

## **INSTRUCTION**

### **Student Activities and Honors**

#### **Art Contests and Competitions**

This regulation supersedes Regulation 3836.1

#### **I. PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines for responding to requests for student participation in art contests and competitions.

#### **II. CONTEST POLICY**

Student contests that meet the conditions stated below and that relate to school instructional programs and can be accomplished without undue disruption to regular school activities shall be permitted. See the current version of Policy 3829.

#### **III. CONTEST GUIDELINES**

Fairfax County Public Schools provides a Program of Studies in art for students in kindergarten through grade 12. Art contests and competitions that can be accomplished without undue disruption to delivery of the instructional program as stated in the art Program of Studies are permitted.

##### **A. Elementary Level**

1. Competition that can be associated with art contests is considered developmentally inappropriate at this level.
2. Art contests will be allowed when they:
  - a. Provide awards or certificates to all student participants.
  - b. Do not require students to participate.
  - c. Support the educational goals of the art Program of Studies.
  - d. Are developmentally appropriate and matched to the maturity level of the student.
  - e. Require original student work.
  - f. Do not endorse any religious or partisan political group or ceremony.
  - g. Do not endorse a particular product or business.

**B. Middle and High School**

1. Art contests and competitions will be allowed when they:
  - a. Specify rules and criteria for judging.
  - b. Support the educational goals of the art Program of Studies.
  - c. Are developmentally appropriate and matched to the maturity level of the student.
  - d. Require original student work.
  - e. Do not endorse any religious or partisan political group or ceremony.
  - f. Do not endorse a particular product or business.
  - g. Do not solicit contributions.
2. The art teacher may encourage students to enter selected art contests and competitions and is responsible for ensuring that student involvement is maintained at the highest ethical level. The art teacher shall assume the responsibility of making students aware of the ethics related to art competition; the art teacher may not approve the entry of student work when there is any doubt as to its communicated authenticity and originality.

**IV. PROCEDURES**

- A. An organization seeking approval shall submit information and/or criteria for the contest or competition to the Office of High School Instruction and K-12 Curriculum, Leis Instructional Center. All approved contests and competitions will be listed online at the Office of High School Instruction and K-12 Curriculum Services web page located at <http://fcpsnet.fcps.edu/is/ohsics/contest/contest.htm> under Contests for Student Participation: Approved and Disapproved.
- B. All information pertaining to art contests and competitions shall be approved by the art curriculum specialist. Approval is based on stated guidelines.
- C. Organizations sponsoring contests and competitions will be notified in writing of approval or disapproval by the Office of High School Instruction and K-12 Curriculum Services.
- D. Principals and art teachers shall adhere to these stated guidelines.

See also the current version of: Policy 3829, Contests and Awards