

“Western art is representational art of cowboys, Indians, wildlife and the terrain of western landscape.”

The Western Art Committee’s intention is to encourage the education and appreciation of our western heritage. Therefore, the above definition will be a guideline as to what we consider western art (source: Houston Public Library Information Center).

I. JUDGING

- A. Students, parents, and teachers are not permitted to be present at the judging. Students, parents, and teachers are invited to visit the exhibit @ 2:00 on the day after the judging.
- B. Only **one** entry per student.
- C. No more than one student may work on a single entry.
- D. Illustrations (paintings, drawings, etc.) or sculptures may be entered.
- E. Each student must also submit the “Artist’s Biography” and the “Declaration of Originality/Artwork Release” signed by the artist and the artist’s parent or guardian and notarized. If the artist is over 18 years of age, the parent need not sign, but a copy of a photo ID must be attached, indicating the artist’s age. **NO ARTWORK WILL BE RECEIVED UNLESS IT IS ACCOMPANIED BY THESE TWO FORMS.**
- F. Artwork should be titled.
- G. Please indicate on artwork tag, if a grid was used.

II. ACCEPTED SUBJECTS

- A. Ranch Life (Past or Present)
- B. Cowboy or Rodeo events
- C. Any imaginative country and western scene or one depicting cowboy or Indian paraphernalia
- D. If wildlife is used, it **MUST** be native to the continental USA and **MUST** be shown in a western setting.

III. ILLUSTRATIONS

A. The following MEDIA are examples of accepted media. Work is not restricted to this list:

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Tempera | 5. Crayon | 9. Pencil |
| 2. Watercolor | 6. Mixed Media | 10. Charcoal |
| 3. Oil | 7. Cloth | 11. Pastels |
| 4. Acrylic | 8. Ink | |

Sizes of illustrations - Dimensions may be vertical or horizontal, but **must not** exceed specified sizes. **Incorrect sizes are subject to disqualification.**

- 1. **Minimum** – 11" X 14" (including up to 3 ½" mat)
- 2. **Maximum** – 18" X 24" (including up to 3 ½" mat)

C. Matting and Mounting of Illustrations

1. Illustrations **must be matted** with material such as poster board or heavy construction paper. It must be sturdy enough to prevent sagging. "Professional" mats are recommended but are not required.
 2. Mat **must not exceed 3 1/2"** on any side. Double matting is acceptable, but total width of double matting must not exceed the 3 1/2" maximum.
 3. Mat color is limited to **white, black, or light gray**.
 4. Charcoals and pastels **must be sprayed**.
 5. Wet paintings will not be accepted.
 6. Acrylic coverings may be used, but are not recommended (they make our judging more difficult). **Be sure they are attached, and can be easily removed for photography purposes.**
 7. Paintings **on canvas** with wooden stretcher frames and wood work must have a **hook or wire** on back for hanging, but **need not be matted**.
 8. **Paintings on hardboard canvas** (thin type of canvas) may be matted or mounted with sturdy poster board instead of using hooks or wires. A minimum mat edge of 1" will enable use to display the artwork with clips, without damage to the canvas board.
- D. Illustrations should have an envelope taped to the back, forming a **pocket**. Slip the required forms into that pocket, but **leave the envelope unsealed** so that we can remove and replace the forms as needed.

IV. SCULPTURES

A. Sculptures may be constructed of any of the following materials:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Clay (air dried or fired) | 4. Metal | 7. Any other material that |
| 2. Wire, chicken wire, etc. | 5. Plaster | meets the boundaries of |
| 3. Wood | 6. Paper mache | our rules and regulations |

B. Sculpture should be well made and able to stand alone. Any sculpture made of any fragile material must have a base to support it. **PLEASE NOTE:** Our exhibit will be open to the **public**, including **small children**, and although we do our best to protect all the artwork, it is impossible for us to control the activity of every person viewing our exhibit. **FRAGILE SCULPTURES SUBJECT TO DAMAGE BY ROUTINE HANDLING SHOULD NOT BE ENTERED. Soft clay will not be accepted. We cannot be responsible for damage!**

C. **Maximum size** – Sculpture is not to exceed 20" in height or width, including the base.

D. **Weight** – should not be excessive or weigh more than an average person can carry easily.

E. Place your sculpture in a box with padding. Tape an envelope to the side of the box, forming a pocket. Slip the required forms into that pocket, but **leave the envelope unsealed** so that we can remove and replace the forms needed. Use a heavy marker to write your name and the name of your school on the outside of the box.

