

Maryland 19th Amendment Commission

Women's Right to Vote: 100th Anniversary Celebration Creative Contest Guidelines

August of 2020 will mark the 100th anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote in the United States. The anniversary will be celebrated concurrently throughout the country, with each individual state producing events and programs that are representative of their own unique suffrage movements, and the continuation of women using government to perpetuate and enhance women's rights.

The Maryland Commission on the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is planning a series of programs to honor women past, present and future, who personify the power of using their voice to change legislation in order to improve the lives of women within Maryland's borders and beyond. Creating this centennial legacy includes engaging the next generation and challenging them to explore the past, present, and future of women's rights in Maryland and the nation.

Being that art and historical research can both serve to reflect political issues quite accurately, the Commission is inviting student artists and scholars throughout Maryland to produce creative pieces that exemplify notable women – past, present and/or future – who were, are or will be instrumental in the continuation of women's rights. Students' submissions should strive to answer the question:

How would YOU use the power of your vote? Reflecting on the efforts of an individual or group, how did they inspire you to help propel society forward?

ELIGIBILITY

- Any Maryland public or private high school student is eligible to submit his or her work for consideration.
- Submission Categories:
 - **Research Essay**
 - **Flat (Paint, Pencil, Charcoal on Canvas or Print)**
 - **Dimensional (Fabric, 3-D Printing, Pottery, Sculpture, or Mixed Media)**
 - **Digital (Photography, Graphic Art)**
 - **Video or Documentary**
- After an initial review of all entries, one student from each of these five categories for each county and Baltimore City will be invited to submit one final work for judging.
- From all of the county submissions, one State winner will be awarded in each medium category.
- The opening date for submissions is **June 1, 2019**, and the deadline for submissions is **October 11, 2019**.

ART PORTFOLIO or ESSAY SUBMISSION CRITERIA

- Each student will electronically submit their essay, photos or videos of their work to the Commission's Google Email Account/Drive, mdsuffragecommission@gmail.com.
- All submissions must include a separate document with the following information:
 - The artist's name, email and mailing address, phone number, current grade, and name and address of his/her school.
 - A description of, and inspiration for, the final artistic piece or research essay topic that the student selected.

FINALIST SUBMISSIONS

- Finalists for each county and medium category will be announced and communicated to all applicants on **December 2, 2019**. Finalists will then receive instructions for physical submission of their work, which will be judged to determine the 5 state winners (one for each medium category).
- All finalists will be invited to the culminating event in Annapolis in March of 2020, where the 5 state winners' artwork will be temporarily displayed within the state's Senate and Treasury buildings.

DIMENSIONS OF FINAL SUBMISSIONS

- **MEDIA**
 1. Research Essay - 1,500 to 2,500 Words
 2. Flat (Paint, Pencil, Charcoal on Canvas or Print) - 8 ½ " x 11" – 24" x 32"
 3. Dimensional (Fabric, 3-D Printing, Pottery, Sculpture, or Mixed Media) - No more than 12" deep, 24" wide and 36" high
 4. Digital (Photography, Graphic Art) – Maximum of 50 MB per submission
 5. Video/Documentary - Maximum Length of 5 Minutes

For questions or more information about the creative contest, please contact the Commission at mdsuffragecommission@gmail.com.

DISPLAY OF ENTRIES

- All county finalist pieces will be displayed from 9/1/20 – 12/13/20 at Welcome Centers throughout the state. Display locations will be determined when winners are announced.
- Photos of all county and state winners and their winning piece will also be showcased on the Commission website and visitmaryland.org.

ARTIST TIMELINE

June 1, 2019 – Opening date for digital submissions

October 11, 2019 – Deadline for digital submissions

December 2, 2019 – Finalists for each county and medium category will be announced

December 2019 – Finalists will receive instructions for physical submission of their work, which will be judged to determine the 5 state winners (one for each medium category)

January 2020 – 5 state winners will be announced

March 2020 – All finalists will be invited to the culminating event in Annapolis