



**U.S. Representative Robert Pittenger is pleased to announce the 2017 Congressional Art Competition.**

This competition encompasses the Ninth Congressional District of North Carolina and is an excellent opportunity to showcase the talent of our area's high school constituents and to acknowledge our community's gifted young artists.

Please refer to "2017 Rules and Regulations for Students and Teachers" which follows, and outlines the rules and dimensions for the artwork. Please follow the directions carefully as there are very specific requirements for size and content. Any entry which does not meet the guidelines set forth in the rules and regulations will be disqualified from the competition. Deadline for All Entries is April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

**This year, entries will be accepted exclusively by electronic means. The physical artwork does not need to be dropped off at the Congressional offices. When reviewing the 2017 Rules and Regulations for Students and Teachers, keep in mind that items such as labeling the artwork and physically attaching the release form to the artwork will apply to the first place winner, and to the finalists who elect to have their art displayed in one of Congressman Pittenger's district offices.**

Three finalists will be selected through a Facebook competition hosted on Congressman Pittenger's Facebook page. This part of the competition will begin at **noon on April 24<sup>th</sup>** and remain open until **noon on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. Three more finalists will be chosen by regional art experts, Congressman Pittenger, and his staff.

**Finalists will be announced the week of May 1<sup>st</sup>, and the winner will be announced on May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Prizes:**

Finalists will be given the honor of having their artwork hung in the Congressman's District Offices. The first place winner will be chosen from those finalists by Congressman Pittenger, his staff and art experts from the community. The first place winner will receive the Congressional Art award and have his/her artwork hung in Washington, DC, in the Cannon Building Tunnel at the Capitol, representing North Carolina's Ninth District. **Winner and 1 guest will be flown to Washington, D.C. for the national reception on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

**Academic scholarships** will also be awarded. The Congressional Art Award winner will be offered a \$3,000 scholarship from the Savannah College of Art and Design or the Tennessee Wesleyan College, should they choose to enroll at one of these schools and be accepted. Accepted students may be eligible

for additional scholarships based on their academic credentials, documented awards and recognition, extracurricular activities, volunteer or professional experience, and talents.

We would love to have a great showing from your school! We will have high school students from Mecklenburg, Union, Anson, Richmond, Scotland, Robeson, Cumberland and Bladen counties competing, and we highly encourage you and your students to participate.

#### **HOW TO ENTER**

Entries will be submitted electronically, by emailing to [NC09.photos@mail.house.gov](mailto:NC09.photos@mail.house.gov). Files should be no larger than 5 MB, and format should be JPG, GIF, or PNG.

If selected as first place winner, student and parent agree to drop off the framed art within 5 days, or the entry will be subject to disqualification. If the finalists choose to have their artwork displayed in one of Congressman Pittenger's district offices for the next year, they must drop off their framed artwork within 7 days after the winner is named.

In addition to the photo of the artwork, include the completed and signed **Student Information and Release Form**.

**Entries will be accepted until April 21<sup>st</sup> .**

All entry forms and rules can be found at [Pittenger.house.gov/artcompetition](http://Pittenger.house.gov/artcompetition)