



• Information • Rules • Guidelines • Resources •

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National Director

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Table of Contents

page 1	Contents • Mission Statement • Theme	page 5	Categories & Requirements
page 2	Director's Message & Responsibilities	page 6	Artist Statement Info & Resources
page 3	Submission Rules & Guidelines	page 7	Prizes • Notification • Judging
page 4	Artwork Guidelines	page 8	Entry Checklist

Mission Statement:

To celebrate and promote cultural appreciation, language learning, creativity, celebration of diversity, and global connections through student art.

2025 Theme

Celebrando nuestras raíces y culturas en el corazón del universo

Celebrating our roots and cultures in the heart of the universe

Celebrando nossas raízes e culturas no coração do universo

A message from the National Director...

It is with great excitement and pride that I welcome you to this year's National Poster Contest, themed "Celebrating Our Roots and Cultures in the Heart of the Universe". This theme invites young artists to explore and express the rich tapestry of the diverse Hispanic and Portuguese cultures that make up our shared world through art. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our local chapter coordinators and teachers. Your dedication and efforts are instrumental in nurturing the talents of young artists. You play a pivotal role in encouraging creativity and artistic expression, and this contest would not be possible without your support and guidance.



This year, we are thrilled to announce some exciting changes designed to enhance the contest experience for everyone involved. We have redefined the digital and drawing categories to better recognize the diverse skills and artistic styles of our participants. Additionally, we have expanded our range of resources, providing extra tools and materials to help students develop their projects. These enhancements are part of our ongoing commitment to foster better communication and support.

Our panel of judges deserves special thanks for their time and expertise. Their insights are invaluable in ensuring the success and integrity of this contest. Their dedication to recognizing and rewarding the hard work of our young artists is deeply appreciated.

I encourage participants to take the opportunity to dive deep, explore cultural heritage, and express what makes Spanish and Portuguese unique. Art has the power to transcend boundaries and connect us all, and I look forward to seeing the incredible work created!

Thank you once again to everyone involved in making this contest a success. Together, we are nurturing the next generation of artists and celebrating the beauty of our diverse world.

Warmest regards,

Andrea Nazelli

National Director

AATSP Poster Contest

AS THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR, I WILL...

- Ensure guidelines are clear, fair, and accessible to a diverse audience
- Address any inquiries or concerns related to the contest rules
- Coordinate the selection of judges from diverse backgrounds and expertise
- Ensure that judging criteria are well-defined and align with the contest's mission statement
- Monitor the judging process to guarantee fairness and impartiality
- Notify the submitting chapter/teacher of the winning poster(s)
- Coordinate the distribution of prizes and certificates to winners (Prizes will be sent to the school of the sponsoring teacher.)

Submission Rules & Guidelines

- For Georgia chapter teachers submitting students' entries to the Georgia Chapter Poster Contest •

1. All poster entries must be submitted to the local/state chapter contest first. Please honor this rule; do not bypass the local/state contest. Entries that do will be disqualified. **For the AATSP Georgia Chapter Poster Contest contact Sonia Puerta-Quinn at Squinneedsaugusta.com.** Please note that the local chapter contest deadline is **March 1st, 2025** a month before the National Contest deadline. Posters may not be submitted directly to the national contest because our AATSP Georgia chapter offers the Poster Contest.
2. Submissions must be digital and entered via the **GA Chapter Google Submission Form**. This form should be filled out for **EACH** entry. The window for submitting posters **to the AATSP Georgia chapter** is **JANUARY 1 - MARCH 1**. The Georgia Chapter Google Submission forms may be found on the chapter's website **beginning in January**. Please make sure to use the following file name convention:

R__DR/DI/C category FIRST NAME_LAST NAME

(This format is explained in detail in the submission form video as well as in the submission form itself.)

3. When submitting photos, please make sure the image is uploaded in the correct orientation. For example, if the artwork is portrait, upload it as such. If it is landscape, upload it in that manner. In order to maintain the integrity of the artwork, please save and send the entry in a high-resolution **.jpg** or **.png** format, as close to full HD 1920px by 1080px as possible. **The Google form will not accept a PDF or any other format.**
5. Make sure the teacher AATSP membership is current, and that you have access to it.

How to find your AATSP Member ID Number:

- 1) Log into your AATSP account at **aatsp.org**.
- 2) Click on the **My Profile** link.
- 3) Under **My Profile** click on **Manage Profile**.
- 4) Click on **Info** and **Settings** and find the AATSP Membership Card icon. Your membership ID and expiration date will be listed.

If you are unable to locate your membership ID and expiration date, please call the AATSP CENTRAL OFFICE: 219-295-1491.

Artwork Guidelines

****All posters submitted become the property of the AATSP. With submission of the entry, permission is automatically granted to the AATSP to use the poster image, the school's name, the sponsoring teacher's name, and the student's name.****

****Please note the following changes this year:****

1. For the **DRAWING CATEGORY**, please note the drawing can be **DRAWN** using pencils, markers, crayons...etc. Artwork that is created entirely by hand using a **DIGITAL DRAWING TABLET and stylus without the use of pre-existing images will be entered into the DRAWING CATEGORY.**

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR (DIGITAL) DRAWING CATEGORY:

- o The artist must create all elements of the artwork by drawing **by hand** using a stylus **or** using other writing tools on paper.
- o For digital drawing, no elements of the artwork should be created through photo manipulation, such as cutting, pasting, or blending existing images.
- o Digital tools for enhancing hand-drawn elements (e.g., brushes, layers, effects) are permitted as long as they are applied to hand-drawn content.

2. For the **DIGITAL CATEGORY**, artwork that incorporates and manipulates pre-existing images or photographs (for example, Canva elements, clipart...etc.) to create a new piece of art will be considered **DIGITAL**. This includes but is not limited to photo editing, collage, and digital compositing.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR DIGITAL CATEGORY:

- o The artist may use pre-existing images or photographs as part of the artwork.
- o Techniques such as cutting, pasting, layering, blending, and altering images are permitted.
- o Use of digital tools for photo editing and manipulation (e.g., Photoshop, GIMP) is permitted.

3. **Originality:** All submitted artwork must be original and created specifically for this contest. Plagiarism or unauthorized use of another artist's work is strictly prohibited. Depictions of cartoon, video game, movie, television, or theme characters, or recreations of past poster designs do not constitute creativity or originality. Absolutely **no** copyrighted images, figures, or wording are to be used. AATSP holds no liability for copyright infringement.

4. Artwork that is created using artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms or tools, including but not limited to image generators, deep learning models, and neural networks is not allowed. The National Contest Director, Committee, and judges reserve the right to request or seek additional information or evidence regarding any piece submitted to the contest. If it is determined that an entry was generated by AI, it will be disqualified.

By clearly distinguishing these categories and rules, the contest aims to celebrate the unique skills and creativity involved in both hand-drawn digital art and digital image manipulation.

Submit any inquiries to
Andrea Nazelli
National Poster Contest Director
postercontest@aatsp.org

Categories

age group	DRAWING	DIGITAL
PreK-2nd grade	X	
3rd-5th grade	X	
6th-8th grade	X	X
9th-12th grade	X	X

Submission Criteria for Each Group

****NOTE THAT REQUIREMENTS VARY BASED ON GROUP!****

PreK-2nd grade

- poster (8 1/2 x 11" or bigger)
- written theme is optional but encouraged

3rd-5th grade

- poster (11 X 17" or bigger)
- written theme is required

6th-8th grade

- poster (11 X 17" or bigger)
- written theme included and creatively incorporated on the poster

9th-12th grade

- poster (11 X 17" or bigger)
- written theme included and creatively incorporated on the poster
- artist statement

To find out more about the ARTIST STATEMENT, PLEASE SEE THE NEXT PAGE.

Artist Statement

As part of their submission, students in grades 9-12 need to write at least 5 complete and thoughtful sentences in Spanish/Portuguese (no penalty for errors) or English in which they share the following:

1. A title for their piece (honoring this year's theme)
2. An element and principle of art that was included in their work
3. A studio habit they learned or focused on during the process (This is defined in the article linked on the previous page).
4. The "why" of their piece (what helped them decide to draw what they drew)
5. Any other pertinent details they wish to share about their piece or experiences while creating it

This element aligns with current best practices in Art Education. Last year's judges provided positive feedback, expressing their enjoyment of gaining deeper insights into the artwork created by older students. They noted an enhanced ability to appreciate and understand the students' messages, thus fostering a stronger connection to the art.

Here are some resources for formulating a solid statement. These can also be found on the Poster Contest Website.

**Harvard Graduate School
of Education:**

 [**Article & Guide to help
students write their statement**](#)

 **ARTIST STATEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE** (PDF)

(Simple questions that students can answer)

A special THANK YOU to Tanya Sollien who created this for her students last year and graciously let me borrow the idea!

THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS
MAY BE SUBMITTED
IN LIEU OF A WRITTEN PARAGRAPH.

 [**CRAFTING MEANINGFUL ARTIST STATEMENTS**](#)

 Accompanying "flowchart" [worksheet](#) (PDF)

Timeline: Prizes and notification

Student Winners will receive the following:

Grades 9-12

- Personalized congratulatory letter
- Plaque
- Amazon gift card (\$100, \$75, \$50)

Grades 6-8

- Personalized congratulatory letter
- Medal
- Amazon gift card (\$100, \$75, \$50)

Grades 3-5

- Personalized congratulatory letter
- Certificate
- Curated art set

Grades PreK-2

- Personalized congratulatory letter
- Ribbon
- Curated art set

** Sponsoring teachers of winners will also receive an Amazon gift card.**

Winners: selected by the end of April, 2025

Winning pieces will be:

Posted on the AATSP website

Showcased at the 2025 National Conference in Panamá

First place winners:

Published in the 2025 Conference Program

AATSP will mail prizes to the winner's school, addressed to the student and supporting teacher.

Judging

The evaluation of artwork will adhere to age-appropriate standards, as outlined in carefully-designed rubrics tailored to reflect the developmental stages and artistic capabilities of the respective age groups.



Checklist for National Contest Submission

National DEADLINE: April 1st, 2025

All entries must be submitted via the Google Form **specific to your region.**

for each entry....

- Do you have the sponsoring teacher's AATSP Member ID Number?
 Please check the submission guidelines for instructions on how to find this number.
- Do you know what category/categories your entries are for?
- Are your entry files saved as high-res **.jpg** or **png** format, as close to full HD1920px by1080px as possible, not PDF or any other format?
- For Collaborative pieces, did you fill out the appropriate Release Form? Do you have a Release form for each submission?
- Do your files follow the naming convention of:
R__DR/DI/C category FIRST NAME_LAST NAME ?
 (This format is explained in detail in the submission form video as well as in the submission form itself.)
- Do entries **from 9-12** grade have an artist statement?

Do you have questions? Contact Andrea Nazelli:

postercontest@aatsp.org