2025 CPS ALL CITY VISUAL ARTS

Opportunities and Submission Guidelines

Chicago Public Schools

Chicago Public Schools ALL CITY Visual Arts

In Partnership With:

SAIC School of the Art Institute of Chicago

DESIGN MUSEUM OF CHICAGO

ART ON THE MART

THEME FOR THE 2025 VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITIONS

This year's theme is centered around the topic of Dreams.

> *Dreams are where our imaginations can run wild, sparking ideas that can change the way we see the world. Whether your dreams are bold and colorful, or soft and subtle, they have the power to inspire something new. This year, we encourage you to reflect on the dreams that guide your creativity – from the fantasy to the deeply personal. How do your dreams drive your art, spark new ideas, or reveal something about your hopes? Let your art bring your dreams to life, and share your vision with the world.*

2025 VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

Please click and read below for more specific information for each opportunity. **General submission guidelines and tips applying to ALL shows are also below.**

- Senior Portfolio Exhibition
- K-12 Visual Arts Exhibition
- Art on theMART
- General Submission Guidelines

Chicago Public Schools

Senior Portfolio Exhibition

In partnership with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), the **Senior Portfolio Exhibition** allows CPS high school seniors to exhibit their artwork and to gain exposure among selected admissions representatives of various colleges and universities. Students in grade 12 from any CPS school (including district-managed, charter, contract, and options schools) are eligible to submit work.

Submit to the Senior Portfolio Exhibition (12th grade only) here!

SENIOR PORTFOLIO EXHIBITION DATES

Submission Window
Date: October 28-December 1st, 2024

Notification of Acceptance
Date: December 13, 2024

In-Person & Online Exhibition Opens
Date: Monday, January 6th, 2025

In-Person Opening Reception
Date: Tuesday, January 7th, 2025
Time: 3 PM - 6 PM

In-Person Exhibition
Date: January 6th - 14th, 2025
Location: 37 S. Wabash Ave, The LeRoy Neiman Center
Time: Tuesday - Friday (2-8 pm) and Sat.-Sun. (10:30 am-5 pm)

Selection of Work

- Student work will be considered for inclusion in the **Exhibition** (physical and virtual exhibitions) OR in the **Honorable Mention** section (virtual exhibition only).
- Students can select in the application whether they would like for their work to also be considered for ART on THE MART.
- At least one (1) piece from each school that submits will be in the Exhibition and/or Honorable Mention section of the website.

K-12 Visual Art Exhibition

The Department of Arts Education and the Design Museum of Chicago are excited to partner on The 2025 CPS All-City Elementary + High School Visual Arts Exhibition. Providing a unique opportunity to showcase student achievement in visual and media arts and exhibit their work in

highly visible, public exhibition space in Chicago. This year's spring exhibition will showcase 2D, 3D, and time-based artwork by CPS elementary and high school students. Students in grades PreK–12 from any CPS school (including district-managed, charter, contract, and options schools) are eligible to submit work to the 2025 ACVA Elementary + High School Exhibition.

Submit artwork to the K-12 Exhibit here!

K-12 Visual Arts Exhibition IMPORTANT DATES

Submission Window for all students PreK - 12
Date: October 28th, 2024 – March 13th, 2025

Notification of Acceptance
Date: March 25th, 2025 (via email)

Online Exhibition Website Launch
Date: April 22, 2025
Time: 10:00 AM

Exhibition Dates
April 25, 2025 - June 1, 2025
The Design Museum at Expo 72
72 East Randolph Street, Chicago, IL 60601
Open 10 AM - 6 PM Daily

Opening Reception
Date: April 25th, 2025 at The Design Museum
Time: 12 PM - 3 PM

Selection of Work

- **NEW THIS YEAR**: K-12 teachers may submit a collaborative classroom project for ART on THE MART. Additionally, 9th-12th grade students can select in the application whether they would like for their work to also be considered for ART on THE MART.
- Student work will be considered for inclusion in the Exhibition (physical and virtual exhibitions) OR in the Honorable Mention section (virtual exhibition only).
- At least one (1) piece from each school that submits will be in either the Exhibition or Honorable Mention section of the website.

ART on THE MART

Any artwork submitted to the 2025 All-City High School Exhibition or 2025 Senior Portfolio Exhibition by March 13th, 2025 is eligible for potential inclusion in the ART on THE MART

exhibition. Elementary schools interested in submitting artwork may **only** apply as a class to be considered.

ART on THE MART is a singular public art platform that operates through a custom projection system that includes 34 projectors installed on the Chicago Riverwalk—will transform hi-res photos of 2D artworks from a range of media into animated, dynamic projections that fill and move across theMART's façade, set to music.

ART on THE MART IMPORTANT DATES

Submission Deadline
Date: March 13th, 2025

Notification of Acceptance
Date: April 24, 2025

Exhibition Dates
May 22nd - May 25th, May 29-June 1
Shows run Thursday-Sunday

Opening Reception
Thursday, May 22nd, 2025 on the Riverwalk

Specific Guidelines for Artwork Selected:

The guidelines listed below will be used to inform the selection process for Art on The Mart.

a) Images that appear on the computer screen do not always translate well onto the façade of the building, due to the unique aspects of projection and the building itself—including numerous windows with light emitting (as well as ambient light in the city), the surface geometry of the façade, and the limestone material impact on color. Images that have the best chances of success are:
    - Brightly colored. (Black and white does not work well).
    - Contain bold, graphic areas of color, without fine detail or texture.
    - Pictures, rather than text. Some text works but under very specific circumstances related to the color, font, size of font, movement, and more.