REMINDERS

Revised August, 2008

Be sure to use a black, white or gray mat, but do not use a mat larger than 3 ½” on any side.

I. **No reproduction or copying of other artwork or photos by any means.** The only two exceptions to this rule are:

- A. The artist may work from a photograph he or she has personally taken or that belongs to the artist's family.
- B. The photographer has given explicit permission to the artist to use his photograph as a source.

When a non-published photo is used, the original photo, or a good quality copy, with information about where it was taken, the date taken, and who took it, must be provided on the back of the photo, which is then to be attached to the back of the artwork. If a family photo is used, the student must be able to verify who took the photo. THE ORIGINAL PHOTO(S) or DIGITAL DISK MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW UPON REQUEST.

Although the artist may use an approved photograph as a source, the artist may NOT use any mechanical means to reproduce any part of that photograph such as a computer, an opaque projector, photocopier, or any other device.

III. Do not use any of the following materials:

- A. Glitter
- B. Plastic Figures
- C. Pre-packaged, pre-cut craft or art kits
- D. Commercial, newsprint lettering, stencils, or rub-on letters in their original form
- E. Sand (unless it is glued or sealed, not loose)
- F. Wax
- G. Any fragile material that easily breaks or may be damaged by routine handling, during setting up of our exhibit (i.e. soft clay, glass, etc.)
- H. Living things (plants or insects)

IV. These are NOT accepted. If any of these are presented, they will not be exhibited or judged:

- A. Satanic art
- B. Nudes
- C. Gang symbols or themes
- D. Wet paintings
- E. Photographic work
- F. Framed illustrations
- G. The following are not acceptable, unless pictured in a western setting:
 - 1. Fishing scenes
 - 2. Individual pictures of fish, butterflies, frogs, or other wildlife
- H. Any wildlife not naturally found habitating the continental USA, such as tigers, zebras, elephants, etc.
- I. Pictures of bowls of fruit or flowers, unless symbolic of Texas or “Old West” or used in a western setting.
- J. Jewelry
- K. Charcoal or pastels, that are not sprayed
- L. Entries made from mechanical or electronic devices such as (but not limited to):
 - 1. With the assistance of opaque projectors
 - 2. Photocopiers
 - 3. Computer generated or computer enhanced
 - 4. Sewing machine

- V. Be careful to measure your entry. Our space is limited, so we must ask that your piece not be too large. If your piece is too small, it could easily be overlooked or lost.

There have been many questions and concerns on the topic of student “originality” in art.

*Many students do not have personal knowledge of the subjects required for this competition. Therefore, published and printed materials may be one of the tools the student uses to research the idea for his or her art. **Please be careful how this tool is used.***

*For example: When a student researches a paper for history or English, published material is used to compile his facts or thoughts on the subject. It is very unlikely that a student will receive a grade if he copies the material. The same holds true for art. **NO PUBLISHED MATERIAL MAY BE COPIED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART.***

*Because our judges do not recognize every piece of published art, the student and the teacher sign the form that declares the work to be the **original composition** of the student. If, after our competition is complete, a winning piece of artwork is found to have been copied, any award, which may have been promised to the student, will be forfeited. Repeated violations of this rule, or any other rule(s), may disqualify the offending school from future participation in this competition.*

Any legal issue arising from the infringement of copyright law is the sole responsibility of the student and his/her legal guardians. Neither the San Antonio Livestock Exposition nor the Museum of Western Art will be responsible for, or involved in any legal issues arising from copyright infringement.

Please be careful how your students choose to use their resource materials.