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2026 SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FROM TEEN ARTISTS

Northern Nevada students in grades 7–12 (ages 13+) invited to submit creative and original artwork to the nation’s longest-running art competition.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reno, Nev. (October 21, 2025) — The Nevada Museum of Art invites Northern Nevada’s most creative teens (grades 7–12) to submit their original artwork to the 2026 Scholastic Art Awards, the nation’s longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for young artists.

From comic art to ceramics, jewelry to graphic design, and every medium in between, students are encouraged to [share their personal artistic visions](#) by **Friday, December 12, 2025**.

For more than 25 years, the Nevada Museum of Art has proudly hosted the regional Scholastic Art Awards in partnership with the University of Nevada, Reno School of the Arts and the College of Liberal Arts. Select award-winning works will be showcased at both the E.L. Cord Museum School and the University of Nevada, Reno’s Sheppard Contemporary Gallery from **February 7–21, 2026**, with a celebration ceremony honoring Gold and Silver Key recipients at Nightingale Concert Hall on February 14, 2026.

Last year, a panel of regional judges reviewed more than 1,300 works submitted across 18 categories for Northern Nevada’s Scholastic Art Awards. As in years past, submissions must be entered digitally; mailed entries and physical payments will not be accepted.

“The Scholastic Art Awards give young artists the opportunity to see their ideas and imaginations valued on a professional stage,” said Christina Michael, Nell J. Redfield School Services Manager at the Nevada Museum of Art. “We’re proud to help students discover the power of creative expression and to celebrate the next generation of Northern Nevada artists.”

Categories include ceramics and glass, digital art, photography, mixed media, editorial cartooning, film and animation, and more. Works are judged on originality, technical skill, and the emergence of a personal vision. Complete entry details are available at the [Scholastic Art & Writing Awards website](#). Students will be notified of their award status by **Monday, January 13, 2026**.

Since 1999, the Nevada Museum of Art, Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts, E. L. Wiegand Gallery, has led the Northern Nevada regional visual arts program of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards—recognizing exceptional middle and high school artists from Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey, Washoe, and White Pine counties.

Students who participate join a celebrated community of Scholastic Award alumni, including Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, Sylvia Plath, Richard Avedon, and Reno’s own Michael Sarich.

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ABOUT THE NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

*The **Nevada Museum of Art** is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and among the few in the nation structured around thematic inquiry. Located in Reno, Nevada, on the edge of the Great Basin, the Museum’s programming and collections are divided into thematic focus areas including the Art of the Greater West, the Altered Landscape, contemporary art, and work ethic in American art.*

*The Museum’s **Institute for Art + Environment** expands the Museum’s global research footprint and is an internationally recognized research center that supports the practice, study, and awareness of creative interactions between people and their natural, built, and virtual environments. The Institute houses unique archive materials including Cape Farewell, Michael Heizer, Walter de Maria, Lita Albuquerque, Judy Chicago, Burning Man, Center for Land Use Interpretation, Helen and Newton Harrison, High Desert Test Sites, Desert X, and Great Basin Native Artists Archive and Directory.*

Learn more at nevadaart.org.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Nevada Museum of Art acknowledges the traditional homelands of the Waš́i-š́iw (Washoe), Numu (Northern Paiute), Newe (Western Shoshone), and Nuwu (Southern Paiute) people of the Great Basin. This includes the 28 Tribal Nations that exist as sovereign nations and continue as stewards of this land. We appreciate the opportunity to live and learn on these Indigenous homelands.