ART on THE MART has also provided additional content guidelines to consider if you are making work specific to fit on theMART's façade. However, this is not a requirement. Artwork that is selected that does not meet the specifications will be digitally enhanced if needed and able.

If you have questions about the ART on THE MART Exhibition or CPS All-City Visual Arts Exhibitions, please contact allcityarts@cps.edu.

General Submission Information

Who Can Submit to the Exhibition

- CPS teachers from any CPS school (district-managed, contract, charter, or options) can submit on behalf of their PreK-12 students. Students may submit photos or videos of their artwork to their teachers.
- Students or parents/guardians of students from any CPS school (district-managed, contract, charter, or options) can also directly submit artwork for the exhibitions.
- **Senior students (12th grade) from any CPS school** (district-managed, contract, charter, or options) can also directly submit artwork to the **Senior Portfolio** exhibition.
- High school students who submit work for the All-City Visual Arts exhibition can also elect to be considered for ART on THE MART.
- **NEW THIS YEAR**: K-12 classrooms may submit a class project to be considered for exhibition at both the K-12 Visual Arts Exhibition and at ART on THE MART.

Eligible Artwork

- Artwork may be 2D, 3D, or time-based (video, computer-based, etc.)
- All artwork must be created entirely by students and have been completed during the 2024 --2025 school year.
- Please **DO NOT** submit multiple pieces of artwork within one file attachment, or the artwork may be incorrectly attributed to an artist.
    - Example: A singular PDF file with different pieces of artwork for 3 different students

Submission Limits

- Individual Students may submit up to 3 pieces.
- Parents/Guardians may submit up to 3 pieces per student.
- Teachers: 18 pieces maximum per teacher. 2 pieces per grade preferred.
    - Please note, that the Department of Arts Education will only choose 1–2 pieces per classroom project.
    - *Schools that do not have a Visual Arts teacher on staff may still submit artwork.*

File Preparation and Submission

- **File naming:** Please use this protocol below when naming files. If you are submitting multiple images of work, please add a numerical number at the end of the name to distinguish the artwork from one another. The image file extension may differ from what is in the example below (.jpeg, .png).
    - (Example: Smith_Eric_1.jpeg)
    - (Example: Smith_Eric_2.jpeg)
    - (Example: Smith_Eric_3.jpeg)

- **High-Quality Documentation**: Submitted artwork should be documented with high-quality photographs that are properly lit. Please avoid shadows, glare, or low-resolution images. See page 3 for tips on documenting artwork.
- **Names for Publicity**: The names of students and teachers should be submitted exactly as they wish them to appear publicly on gallery wall labels, the exhibition website, and publicity materials.

Artwork Information to Include

For each artwork item, please include the following information in your submission:

- Title: In the Slideroom application, enter the title of the artwork exactly as you want it to appear on gallery labels, the exhibition website, and publicity materials, including correct spelling and capitalization.
- Medium: Specify the medium of the artwork (e.g., Artist Book, Collage, Comic, Drawing, Fashion, Fiber, Game, Graphic Design, Installation, Internet Art, Music, Painting, Performance, Photograph, Print, Sculpture, Sound, Video, etc.).
- Materials Used: Describe the materials used to create the work (e.g., oil paint, yarn, images from a newspaper).
- Dimensions of Artwork: Include the height x width x depth (if 3D work) in inches.
- For Video/Audio Files: Include the duration (length) of the artwork in minutes.

Artist Statement Information

- Use the "**Description**" field in the Slideroom application to enter this information.
- We encourage each student to write a statement (3 sentences max) about their piece(s). Artist statements help give context to each submission; however, they are not mandatory and will not affect acceptance into the exhibition.
- Submitted statements may be displayed along with the work if the statement demonstrates exemplary clarity, critical thinking, and creativity.
- A statement can answer (but is not limited to) these questions:
    - *What is the title of the work?*
    - *Explain why you made the piece.*
    - *What does the piece mean to you?*
    - *What are you trying to say to your audience?*

Tips for Taking Photos of Your Work

- In the application link, you will be required to submit photographs of your work.
- Keep in mind these tips when taking photos of your artwork:
    - Try to fill the entire camera frame with your work. If you are shooting against a background, make sure it is neutral or black, and frame your work evenly in the shot.
    - Use bright natural lighting if possible. Natural-light fluorescent lighting is another good choice. Do not use a flash. Position your work so that there are no shadows in the shot.

- Take multiple shots of your piece(s), and pick the best one(s). Take your time and ensure that you submit photos that show the artwork at its best.
- Please be aware that if selected for the exhibition, the image you submit will be the image included. There will be no additional image editing by the Department of Arts Education (e.g., cropping, color enhancement, etc.).

Matting and/or Framing of Work

- *Matting and framing are <u>not</u> requirements for submission to All-City in-person exhibitions.*
- If you choose to matte artwork for the exhibition: Send any selected work on a white paper matte (preferably posterboard or something of similar weight).
- If you choose to frame artwork chosen for the exhibition: The selected work can be sent in any frame of your choice.
- Artwork selected for the exhibition can be created or mounted on wrapped canvas or canvas board.
- *CPS and SAIC cannot provide any matting for artwork.*