CRITERIA FOR JUDGING ART

10 9.5 9.0	8.5 8.0	7.5 7.0	6.5 and below
Excellent Outstanding Exemplary	Above Average Good Acceptable	Average Decent Barely Acceptable	Unsatisfactory Poor Unacceptable

CRITERIA 1: Elements & Principles/Design/Composition

A: The artwork has been planned carefully and executed with intentionality. Work demonstrates artist's proficiency at applying their knowledge of the Elements and Principles in a highly effective manner. Filled picture plane effectively. Composition flows well and easily engages the viewer's eye/interest.

B: The artwork evidences some planning. Shows the artist has a working knowledge of the Principles and Elements, using one or more effectively. Work demonstrates artist's awareness of the importance of filling the picture plane. Mistakes are minimized. Work is engaging.

C: The artist completed an artwork, but it evidences a lack of planning and/or care in its execution. Lacks evidence that the artist has a grasp of the technique, materials, and/or composition they were attempting to work with. Mistakes are apparent. Artwork struggles to engage the viewer.

F: The artwork does not evidence even a minimum level of understanding of the Elements and Principles, or the work appears incomplete. Viewer has difficulty engaging or finding points of interest in the work.

CRITERIA 2: Creativity/Originality/Complexity

A: The artist produced a compelling and interesting piece with abundant evidence of imagination and originality. Work does not rely on "symbols", conventional imagery, clichés, or the work of others to create the piece. Artist's individuality is apparent in the work.

B: The artist seems to have based their work, in part at least, on someone else's ideas and/or imagery with only a minimal level of "artistic license" to differentiate their own work from the source material. There is evidence of some reliance on familiar ideas, techniques, materials, clichés, themes, etc.

C: The artist completed an artwork, but their solution lacked originality. Work gives no evidence of the artist trying something unique or unusual. There is heavy reliance on copying source material as a substitute for personal creativity, rather than transforming it into something new and unique. May have copied the work in part or whole. Work appears derivative of another artist.

F: The artwork shows very little/no evidence of original thought. Work is blatantly copied and lacks any evidence of "artistic license" to differentiate it from the source material.

CRITERIA 3: Craftsmanship/Skill/Effort

A: The artwork was beautifully and patiently done. It was as good as hard work and skill could make it. The level of artistic sophistication displayed in the piece is at an impressive level for an artist of their age.

B: With a little more attention to detail the work could have been outstanding. However, finishing touches make it feel like a polished, completed piece. Level of artistic sophistication is expected and appropriate for an artist of their age.

C: The artwork lacks anything to suggest effort beyond the minimum. Artist seems to have done what they thought was easy and went about it indifferently. A bit careless in its execution. Lacks the level of artistic sophistication appropriate for an artist of their age.

F: The artwork shows poor craftsmanship. Evidences a lack of caring/understanding. Work is messy in a way that appears unintentional and detracts greatly from the viewer's experience of the piece. Level of artistic sophistication is inappropriately basic/juvenile for an artist of their age.

CRITERIA 4: Interpretation and Clarity of Theme

A: Artist took pride in going well beyond the basics and produced an outstanding interpretation of the contest theme. The message of the artwork is clear and plainly inspired by thoughtful consideration of the theme.

B: The artist seems to have worked hard to complete the project to an above average standard. Good interpretation of the contest theme. However, could have been more clearly correlated to the theme.

C: The artist completed an artwork, but the connection to the theme is not readily apparent its interpretation of the theme is somewhat questionable.

F: The student did not appear to consider the contest theme and/or their response did not address the theme appropriately/adequately. The message of the artwork and/or its connection to the theme was unintelligible.

Judge's Commentary:

Judge's Commentary:

Judge's Commentary:

Judge's Commentary: