

OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR

Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition



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Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition

2026 COMPETITION GUIDE

Overview: The Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition (OSAE) is FREE to enter and open to all Pre-K thru Grade 12 schools across Oklahoma. See Page 3 for rules and guidelines. OSAE is divided into three (3) divisions:

Elementary

Jr. High/Middle School

High School

Developmentally Challenged Category: OSAE offers a section for developmentally challenged students. Each teacher may submit up to five (5) pieces. All artwork submitted in this section will be eligible for awards. These pieces will be in addition to the twenty (20) pieces allowed for each teacher and will be included in the count of merit awards.

Judging: Distinguished jurors carefully inspect each piece, then select artwork for display during the Oklahoma State Fair. From these selected pieces, some are given Merit, Exceptional Merit, Best of Show, Judges Choice and Superintendent's Choice awards during state level judging. All artwork selected for OSAE will be displayed during the Oklahoma State Fair.

\$7,100 in Awards to School Art Programs!

Awards: \$4,100 in Hobby Lobby Gift Cards and \$3,000 in cash will be presented to schools. See Page 5 for complete award details.

Registration: **ONLY TEACHERS MAY REGISTER ARTWORK.**

Attention Teachers: If you have student art in the show and are interested in helping set up the show in September, please contact Sarah Carnes at 405-806-0567 or Michelle Barnes at 405-999-3553. OSF appreciates and thanks the OAEA for their time and dedication it takes to display 1,000 pieces of art. "Many hands make light work."

Five District Sites for Art Take-In

FIVE sites have been established to make it easier for schools to participate. Each county is assigned to one of the sites. See page 2 for your assigned district.

Art will only be accepted at your assigned district. No exceptions will be made. ALL accepted art will be picked up at the OKC Fairgrounds following the Oklahoma State Fair. District locations are subject to change and teachers will be notified of such changes in advance.

Central District - Oklahoma City

Arts Annex - OKC Fairgrounds - 3000 General Pershing Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Northeast District - Tulsa

Expo Square - Home of the Tulsa State Fair - 4145 East 21st Street, Tulsa, OK 74114

Northwest District - Enid

Leonardo's Children's Museum - 200 E Maple Ave, Enid, OK 73701

Southeast District - Ada

Pontotoc County Agri-Plex & Convention Center - 1710 North Broadway Avenue D, Ada, OK 74820

Southwest District - Duncan

Chisholm Trail Heritage Center - 1000 Chisholm Trail Parkway, Duncan, OK 73533

Important Dates

Registration Opens

Monday, March 2 at 9 a.m.

Registration Deadline

Wednesday, April 15

Submission of Artwork

Friday, May 1 from 3 - 5 p.m. or Saturday, May 2 from 9 a.m. - Noon (Oklahoma City)

Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m. - Noon (Ada/Duncan/Enid/Tulsa)

District Judging

Saturday, May 2 from Noon - 1:30 p.m. (Ada/Duncan/Enid/Tulsa)

Monday, May 4 from 9 a.m. - Noon (Oklahoma City)

Pick-up Unaccepted Artwork & State Qualifier Ribbons

Saturday, May 2 from 2 - 3:30 p.m. (Ada/Duncan/Enid/Tulsa)

Friday, May 8 from 3 - 5 p.m. or Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. - Noon (Oklahoma City)

Awards Showcase

Saturday, September 19 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Arts Annex during the Oklahoma State Fair

Artwork Reclaim

Friday, October 2 from 3 - 5 p.m. or Saturday, October 3, 9 a.m. - Noon (all districts)

Arts Annex at the OKC Fairgrounds.

Designated Districts by County

Central - OKC

Beckham
Canadian
Cleveland
Custer
Lincoln
Logan
McClain
Oklahoma
Pottawatomie
Roger Mills
Washita

Northeast - Tulsa

Adair
Cherokee
Craig
Creek
Delaware
Haskell
Le Flore
Mayes
MacIntosh
Muskogee
Nowata
Okmulgee
Osage
Ottawa
Pawnee
Payne
Rogers
Sequoyah
Tulsa
Wagoner
Washington

Northwest - Enid

Alfalfa
Beaver
Blaine
Cimarron
Dewey
Ellis
Garfield
Grant
Harper
Kay
Kingfisher
Major
Noble
Texas
Woods
Woodward

Southeast - Ada

Atoka
Bryan
Carter
Choctaw
Coal
Garvin
Hughes
Johnston
Latimer
Love
Marshall
McCurtain
Murray
Okfuskee
Pittsburg
Pontotoc
Pushmataha
Seminole

Southwest - Duncan

Caddo
Comanche
Cotton
Grady
Greer
Harmon
Jackson
Jefferson
Kiowa
Stephens
Tillman

County assignments are based on estimated driving time to the nearest site.

Rules and Guidelines

Please read carefully!

Eligibility: Open to any Pre-K thru Grade 12, in-person public or private, Oklahoma school.

Divisions: When registering, indicate if your school is an **elementary, jr. high/middle school or high school**. If you teach at multiple schools, please create separate registrations for EACH school within your account. **Do not create separate exhibitor accounts**. If there are different levels within your school, please create a separate school listing for each (i.e., Washington Elementary School and Washington Middle School).

Entry Limit: Per school, each art teacher may register up to twenty (20) pieces of art plus an additional one (1) to five (5) pieces in the Developmentally Challenged category for a total of twenty five (25). Digital images are not required. **NOTE:** *Each student may submit only one (1) piece of art but may also be involved in a group project and/or the Ribbon Recycle Challenge*. Ribbon Recycle Challenge pieces must be registered. Pieces may not exceed 30", in any direction, and we must be able to rotate the piece for transport. Be sure to review the Ribbon Recycle Challenge guidelines on the Oklahoma State Fair website.

Delivery Procedure: All work must be hand-delivered to the designated district take-in site. Please check with other teachers in your area for help in transporting entries for more than one (1) school. Each entry (individual piece of artwork) must have the OSAE entry label **attached to the back or underside** of the artwork or display board. If you see an option during online registration that asks if you wish to print labels, **ignore this request**, as they are not the labels you need. **We will email your full set of labels** following receipt of your registration. The attachment of the label on the back should be positioned in a way that indicates the "up" direction. Inventory sheets and artwork entry labels will be sent to the email listed on your registration.

Originality: All entries must be original and created solely by the student. Teachers are encouraged to select high quality work that is original, creative and representative of the child's age level and learning skills. **Work should not use trademarked images/logos and nude art is not permitted**. We must receive the original piece and not a printed copy of the work.

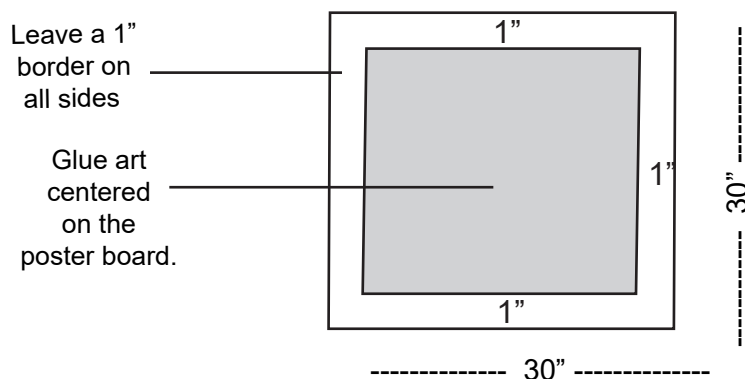
Group Submissions: Group art submissions must be the work of at least two (2) students and be entered under the age of the oldest student. The group number should be listed under "name" during registration. Please list group submissions as Group 1, Group 2, etc., do not list individual student names. **NOTE:** If a group project receives a merit award, one (1) student must be designated to attend the Awards Ceremony and accept the ribbon on behalf of the group.

Medium: All mediums will be accepted for jury. If you are submitting a mask or any other 3-dimensional hanging piece, please make sure it is **READY TO HANG**. Hobby kits, models, paint by numbers, edible and reproductions of any sort will not be accepted. **Teachers, please specify the medium from the list provided.**

Size: All artwork, including backing, may not exceed 30" in any direction.

Backing: In order to preserve the integrity of the artwork being submitted, it must be in ready condition to attach to the walls. This will require a 1" border **around** the art to allow us to add the label and staple the piece to the wall without damaging the artwork. Poster board is best, and white or black are the preferred color, but you are not required to re-mount if it is on another color. If your art is on a stretched canvas or canvas board, it does not need a border. **Note: absolutely no art will be accepted in frames or with mat boards.**

Reclaim of Art: Teachers can have someone else pick up their art if they have a written note signed by them or they have emailed the Creative Programs Manager **by noon** the Friday of pickup weekend. Reclaim after judging is held in the same location as drop off, while reclaim after the display is at OKC Fairgrounds the weekend after the Oklahoma State Fair.



PLEASE do not use mat board as it is too thick to hang. You may add an additional border color next to the art, but you must leave a 1" border area for the label, without exceeding the 30" maximum.

IMPORTANT: Place the art labels on the back in a way that indicates the "up" direction of the artwork. Please attach the art to the backing securely. A glue stick is not sufficient.

List of Mediums

Acrylic
Batik
Beadwork
Ceramics & Pottery
Chalk
Charcoal
Clay (non-fired)
Collage
Computer generated graphics
Crayon
Fabric craft—includes weaving
Fiber Art
Foil
Linoleum
Marker
Mask
Oil paints
Oil pastels
Paper collage
Paper mosaic
Paper weaving
Pastels
Pencil—graphite
Pencil—colored
Photography
Plaster
Pointillism
Printmaking
Scratchboard
Sculpture
Silkscreen
Tempera
Watercolor
Weaving
Woodcraft
Mixed Mediums
Medium Not Listed

If several mediums are used and there is not a predominate medium, please submit artwork as mixed medium. If there is not a close match on the list for the medium used, please submit the piece as medium not listed.

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Awards for 2026

The Oklahoma State Fair has partnered with Hobby Lobby & Wade Shows to provide our participating schools gift cards and cash premiums to purchase art supplies.

Student Awards are broken down accordingly:

- Students selected for OSAE will receive a state qualifier ribbon.
- Merit & Exceptional Merit winners will receive a ribbon at the special awards showcase during the Fair.
- Best of Show, Judges' Choice & Superintendent's Choice will receive a rosette and medallion during the special awards showcase during the Fair and be showcased in Oklahoma Art Galleries in July and August.

Note: Teachers of students who are eligible for a "free or reduced lunch" program may submit a letter verifying the eligibility and request one (1) additional outside gate admission ticket for a parent or guardian to attend the ceremony. These requests must be submitted on school letterhead and received in our office by Monday, August 3, 2026. If 100% of your school is on free or reduced lunch program this paperwork is still required. For more information, please call or email the Oklahoma State Fair Creative Programs Manager.

Award Premiums/Gift Cards (total of \$6,500)

- The first 10 schools to register receive a \$100 Hobby Lobby Gift Card.
- The 10 schools with the highest number of merit students receive a \$100 Hobby Lobby Gift Card and \$100 cash.
- The schools of the 3 Best of Show winners receives a \$100 Hobby Lobby Gift Card and \$100 cash.
- The schools of the 3 Judges' Choice winners receive a \$100 Hobby Lobby Gift Card and \$100 cash.
- The schools of the 3 Superintendent's Award winners receive a \$100 Hobby Lobby Gift Card and \$100 cash.
- The schools of the 3 State Fair Manager's Award winners receive a \$100 Hobby Lobby Gift card and \$100 cash
- The school of the OSAE Teacher of the Year receives a \$200 Hobby Lobby Gift Card. Each age division will have a Teacher of the Year.
- Each of the 3 Wade Shows Ribbon Recycle Challenge* winning schools receive a \$100 Hobby Lobby Gift Card and \$100 in cash.
- The Wade Shows Ribbon Recycle Challenge Best of Show winning school receives an additional \$500 in cash. Ribbon Recycle Challenge is sponsored by Wade Shows, is the carnival provider for the Oklahoma State Fair.

Award Distribution: Premiums will be issued in check form by the Oklahoma State Fair and made payable to the art department of the school where the piece of art was created. Checks and gift cards can be picked up by the teacher during post-Fair reclaim in Oklahoma City. Nothing will be mailed due to possible loss in transit. We encourage schools earning cash and/or gift cards to express your appreciation to Hobby Lobby and Wade Shows.