



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

April 1, 2024

Dear Principals & Art Teachers:

I am writing to invite your students to participate in the 2024 Annual Congressional Student Art Competition. Each spring the U.S. House of Representatives sponsors an art competition for high school students. This nationwide competition provides students with an excellent opportunity to showcase their talent.

All high school students who reside in Florida's 16th Congressional District are eligible to participate. The 16th District is comprised of Manatee County and portions of Hillsborough County. To check to see which district the student resides in, please use the tool on the U.S. House of Representatives website, www.House.gov, using their ZIP code, PRIOR to submitting the piece. If the student doesn't reside in my district, they are encouraged to reach out directly to their member's office for more info on the competition.

The deadline to submit artwork is **5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 29**. Students will need to submit their art competition form [online](#) and the entries should be mailed or delivered to one of my District office locations.

**8433 Enterprise Circle, Ste. 210
Bradenton, FL 34202
(941) 951-6643**

**510 Vonderburg Drive, Ste. 303
Brandon, FL 33511
(813) 657-1013**

The entries will be judged by curators for the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. The winning entry will be displayed for one year in the United States Capitol alongside artwork from every congressional district across the country.

In a separate category, we will award a "Facebook Fan Favorite!" Beginning Monday, May 6 through Friday, May 10, we will be displaying the submissions on my Facebook page. The piece that receives the highest number of likes and shares combined will be named the Facebook Fan Favorite! The winner's art piece will hang in my Washington, DC office for one year.

The guidelines for suitability and framing as well as the rules and regulations are located on my [website](#). Please provide the completed Student Information and Release Form (typed if possible) for each piece of artwork with an attached label.

Please contact Tara Poulton at Tara.Poulton@mail.house.gov or by giving her a call at 941.951.6643 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vern Buchanan".

Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress