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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Paul O. Burns, Ed.D.

DATE: September 18, 2026

SUBJECT: 2027 Art in the Capitol Competition

Contact Information:

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DPS: 2026-133

The Art in the Capitol Competition, authorized by [Section \(s.\) 1003.49965, Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), is a voluntary statewide visual arts competition for all public, private and home education students in grades 6 through 8 in Florida. The artwork should be judged by a local selection committee consisting of art teachers whose students have not submitted work for the competition.

All artwork submitted for the Art in the Capitol may not violate copyright law and must:

- Be two-dimensional.
- Be no larger than 28 inches wide by 28 inches long by 4 inches thick.
- Weigh less than 15 pounds.
- Be original in concept, design and execution.

The artwork must include a completed Information Sheet, which can be found on the Department of Management Services (DMS) [website](#), attached to the back of the art piece. The artwork must also be framed and include a hook or lip to hang up the art.

Each winning submission shall be provided to the legislator of the legislative district in which the student resides no later than 60 days before the start of the regular legislative session. The 2027 Legislative Session begins on March 2, 2027. Districts must submit the winning piece of art to their legislator by January 1, 2027.

The legislator shall provide the winning submission to DMS. DMS will receive and display the winning artwork, as well as serve as the point of contact at the Capitol to answer questions regarding the submission. Ashley Hunter from DMS may be contacted at Ashley.Hunter@dms.fl.gov or 850-841-9551 to answer questions.

Please view the DMS website at [Art in the Capitol Competition](#) for details about the installation of each art piece. DMS will return all art to the appropriate legislator during the last week of the

DR. PAUL O. BURNS
SENIOR CHANCELLOR

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legislative session. Legislators will be responsible for returning the artwork to the students after the session concludes.

Dates for the 2026 Art in the Capitol Competition:

- **Fall 2026** – Districts hold annual Art in the Capitol Competitions for all students in grades 6 through 8.
- **January 1, 2027** – Each district's winning selection of student artwork is given to legislator of the legislative district in which the student resides prior to or on this date.
- **March 2, 2027** – Start of the 2027 Legislative Session and opening date of exhibit at the Capitol.
- **April 30, 2027** – Last day of the 2027 Legislative Session; legislator will return winning submission to the student after this date.

For more information, please contact David Pletincks, Fine Arts Specialist in the Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support, at David.Pletincks@fldoe.org.

POB/dp

cc: Florida House and Senate Members
Florida School Principals
School District Fine Arts Supervisors
Florida Middle School Art Teachers