receive prizes. My office will assist in making these travel arrangements and in scheduling tours of the Nation’s Capitol.

Your art teacher has a copy of the official guidelines, a student release form, and a label for your artwork. A student release form and a label must be taped on the back of your artwork. Please make sure that you carefully review all of the guidelines regarding the artwork itself, the labeling of the artwork, the framing of the artwork, and all other information regarding the competition. The competition is open to high school students who reside in the 27<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, which includes most of Erie County and all of Chautauqua County. Each piece of art must be no larger than 30 inches by 30 inches to the outside dimensions of the frame and no more than 4 inches in depth. More information can be found at <http://higgins.house.gov>. Please contact Megan Corbett at [megan.corbett@mail.house.gov](mailto:megan.corbett@mail.house.gov) or at 852-3501 if you have any questions. I look forward to receiving entries from your students. Thank you for your participation in this competition!

Sincerely,



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress  
NY-27

You are invited to submit your original artwork

# Congressional Art Competition

## “An Artistic Discovery”

Hosted by:

Congressman Brian Higgins (NY-27)



Submission Deadline: Friday, May 1st 2009

Artwork Exhibition: May 6th through May 16th

Art Competition Reception: Saturday, May 16th

Location: First Floor Lobby of the Larkin at Exchange Building,  
726 Exchange Street in Buffalo

The winning piece of artwork will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol.

The winning student will be invited to attend  
a ribbon cutting ceremony in Washington, DC.

Details are available online at <http://higgins.house.gov>

Contact: Megan Corbett at 852-3501 or by email at [megan.corbett@mail.house.gov](mailto:megan.corbett@mail.house.gov)

# 2009 Congressional Art Competition

## Student Information & Release Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

MEMBER/DISTRICT INFORMATION	
MEMBER OF CONGRESS NAME:	STATE:

STUDENT INFORMATION		
NAME:	GRADE:	
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
STUDENT EMAIL:		
T-SHIRT SIZE:		
PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME(S):		
PARENT PHONE:	PARENT WORK PHONE:	

SCHOOL		
SCHOOL NAME:		
STREET ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
ART TEACHER NAME:		

ART COMPETITION ENTRY
TITLE OF ENTRY:
MEDIUM:
DESCRIPTION:
FRAMED DIMENSIONS: Height: _____ inches Width: _____ inches Depth: _____ inches See official guidelines for framed size and artwork weight restrictions.

## 2009 Congressional Art Competition Student Information & Release Form

<b>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)</b>	
STUDENT NAME:	STATE:
TITLE OF ENTRY:	

<b>ORIGINALITY CERTIFICATION</b>	
I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the art entry described above is an original work or authorship by the undersigned student and that it is not copied from, nor does it include, any other person's copyrighted work.	
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> ART TEACHER SIGNATURE

<b>ARTWORK RELEASE</b>	
<p>We, the undersigned, represent that the art entry described above is an original work of authorship personally created by the undersigned student to which the student is entitled copyright protection. In consideration for the acceptance of the art entry by the Member of Congress designated above in <i>An Artistic Discovery</i> (the Congressional Art Competition sponsored by the U.S. House of Representatives) and intending to be legally bound hereby, the undersigned grant the Member and the House the right to publicly display the art entry, if it is selected for display, in accordance with the rules of the Art Competition, for a period of two years from the latest date on this form. The undersigned acknowledge that the final decision regarding the suitability of an art entry to be displayed in the Capitol will be made by a House panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. The undersigned also grant the Member, the House, their employees and agents, and the United States the right to reproduce the art entry for any non-commercial purpose. The undersigned further grant the Member, the House, their employees and agents, and the United States from any and all liability for damage, loss, or misappropriation of the art entry during and subsequent to the Art Competition. The undersigned further agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Member, the House, their employees and agents, and the United States against any and all claims of any nature whatsoever, including, but not limited to, claims of copyright infringement, by any party whatsoever, arising out of or in any way related to the submission of the art entry in the Art Competition.</p>	
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> STUDENT SIGNATURE	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18)

## 2009 Congressional Art Competition Guidelines

Congressional Office Copy

### General Guidelines

- The competition is open to high school students only. Exceptions will be made for schools that have 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades on one campus. Each Member office can choose whether or not to include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades in the art competition if there are schools in their district that fit these criteria.
- Official resources are to be used only to the extent authorized by the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.
- In order to allow artwork to hang in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol, the following restrictions are enforced:
  - All artwork must be framed according to the appropriate framing guidelines, listed below.
  - Artwork must conform to the restrictions:
    - Artwork must be two-dimensional
    - Each piece can be **no larger** than 30"x30"x4" (30 inches high, 30 inches wide, and 4 inches deep) including the frame. Artwork cannot weigh more than 15 lbs.
    - Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate any U.S. copyright laws. Any entry which has been reproduced from an existing photo (not the student's own), painting, graphic, advertisement, or any other work produced by another person is a violation of the competition rules and **will not** be accepted.
  - Artwork must arrive in Washington by **June 4, 2009** for inclusion in display.
- Artwork will hang in the Capitol for the **entire year** of the exhibition and **cannot** be returned to students earlier. Students, therefore, should submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.
- Artwork categories are as follows:
  - Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
  - Drawings: pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, markers
  - Collage: must be two dimensional
  - Prints: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints
  - Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, etc.
  - Computer generated art
  - Photography
- A **TYPED** copy of the Student Release form, signed by both the teacher and the student, must be attached to the artwork to certify the originality of the piece.

The **winning artist's student release form** along with the **Member Approval form** should be sent to DC via fax to 202.225.4420, attn: 2009 Art Competition, **as soon as you have chosen a winning artwork and/or by May 27th**. This will allow us to determine if more information is required from the student before actually receiving the artwork.
- The final decision regarding the suitability of all artwork for the 2009 Congressional Art Competition exhibition in the Capitol will be made by a panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. Artwork must adhere to the policy of the House Office Building Commission. In accordance with this policy, exhibits depicting subjects of contemporary political controversy or a sensationalistic or gruesome nature are not allowed. It is necessary that all artwork be reviewed by the panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol and any portion not in consonance with the Commission's policy will be omitted from the exhibit.

## ARTWORK LABEL

*(Please type or neatly print & attach this label near the bottom of the back of your artwork)*

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**MEMBER NAME, STATE, & DISTRICT:** Congressman Brian Higgins NY - 27

**TITLE OF WORK:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEDIUM:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL NAME & ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ART TEACHER NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ART TEACHER PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

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