

Anne Frank Youth Expression Through Art Award

Inspiring Students to Create With Courage, Hope, and Historical Awareness

The Anne Frank Youth Expression Through Art Award honors two young artists—one middle school student and one high school student—whose original artwork reflects the spirit of hope found in Anne Frank’s diary. This award encourages students to explore history, express themselves creatively, and engage deeply with themes of resilience, dignity, and the power of storytelling.

Two students will be selected. Each recipient will receive a \$500 award.

Submission Requirements

- **Original student-created artwork only.** No AI-generated or AI-assisted artwork will be accepted.
- Artwork may be created in **any medium**: drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media, textile art, digital hand-drawn art, and more.
- Students must submit a **photo of their artwork**; a required artist statement must accompany the submission. An artist statement is a short paragraph communicating who you are and why you made your artwork. Please make sure to give context the meaning behind it.
- Original art must be able to be displayed, and 2D art should conform to standard frame sizes (ie. 11x14, 18x24, etc.)

Evaluation Rubric

Historical Relevance

- Does the artwork connect meaningfully to Anne Frank’s life, her diary, or the broader history of the Holocaust?
- Is the connection respectful, thoughtful, and impactful?

Emotional Impact

- Does the artwork evoke emotions such as hope, reflection, courage, or remembrance?
- Does it invite viewers to pause and think?

Creativity & Originality

- Does the student offer a unique perspective or interpretation?
- Is the concept fresh, imaginative, or thought-provoking?

Composition & Technique

- Is the artwork visually strong and well-crafted?
- Is the submitted photo clear, well-framed, and technically sound?

Storytelling

- Does the image of the artwork tell a deeper story on its own?
- Can viewers interpret its meaning even without an explanation?

Connection to Anne Frank's Message

- Does the artwork embody themes such as courage, human dignity, resilience, or the enduring power of words and ideas?

Why Participate?

This award invites students to:

- Engage with history in a personal and meaningful way
- Reflect on universal themes of hope and humanity
- Develop artistic confidence and expressive skills
- Share their voice and vision with the community

Teachers and schools are encouraged to integrate this opportunity into art classes, history lessons, or interdisciplinary projects.

Contact & Submission Information

For questions or additional guidance, please contact: **Mario Haynes**
Artistic Director, Anne Frank Center
University of South Carolina

Updates on **submission dates, guidelines, and upload instructions** will be posted at:
www.annefrankcenter.com