

2020 Air Academy Federal Credit Union Art Scholarship Program

Air Academy Federal Credit Union (AAFCU) invites your school district to participate in the 2020 Art Scholarship Program.

WHAT IS THE ART SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

The Art Scholarship Program is an AAFCU program, run in coordination with participating school districts, supporting the arts in public schools by advocating innovative thinking, fostering creativity, and promoting higher education. Each year, AAFCU sponsors an art contest for each member school district, in which students in grades K-12 are awarded cash scholarships for their achievements in the arts. As a partnership between AAFCU and your school district, both parties commit to certain responsibilities.

AAFCU received state and national recognition for the Art Scholarship Program through the Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Recognition Award. The Dora Maxwell Award is presented to credit unions demonstrating a commitment to social responsibility in their communities.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Each school district appoints a coordinator to act as the liaison between AAFCU and all art teachers within the district. Together both parties select dates, times, and locations for the art show and an awards ceremony for students, parents, teachers, and district administrators.

Elementary and Middle School levels are all judged in the 2-D/3-D combined format; however it is up to the district coordinator to determine what format of judging is best for their district at the high school level.

At the high school level, school districts may choose to have 2-D and 3-D pieces judged separately for a total of 4 awards per grade, or they may choose to have all artwork considered together for a total of 3 awards per grade (see chart below).

AAFCU will tailor the award amounts to meet your district's needs.

2-D/3-D Separated Format

• Each Grade (9-12) awarded the following:

3rd Place
2nd Place
1st Place 2-D
1st Place 3-D

2-D/3-D Combined Format

• Each grade (9-12) awarded the following:

3rd Place
2nd Place
1st Place

PLANNING FOR THE ART SHOW AND AWARDS**AAFCU Provided Supplies**

- numbered artwork labels
- participation certificates
- student permission slips/release forms
- sample inventory sheets
- ribbons for scholarship winners – *ribbons placed on artwork the day of judging*
- cash scholarships for winners – *actual scholarship funds are awarded at the awards ceremony*

Guidelines for Limiting Entries by School District Size**Large School Districts**

- Elementary schools – limited to three entries per grade, per school.
- Middle schools – limited to six entries, per grade, per school.
- High schools – limited to six entries, per grade, per school.
- One entry per student.

Mid-size School Districts

Entries into a show are limited. The district coordinator in a small or mid-sized district has the discretion to increase the number of entries permitted per grade, per school, as long as the show does not exceed the number of artwork labels provided, and the show is still considered manageable by the district coordinator. AAFCU and the district coordinator will determine the appropriate limits for their district. Entries are still limited to one entry per student.

If you have questions or concerns about the number of entries, please have the coordinator for your school district call 719-592-1048.

Small School Districts

Small districts may allow each student to submit multiple pieces if necessary to have enough artwork for a show. If a student submits multiple pieces, pieces should be labeled to indicate they are from the same student.

For example – John Doe entered 3 pieces into the show, his labels would be numbered as follows:

- Piece #1 Label #001 A
- Piece #2 Label #001 B
- Piece #3 Label #001 C

Note – *You may have to re-write the numbers printed on artwork labels, as there are no duplicate numbers in the sets given to each district.*

General Guidelines for Entries

- Artwork must be original in idea and style, and done entirely by the submitting student.
- Artwork submitted must be created during the 2017/2018 school year.
- If using a magazine, photograph, or famous artwork as an idea foundation, the entry must utilize a style other than that of the original work.
- Artwork is judged on originality and creativity.
- Any medium is acceptable, including 2-D or 3-D pieces.
- Entries should be “finished art,” suitable for display. Artwork may be matted and/or framed, but is not necessary.
- Deadline for submitting entries is determined by the district coordinator.

Permission Slips

- Student release forms (provided by AAFCU) are given to the district coordinator for distribution.
- Student release forms must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian authorizing their child to participate in the Art Scholarship Program.
- Each art teacher is responsible for distributing and collecting completed permission forms from their student participants **prior** to the judging date.
- Permission slip information is used to send notification letters to the winning students and their parents. The district coordinator will turn permission slips in to AAFCU prior to judging.
- Incomplete or missing permission slips may result in exclusion from judging, or a delay in processing the award, and/or forfeiture of the scholarship.

Artwork Labels

Each school district receives a set of numbered labels. Teachers will fill out the students' name, grade, school, teacher, and title of artwork on each label. Labels must be attached to the front of the artwork. Artwork without a completed label will be excluded from judging.

Inventory Sheets

Each district is provided a sample inventory sheet. You may choose to use the inventory format provided by AAFCU or use your own format; however, all inventory sheets must include the students' assigned art number, name, grade, school, and a description of the piece.

JUDGING

Pre-Judging

Prior to the judging date, all artwork must be properly labeled, displayed, and ready for evaluation. Student permission slips and inventory sheets from the teacher must be complete and turned into the AAFCU coordinator on or before the day of judging.

Judging

AAFCU is responsible for recruiting judges and overseeing the judging process. Pieces must be organized by grade, to ensure that judges can properly view pieces and determine winners. Once judging is complete, AAFCU immediately tallies the judges' score sheets and completes a spreadsheet of the winners.

Post-Judging/Winner Notification

AAFCU will send a list of all winning students to the district coordinator. It is the responsibility of the district coordinator to send this list out to all schools in the district, if he/she chooses to do so. AAFCU is responsible for all official communication to winning students and their parent(s)/guardian(s). AAFCU sends a letter to each scholarship winner, 1-2 days after judging is complete, notifying them of the level and amount of his/her award. This letter also serves as a formal invitation to the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) to the awards ceremony. Please note that all correspondence will be handled by the AAFCU coordinator. Any correspondence not approved by AAFCU should not be sent out by individual teachers.

AWARDS CEREMONY

The district coordinator is responsible for providing and setting up one 6 ft. table, microphone/sound system, and podium at the front of the room prior to the awards ceremony. Districts may choose to provide refreshments and/or entertainment at the awards ceremony; however, such considerations are done so at the district's expense. Awards ceremonies are approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour in length.

For students who are unable to attend the awards ceremony:

- For liability purposes, student awards are not released to individual teachers.

- AAFCU contacts all students who did not attend the awards ceremony and makes arrangements for scholarship pick-up/delivery.
- **Students have six months from the date of the district awards ceremony to claim prizes.** Once this date passes, the money is placed back into the Art Scholarship Program and scholarship funds are forfeited.

“BEST OF” AWARDS

In addition to individual grade awards, AAFCU also awards 3 “Best of” awards per district.

- Best of Elementary Level
- Best of Middle School Level
- Best of High School Level

Unlike traditional “Best of Show” awards, the “Best of” awards for the Art Scholarship Program are selected from all 1st place pieces. Winners of the “Best of” awards receive an additional cash award. “Best of” award winners are not announced until the night of the awards ceremony.