

2026 INFORMATION PACKET



STUDENT LISTS DUE: February 6, 2026

ARTWORK DELIVERY: February 11 - 13, 2026

EXHIBITION DATES: February 24 - March 12, 2026

RECEPTION & AWARDS: March 5, 4:00 - 8:00 pm

Elementary Awards: 5:15 - 6:00 pm

Middle & High Awards: 6:15 - 7:00 pm

ARTWORK PICK UP: March 16 - 18, 2026



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CONTACT:

Eve Marino

Education Coordinator

864-222-2787

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Dear Anderson County Art Teacher,

We're excited to invite you to participate in the Anderson Arts Center's Annual **Youth Art Month Exhibit (YAM)**! This county-wide exhibit celebrates the creativity and achievements of young artists from public, private, and homeschool programs across Anderson County.

This is a wonderful opportunity for your students to have their artwork displayed in a professional gallery setting at the Arts Warehouse—an inspiring space for families, teachers, students, and art enthusiasts to enjoy.

We invite all participating students, their families, and school staff to join us for the Youth Art Month Reception on Thursday, March 5, 2025. Please note that the **awards ceremony will be held at a new date and time this year**, a change we hope will allow to better highlight and celebrate our student artists.

In addition, we are excited to introduce the **Bicentennial Art Contest**, presented in partnership with the Anderson County Museum, in celebration of the **200th Anniversary of Anderson County**. This special opportunity invites K–12 students to submit one original artwork in any medium, following exhibit guidelines. *Please note: artwork submitted for the Bicentennial Art Contest does not replace or count as a Youth Art Month submission.*

If you have any questions, please contact me at **864.222.2787** or **evem@andersonarts.org**. Thank you for sharing your students' talents with our community—we can't wait to celebrate their creativity!

Please review the enclosed **Youth Art Month prospectus—new information inside!**

Thank you,

Eve Marino

Education Coordinator

2026 Youth Art Month Exhibit – Prospectus

Entry Rules

- Public and private schools: submit up to **10 pieces total**
 - If two teachers share a school, each may submit five pieces
- Homeschool Associations:
 - If **ONLY** High School: submit up to **5 pieces total**
 - If Elementary, Middle & High School: submit up to **3 pieces for each level**
- Group projects count as one submission and must be a single object
- Teachers give each selected student an invitation to the reception and awards ceremony **before the exhibit opens**. (*Invitation will be emailed at the beginning of February and available on the website*)

Student List Instructions

- Complete the Google Spreadsheet by **February 6, 2026**
- Fill out **your school's tab** completely and accurately
 - Names are copied exactly—no corrections can be made later
- Parent and teacher phone numbers are required so we can return artwork and contact winners
 - If privacy is a concern, download the spreadsheet to your computer and email it to Eve, evem@andersonarts.org
- If parents cannot be reached, artwork will be returned to the teacher
- Digital student lists due: **Friday, February 6, 2026**
- Printed copy due with artwork: February 11-13, 2026

Artwork Requirements

- All artwork must be matted in black or white
 - Use an actual mat or mount on larger mat board/poster board with visible 2" borders
 - No thin or floppy paper
- Series, diptychs, or triptychs must be mounted as one piece on one mat board/poster board
- Maximum total size (including mat): 30" x 30"
- Submit a variety of projects—avoid sending all of the same assignment
- Limit to no more than two pieces per student
- *Optional: include a brief typed description of the project or process on the lower left corner of the mat*

Label Requirements

- Use labels provided
- PRINT information with black ink
- Attach to front, lower right corner of mat

Drop-off & Pick-up

- **Artwork Drop-off:** Wednesday–Friday, February 11-13, 2026, 10:00 am–5:00 pm
 - Contact the Arts Center for early delivery (*no late entries accepted*)
- **Artwork Pick-up:** Monday–Wednesday, March 16-18, 2026, 10:00 am–5:00 pm
 - Due to upcoming programs, all work must be picked up during these times
 - Please make arrangements if you are unable to come personally

Important Dates

- **Student Lists Due Digitally: Friday, February 6, 2026**
- **Judging:** Week of February 16, 2026
- **Exhibit Dates:** February 24 - March 12, 2026
- **Gallery Hours:** Tuesday–Friday, 10:00 am–5:00 pm,
 - **Weekend Hours:** February 28 & March 7, 11:00 am -2:00 pm and March 8, 1:00 - 4:00 pm
- **Awards Ceremony:** Thursday, March 5, 4:00-8:00 pm
 - Elementary awards ceremony from 5:15 - 6:00 pm
 - Middle & High school awards ceremony from 6:15 - 7:00 pm
 - Reception Hours 4:00 - 6:00 pm & 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Awards

- **Awards selected by a guest juror: First, Second, and Third Place** awarded at each level: Elementary, Middle, and High School
 - Winners receive cash awards and recognition at the reception
- **Anderson Arts Center's Youth Art Month Merit Awards**
 - One outstanding piece from each level selected for a special cash award
- **Certificates of Recognition**
 - Each student will receive a certificate (available at artwork pick-up)

Extended Exhibition Awards

Selected student artwork will be professionally framed and displayed for **one year** by community pARTners:

- **AnMed Health** – Women's & Children's Hospital
- **Tri-County Technical College** – Gallery Hall, Anderson Campus
- **City of Anderson / Wren Pavilion Exhibit** – Artwork digitally scanned and reproduced for one-year display

Contact

For questions or scheduling needs: 864.222.2787 evem@andersonarts.org