Updated November 2026

MACS
Elementary Fine Arts Festival
Art Rules

GENERAL RULES

- Art MUST be the original work of the student. It should not be a copy of a photograph or someone else's art. Strive for originality!
- MINIMAL guidance and assistance from adults or teachers should be given.
- Artwork should be appropriate to a Christian audience in order to be adjudicated and displayed.
- Artwork must be submitted no later than 9:00 a.m. on the day of the festival or arrangements may be made to drop off the artwork earlier in the week.
- Artwork may be no larger than 18"x18", with three-dimensional pieces being no larger than 18"x18"x18".
- All two-dimensional flatwork MUST be matted or mounted. A simple piece of black paper may be used. Artwork done on canvas will not require matte board or paper.
- Artwork will be on display during the festival once adjudication is complete, and may be collected at the end of the festival, as indicated by the judges.
- Each art piece must be accompanied by an "Art Registration Form". These forms are available along with the other registration materials.

CATEGORY 1: CALLIGRAPHY

- Each entry should either display the entire alphabet, or the content should be so extensive as to indicate a complete mastery of the particular style chosen.
- Embellishments made with other mediums with the intent to enhance the work of art is permissible.
- The artwork may be rendered in modern or traditional style calligraphy.
- Traditional pen and nibs or modern brush pens may be used.
- **<u>Do not use</u> blunt felt-tip pens, such as markers or sharpies.**
- Submitted artwork **<u>MUST be mounted or matted using either, matte board or a piece of black paper.</u>**

CATEGORY 2: CRAFT

- Store-bought kits, or commercially-produced plans are acceptable.
- **The original plan <u>MUST</u> accompany the project.**
- **<u>Free-standing, 3-dimensional projects made from kits will be categorized under craft rather than sculpture.</u>**
- Suggested crafts: crochet, knitting, macrame, sewing, jewelry making,
  weaving, rug hooking, perler beads, embroidery, string art, etc.

CATEGORY 3: DRAWING

- Drawings submitted may be either monochromatic or polychromatic.
- Students may use ink, pencil, colored pencils, charcoal, chalk pastels or markers.
- Submitted artwork **MUST be mounted or matted using either, matte board or a piece of black paper.**

CATEGORY 4: MIXED MEDIA

- Mixed media includes two or three-dimensional artwork, and may combine multiple materials or mediums such as paint, fabric, paper, wood, graphite, pen, pencil, found objects, etc..
- Common forms of mixed media include collages and assemblages.
- Mixed media created on paper **MUST be matted or mounted using either matte board or a piece of black paper.**

CATEGORY 5: PAINTING

- Submitted artwork may include oil, acrylic, or any water-based medium, such as watercolor, gouache, or tempera. Use of airbrush is permitted.
- Water-based mediums used must be rendered on watercolor paper.

- Acceptable supports for acrylic or oil include, but are not limited to, stretched, board, or gallery-wrapped canvases, or wood.
- When submitting acrylic or oil paintings, artists should seek to cover the entire canvas, including the sides with paint, as leaving exposed raw canvas can make it look unfinished.
- Work **MUST** be completely dry before it is submitted.

CATEGORY 6: PRINTMAKING

- Printmaking is an art form that involves transferring an image from a template, or matrix onto a surface. With this in mind, the original printing surface **MUST** be presented with the artwork.
- Acceptable printmaking techniques include, but are not limited to, linocut, woodcut, etching, engraving, lithography, screenprint, and collograph.

CATEGORY 7: SCULPTURE

- Sculpture is the art of carving, modeling, assembling, or casting.
- Sculpture is a three-dimensional form, either free-standing, or low-relief, and may be realistic or abstract.

- Typically sculptures are made from a single material… acceptable materials include, but are not limited to the following: wood, plaster, stone, metal, wax, clay (both fired and unfired), papier-mâché, balsa, foam, modeling clay, model magic, and air-dry clay.
- Works from molds are acceptable if the student has created the mold and has poured the form himself. **(Original mold must be presented with the finished artwork.)**
- Students should seek to present artwork that is made completely by them. Avoid including store-bought items such as toys, flowers, plants, etc..
- For display purposes sculptures must be attached to, or placed on a base. This "base" may simply be a tile, or piece of wood.

CATEGORY 8: PHOTOGRAPHY

- Photographs may be a black & white or color print.
- The minimum size of photographs is 5x7
- Artists should **NOT** use **pre-set filters** to alter their photographs.
- All photographs **MUST be matted or mounted using either matte board or a piece of black paper.**