

March 2, 2021

Dear Art Teachers:

I am writing to invite your students to participate in the 2021 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 16<sup>th</sup> Congressional District are eligible to participate in the competition. The 16<sup>th</sup> District is comprised of Manatee County and portions of Sarasota and Hillsborough Counties. If you live in Sarasota or Hillsborough County, please look up your congressional district on the U.S. House of Representatives website, [www.House.gov](http://www.House.gov), using your ZIP code +4 PRIOR to submitting your piece.

The deadline to submit artwork is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 16. Entries and paperwork should be delivered by appointment to one of the following locations:

Office of Congressman  
Buchanan  
111 S. Orange Avenue  
Suite 202W  
Sarasota, Florida 34236  
941.951.6643

Office of Congressman  
Buchanan  
1051 Manatee Avenue West,  
Suite 305  
Bradenton, Florida 34205  
941.747.9081

De Stijl Art Gallery  
100 East Shell Point Road  
Ruskin, Florida 33570  
813.773.7771

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. The winner will also be awarded a flight for two to Washington D.C to attend the Congressional Art Competition Reception.

In a separate category, we will award a "Facebook Fan Favorite!" Beginning Friday, April 30 we will be displaying all the submissions on my Facebook page. The piece that receives the highest number of likes and shares combined by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 7 will be the Facebook Fan Favorite! The winner will have their piece hung in my Washington, DC office for one year.

Other entries selected by the curators will have their artwork on exhibit at the Ringling Museum of Art.

The guidelines for suitability and framing are enclosed. Please provide the completed Student Information and Release Form (typed if possible) for each piece of artwork with an attached label.

Please contact Crosley Jones at 941.951.6643 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress