

March 29, 2019



Dear Art Supporter:

The High Tea Society (HTS)-Girls Connected, along with our co-sponsors, Pepco and the Council of Churches of Greater Washington, is proud to host its sixth annual Civili-Tea Creative Expression Contest (CEC) for 2nd – 12th graders of District of Columbia Public and Charter Schools. The HTS Girls Connected is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization created to provide support, positive relationships and build the resilience of inner-city youth.

The HTS was launched in 1997. To date, nearly 1,000 girls have participated in the HTS. In 2013, HTS launched a trauma-informed program. The following year, we started the CEC. HTS believes that it is important that we provide a healthy outlet for our youth to express themselves and share their experiences. In 2017, the HTS celebrated 20 years of service to girls. Because of the demand for the program among girls, we are exploring new strategies involving technology and the fine arts to meet the intellectual and emotional needs of our girls in the moment. Thank you for your support over the years.

With your school's participation, this year's sixth annual Creative Expression Contest will be a great success. The attached lesson plan provides additional details for teachers that have an interest in participating. Our theme, "Telling Our Stories," provides an artistic vehicle for our youth to share information that shines light into who they are, declare their existence and their contributions to their immediate and broader community. This contest will provide a healthy and stimulating environment for our youth to share their passions and dreams as well as learn from each other.

Winners of the Creative Expressions Contest will be announced at a reception scheduled for June 6, 2019, at the Pepco Edison Place Gallery, located at 702 Eighth Street N.W., from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. We hope that you will be available to join us. All student art will be exhibited from June 3rd through June 29th.

With your support, we can provide our children an opportunity to express themselves. Our 2018 winners and their art are included as a supplemental attachment.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Fannie Allen

Fannie Allen
Chair High Tea Society Advisory Board
President/CEO Allen Protocol and Leadership Institute

Sixth Annual Civili-Tea City-wide Creative Expression Contest

2019 Theme:

“Telling Our Stories”

Contest Deadline – May 17, 2019



Your art could be in galleries!

ABOUT THE CONTEST

The High Tea Society will hold its sixth annual Civili-Tea City-wide Creative Expression Contest this spring, in collaboration with Pepero and the Council of Churches of Greater Washington. The judging will take place at the Pepero Edison Place Gallery, where the entries will be displayed **June 3-28, 2019**. The winners will be announced at a reception on **June 6, 2019 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.** Monetary prizes and certificates will be awarded. Winning artwork will be displayed in galleries throughout the Washington Metropolitan area.

THEME

Telling Our Stories is an exploration of our ability to share unique information about ourselves through visual art, while simultaneously connecting and learning from others through their expressed stories. This art expression exercise provides us with an opportunity to see the

community as a whole - as something comprised of many people, cultures, and lifestyles. A community has many perspectives and experiences that help to shape the culture and values that are exhibited. Visual art allows people to share in these experiences by taking a glimpse at their life circumstances. Students can share their stories using images, color, line and symbols.

ABOUT THE HIGH TEA SOCIETY

Over the past 20 years, The High Tea Society-Girls Connected non-profit organization (HTS-GC) has served more than 850 girls. Its mission guides girls from economically challenged communities beset by risky behavior and victimized by trauma using a transformative behavioral curriculum that prepares them to become productive successful citizens who contribute to their progress and that of their family and communities.

ELIGIBILITY

The Civili-Tea City-wide Creative Expression competition will be open to District of Columbia youth in Second - 12th grades.

GENERAL GUIDELINES AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Only one entry per student. Schools may submit as many entries as they elect; however, only the top entries from each school, as decided by the judging panel, will be exhibited in the gallery for final and eligible for prizes.
- Group submissions are not eligible for this contest.
- All entries must include a completed Entry Form with each art submission. For Visual Art, the entry form should be attached to the back of the artwork. Please note: Artwork submitted with an incomplete entry form will be disqualified.
- **Maximum Size of Artwork:** 22"x28", including matting

VISUAL ART GUIDELINES

- Please mount all prints on a cardboard mat, poster board, or some other sturdy material.
- Materials and media that may be used include: fabric, paper(s), glitter, markers, watercolors, crayons, colored pencils, acrylic paints, tissue paper, etc.
- **Recommendation:** When working with pastels, please spray artwork to prevent smudging/discoloration. Please minimize the use of beads or other glued items that may fall during transport.
- Secondary grades may use digital, computer-generated art; however, the art must be printed and mounted onto a poster.
- Prepared lettering within the artwork is accepted but should be minimal.
- The theme does not have to be written or printed on the poster design.

- **Photography:** Entries must be an original black-and-white or color image produced by a photographic process. Framed entries, original film (negatives or transparencies) and multidimensional pieces are prohibited.

ADDITIONAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: PHOTOGRAPHY

Printed format of photo:

- Follow presentation & format guidelines for Visual Art
- Submit envelope containing your printed photo and student

Electronic format of photo:

- Save electronic file on a CD not exceeding 1 GB (one gigabyte) in file size.
- Accepted file formats include: JPEG, GIF, PNG, BMP, label CD with the title of your artwork.
- Submit envelope containing your CD and Entry Form to Second Baptist Church. Submission details are below.

COPYRIGHT

- Use of copyrighted material, including copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material, or the work of another artist/maker, is not acceptable in any photography submission.
- Photographs may include public places, well-known products, trademarks or certain other copyrighted material, if the copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole.
- The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.
- Photographs with added graphics over the image, including lettering, are not acceptable.

DEADLINE

Entries **MUST** be submitted by **May 17, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.**

ART DELIVERY LOCATION

Second Baptist Church of Washington
816 3rd Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Entries can be delivered to the Second Baptist Church, 816 Third Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001 (near the Gallery Place Metro Station). Please notify James S. Terrell of the art delivery and entry form submission terrellartsdc@gmail.com.

ART DELIVERY DATE

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

ARTWORK RETRIEVAL

All Artwork must be retrieved by school representatives or parents by **July 15th**. **The winning art will be held by the organization for the following year's exhibit. THE 2019 COLLABORATION IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEMS NOT RETRIEVED BY JULY 15, 2019.** Please contact James Terrell, terrellartsdc@gmail.com, to arrange an appointment for artwork retrieval by July 15, 2019. As the art retrieval date is **after school has dismissed for the summer break**, please provide parental contact information for the summer.

JUDGING

- Entries will be judged on adherence to the theme, creativity, and originality by a panel of judges.
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prize winners will be chosen in the following categories:
 - second through fifth grade
 - sixth through eighth grade
 - ninth through twelfth grade
- Judges will then narrow the entries to three, per grade level category, and then determine an overall 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize winner for each grade level.
- Judges reserve the right not to award all prizes. Judges decisions will be final.

DISPLAY

Submissions will be displayed June 3 – 28, at the Pepco Edison Place Gallery, located at 702 Eighth Street, N.W. Hours are **Tuesday-Friday Noon to 4:00 PM**. Admission is free.

Please note that all submissions may not be displayed in the exhibition. Artwork will be available for pick-up at the gallery **June 28th-30th. Artwork must be retrieved by June 30.*

PRIZES AND RECEPTION

Each entrant will receive a Certificate of Appreciation. Contest winners will receive monetary prizes, and be invited to an Awards Reception at Pepco on June 6 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Judge Mary Terrell at marytea1997@yahoo.com and James Stephen Terrell at jstephent@gmail.com

Telling Our Stories

Telling Our Stories is an exploration of our ability to share unique information through visual art, while simultaneously connecting and learning from others through their expressed stories. This art expression exercise provides us with an opportunity to see the community as a whole, as something comprised of many people, cultures, and lifestyles. A community contains many perspectives and experiences that help to share the culture and values that are exhibited. Visual art allows people to share in these experiences by taking a glimpse at their life circumstances. Students can share their stories through the use of images, color, line and symbol.

Art Forms

We encourage the use of Narrative and Genre Art for the 2019 Creative Expression Competition. There are two types of art we want to focus on, Narrative Art and Genre Art.

- **Narrative Art** is art that tells a story and is usually used to communicate stories of historical figures and events, and mythological characters.
- **Genre Art** is art that shows scenes from daily life.

This year, we challenge students to think about who they are and how they can share this information through various art forms. This can be captured through images such as self-portraits, pictures of their family, images of how they engage in the community, activities they enjoy, and victories and challenges. This work will foster connections from people with completely different experiences. Students and observers will have the opportunity to see someone else's truth and share their own.

Lesson Plan Ideas

Mission:

Challenge students to think about who they are, how they envision their lives, and the use of art to share their stories with others.

Key Questions

1. How do you personally impact the community?
2. How do you contribute to a positive and civilized society? What practices or activities do you engage in that contribute to your community?
 - i. Examples for consideration: Do you attend a church that gives back to the community and that is important to you? Do you help your friends, teachers, community members, family members when they need support (perhaps, you may help others clean up, assist with homework, assist other children with sports, help a younger child cross the street, etc.)?
3. What is special about you (ex. are you an athlete, artist, speaker, writer, do you help others, do you assist your mother and father with chores, do you assist people in the community, are you an excellent dancer, singer, etc.)?
4. If you were a character saving your community who would you be? What virtues and culture would you represent? Tell a story of a time your identity reflected your community in a positive manner.

- i. Example: Have you ever helped an elderly neighbor? Have you ever walked home with your friends in a group to watch out for each other? Does your family volunteer or attend community meetings or functions?

Artist Examples

Acclaimed Mexican Painter Frida Kahlo used self-portraits and elements of surrealism to tell her story through her art.

1. Students draw self-portraits that tell us who they are. What is unique/different about you?
 - i. Write a list of words you would use to describe yourself
 - ii. Write a list of words that have been used to describe you
 - iii. What symbols can you use to communicate the words that describe you (provide examples)?
 - iv. What colors can you use to describe how you feel or make people feel? Are you happy? What color represents happiness? Are you funny? What color reflects humor/laughter?
2. Middle School and High School students can add surrealist and dreamlike elements to their portraits to tell us about things they like or things that have happened to them
 - i. Create a self portrait
 - ii. Include symbols and images that represent aspects of their personal history and story

The use of hieroglyphics on the walls of the pyramids in Egypt.

1. The image of Imhotep who was a healing god is used on hospitals and medical signage all over the world. When you see it, you are seeing the hero and representation of a mythical story. What images and symbols could you use to represent you and your story? If you were a myth, what would your story be and how would you depict it?

Legendary African American Artist Ernie Barnes painted scenes from Black life.

1. Think of something about your culture or your family. Write a short paragraph on the story that defines you.
2. How can you communicate your story with ONE image frozen in time?

Elements artists can explore

- Portraiture
- Surrealism/Fantasy
- Scenic art

Teachers and parents! Tips for winning:

- Use the lesson plan ideas
- Make sure your work captures the theme

- Please know that the art will be exhibited at the Pepco Edison Place Gallery to judges in the District of Columbia art community. Judges will be attracted to the visual aspects of the work; relationship to the theme; and unique uses of art materials