

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 2016

Dear High School Principal and Art Faculty:

I am pleased to invite your students to participate in the 35th Annual Congressional Art Competition. From March 3–20, 2016, I will be sponsoring this annual art competition and exhibition for high school students from Maryland's Eighth Congressional District at Washington ArtWorks in Rockville.

Each year, our artist jurors select artwork from the hundreds submitted for inclusion in the exhibition. The winning entry will be displayed for one year in the United States Capitol alongside artwork from every congressional district across the country. In addition, the runners-up will have their work displayed in my congressional offices. **I hope that you will encourage your students to participate.** All students who reside in or attend school in Maryland's Eighth Congressional District are eligible to submit entries.

Participating students must submit the enclosed "Student Participation/Release Form." This form needs to be completed and signed by the student and a faculty member and faxed to my district office at (301) 424-5992 or emailed to vanhollenartcomp@mail.house.gov by **Wednesday, February 10, 2016.** The original of this form must be affixed to the back of the artwork when it is delivered. Artwork that is selected for inclusion in the exhibition will hang at Washington ArtWorks **until March 20th** and **cannot** be released earlier.

The guidelines for suitability and framing are enclosed. Please read the material carefully, as both Washington ArtWorks and the U.S. Capitol have specific requirements for hanging artwork. Information and forms are available on my website at www.vanhollen.house.gov.

Artwork should be delivered to one of our three drop-off locations on the following days:

- *Friday, February 26: 2:30–5:30 pm (2:30-5:00 pm at Carroll County Arts Center)
- *Saturday, February 27: 10:00–11:30 am (Rockville location only)

Drop-off locations are: 1) Washington ArtWorks, 12276 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville; 2) my office at 205 Center Street, Mount Airy; and 3) Carroll County Arts Center, 91 West Main Street, Westminster.

I will be hosting an **Arts Celebration and Awards Reception** to highlight the importance of arts education in high school, showcase the exhibition, honor all participants and announce awards at Washington ArtWorks on **Sunday, March 6, 2016 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm.** I hope that all participants and their families, teachers, principals and friends will attend to view this unique display of the talents of the Eighth District's young artists. I look forward to seeing you there.

If you have any questions, please contact my district office at (301) 424-3501 or at vanhollenartcomp@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress