



2025 National Cherry Festival Student Art Competition Application & Rules

(PRINT LEGIBLY) Student Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Class Category (Please circle one)

- 4th through 8th Grade Level – Original Fine Art
- 9th Grade through College Level – Original Fine Art
- 9th Grade through College Level - Digital

School (if applicable): _____ Grade: _____

Art Teacher (if applicable): _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Title of Work (Be Creative): _____

In submitting my artwork for the National Cherry Festival Student Art Competition, I release the National Cherry Festival from any and all responsibility on the event of loss or damage to my artwork.

I hereby certify that this is my original artwork and that it is not copied from a published photograph, magazine, book illustration, website, or by another person.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

TAPE THIS FORM TO THE BACK OF YOUR ARTWORK (IN THE DIRECTION IT IS TO BE VIEWED)

Please make a copy for your records

Student Art Competition Timeline (2025 Art Submission):

March 6, 2025 – Deadline for submitting artwork

By March 21, 2025 – Judging (Private, not open to the public – narrow to Top 30)

March 26 – April 4: Judging (Open to Public “People’s Choice” – narrow Top 30 to Top 5; Top 5 Selections take place)

By April 18, 2025 – Final Judging

May (TBD) – Unveiling of winning artwork



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Class Categories:

- Fine Art
 - 4th through 8th Grades
 - 9th Grade through College Level
- Digital
 - 9th Grade through College Level

Guidelines:

The theme for all entries must reflect, interpret or depict CHERRY HARVEST. Cherries are delicate and harvesting them requires precision and care. We would like to bring focus to the two main methods of harvesting...hand picking and machine-harvesting. Additional educational resources can be provided for reference and inspiration.

****NO TEXT OR VERBLAGE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN DESIGN****

All work must be submitted with a completed application form. The work must be the original art of the student and have been done under the supervision of the class teacher or art teacher. The work may not be created/completed by more than one student. All artwork should be submitted through the art teacher or other staff personnel at the school.

Original Fine Art:

High School and college students are encouraged to produce traditional, contemporary, impressionist, and/or abstract works of art. Two dimensional work will be considered in all media including, but not limited to oil, acrylic, tempera, watercolor, pen, ink, pastel, pencil, felt markers, and/or crayon. Winning entries may be utilized in Festival print concepts, posters, t-shirts, mugs, or other souvenir type items.

- All 4th through 8th grade art must be submitted on 11" x 14" paper. The finish area for the piece is 8" x 10" with a 3/4" untouched border; so, the image area to work within is 6 1/2" x 8 1/2" (portrait or landscape).
- All high school/college art must be submitted on 16" x 20" paper or canvas. The finish area for the piece is 13 1/2" x 19 1/2" with a 3/4" untouched border; so, the image area to work within is 12" x 18" (portrait or landscape)
- All work done in chalk and/or pastels should be covered with tissue paper or other lightweight paper.
- **Do NOT MAT, FRAME OR SIGN.** Artwork should be original and not infringe on any copyrighted materials.



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Digital:

Students (High School/College) are encouraged to produce an original digital illustration for which the original image, or the manipulation of other source material, was executed by the student using a computer. No animation will be allowed. Winning entries may be utilized in Festival print concepts, posters, t-shirts, mugs or other souvenir type items.

The following standards need to be followed to qualify for the digital art submission.

****NO TEXT OR VERBIAGE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN DESIGN****

- All digital art submissions must be properly formatted and saved to a USB drive or they can be shared via DropBox
- Along with the disk, all digital art must be printed on 16" x 20" paper or canvas. The finish area for the piece is 13 ½" x 19 ½" with a ¾" untouched border; so, the image area to work within is 12" x 18" (portrait or landscape)
- Do not mat, frame or sign.
- Directly copying or using any portion of a published image, photograph, magazine, website or any other source is considered plagiarism and will result in disqualification.
- Images downloaded from the internet are not original and will be disqualified.

Acceptable file extensions for vector or raster art:

.eps
.pdf (No placed images)
.cdr
.jpg
.tiff

Unacceptable Files:

Word documents, PowerPoint and other non-graphic programs are unacceptable. Adobe (.ai) and Freehand (.fh) are not supported. Please ask designers to export files in .eps format.

Tips for Creating Usable Vector or Raster Art

- Convert all text to outlines
- Do not use placed or linked images within the file. (Photographic images, etc.)
- Include Pantone (PMS) color pallet.
- Provide 300 dpi or more at final print size



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Judging and Awards:

- Submitted artwork will be judged by a panel of art professionals and business leaders from the Grand Traverse region.
- All winning artwork, including honorable mentions, will become property of the National Cherry Festival and the winning artisans must relinquish original and all reproduction and use rights to the National Cherry Festival, unless released by the National Cherry Festival.
- Selection will be based on appeal, content, creativity, and reproducibility as a graphic image. Entries must be appropriate and versatile for numerous promotional materials.
- All decisions by the judges are final
- All artists and teachers will be notified when and where the winning art will be unveiled
- All students will receive participation ribbons and a free cherry flurry or cherry sundae to be redeemed at the 2024 National Cherry Festival
- The Top 30 students will each be awarded a recognition ribbon, commemorative magnet and a National Cherry Festival Prize Pack. The Top 30 will move onto the "People's Choice" stage of judging.
- The "People's Choice" Top 5 students will each receive a plaque and will move onto the final stage of judging. They will also receive a \$20 gift certificate to Michaels (or equivalent) and a National Cherry Festival Prize Pack.
- The Top 3 overall winners will receive a scholarship. First Place = \$1,000 scholarship; Second Place = \$700 scholarship; Third Place = \$500 scholarship. Each of these winners will also receive an award and a National Cherry Festival Prize Pack.
- In addition to the winners mentioned above, there will be a prize for the Best Use of Theme, which will be a \$100 gift card to Michaels (or equivalent) and a National Cherry Festival Prize Pack.
- The teacher with the most student submissions will receive a FREE pizza party for up to 30 students and a \$200 gift card to Michaels (or equivalent).
- **OVER \$4,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES AWARDED**

Entry, Delivery and Pick Up:

- All entries must be received by 5:00 pm on March 6, 2025 to Bulls-i, Inc., 841 S. Garfield Ave., Traverse City, Michigan 49686
- All non-winning artwork can be picked up at Bulls-i or your home school by June 3, 2025

Additional Information:

- By entering the General Art Competition - Students, the student certifies that their artwork is original and does not infringe upon any third-party rights.
- The National Cherry Festival reserves the right to photograph, scan, or edit any entry or portion of any entry for publicity purposes. Credit will be given to the student/artist.