

YoungArts 2025 Application Requirements

Visual Arts

Please follow the requirements related to your discipline/category as closely as possible. Failure to comply with the requirements may make your application ineligible for an award.

Application Requirements

The portfolio should demonstrate original thinking and a willingness to take creative risks. You are urged to submit work you feel best represents your personal creative interests and your artistic voice. Keep in mind that your application is being judged as a whole and judges are looking at both technical rigor and creative execution of an idea. This includes all 10 images as well as your written section.

- Portfolio must include **a total of 10 images that represent eight (8) to ten (10) of your best works** from the last two years. The majority of the portfolio should explore a cohesive idea, technique, or theme. If submitting eight (8) works, the two additional images can be detail shots of a section of a work that is difficult to view in an image in its entirety.
 - Optional: For those submitting video stills/documentation of performance piece: A 30-60-second video with audio may be uploaded. This video is not meant for you to explain or express your answers to the written questions. Do not include your name or any other identifying information.
- **Written section:** (100-250 words each)
 - **Question 1:** Describe your point of view as an artist and what motivates you to create.
 - **Question 2:** Describe in detail your process and material choices. Reference specific works in your portfolio.
 - **Question 3:** Explain the selections in your portfolio; why you choose these works; what their relationship to each other is and to you as an artist.

Note: If you are selected as a winner with distinction and attend National YoungArts Week, your work is shown in an exhibition. The curator will select a work(s) from your portfolio submission.

Media Submission Guidelines

- Do not place your name, a watermark, or any identifying information in or on your media submissions.
- Submit work that has been created within the last two years.

Technical Specifications

Photographing Images:

- Set camera for "fine" or "extra fine" resolution, not "web" or "normal"
- Use a 6+ megapixel camera that has a high resolution setting.

Technical Specifications (cont.)

Photographing Images(cont.):

- Position the camera so that the edges of the piece are parallel to each other if it is a rectangular 2D work. If it is a 3D sculpture or non-rectangular 2D piece capture the work with no other objects and with a blank background.
- Use as much natural light as possible. The best photographs are taken with indirect sunlight with no glare or shadows on your artwork. Use a neutral or non-distracting background.
- Objects not related to your artwork should not be included in your picture.
- Images may not be digitally manipulated.
- It is recommended to do an internet search to obtain resources on how to document your artwork.

Formatting for Images and Digital Works:

- Image File Size: Minimum of 1MB/ Maximum 20 MB.
- Image File Format: **JPEG (JPG) or PNG only.** TIFF images should not be submitted.
- Image File Dimensions: No smaller than 2400 x 2400 pixels.
- Image File Resolution: 300 dpi
- Recommended file size: 6 x 4 inches, 300 dpi

Uploading Images

- Each image must be saved and uploaded separately. (10 images in total). Files should be named either with the title or Piece 1, Piece 2, etc. if untitled.
- The order you upload your work will be the order presented during adjudications.
- In the spaces provided in the application, please indicate the title of the piece (If untitled, can be named Piece 1, Piece 2, etc.), medium (give detail of materials used and technique), size, and year created for each piece.
- Do not title your files with your name or any other identifying information.

Uploading Video:

- Optional video may not exceed 60 seconds in length. The panel will only view the first 60 seconds of your video if it is longer.
- In the spaces provided in the application, please indicate the title of the piece (If untitled, can be named Performance Video), and year created.
- Do not title your file with your name or any other identifying information.
- In the description, please indicate if the video is documentation of work/performance or if video is your medium and provide any pertinent information that will assist the panel with their understanding of the work.

Intellectual Property and Copyright Requirements

- All submitted work must be wholly original and may not infringe upon the copyright or intellectual property of any other person or entity.
- You are welcome to submit materials that have been part of other applications, competitions, or projects. YoungArts does not own any works submitted to its competition, however if your work has been submitted to other competitions, you are responsible for getting permission to submit to YoungArts, if necessary.

Additional Resources

Applicants may use the following resources to assist in formatting and preparation of files for submission. These resources are intended as an aid only, and any details within should not be confused with the application and technical requirements prescribed above.

- [Call for Entry: Photographing Artwork](#)