



## High School Visual Arts Contest

### Theme: True Blue Water Conservation, 40<sup>th</sup> Art Contest

It's the 40<sup>th</sup> year of the art contest! Welcome to this exciting opportunity for students to show their artistic talents, win prizes and to make their school and family proud! You probably save water every day, and this program, celebrating Drinking Water Week on May 4-10, 2025, will help encourage all of us to do even more.

**WHO:** Students in **Grades 9-12** residing in Dallas

**WHAT:** 2025 Visual Arts Contest Theme: True Blue Water Conservation, 40<sup>th</sup> Art Contest

**PRIZES:** Students will compete in the visual arts contest in **Grades 9-12**. There will be three (3) winners selected from the submissions. Depending on the submitted artistic mediums, the 1<sup>st</sup> Place winning image or a photo of the item may be featured on a City of Dallas blanket or different giveaway. In addition to the prizes below and a pizza party for the entire class, all winners and their families will be invited to a City of Dallas reception.

Student Winners	Prizes*	Class Pizza Party
1 <sup>st</sup> Place Winner	Acer® Chromebook	Included
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Winner	Beats by Dr. Dre® Earbuds	Included
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Winner	Wacom® Creative Pen Tablet	Included
Teacher/Team Leader of the	Art Supply Vouchers*	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place Winner	\$200	Included
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Winner	\$100	Included
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Winner	\$50	Included

\*The item or voucher amount can be replaced with a different value in any given year.

**WHEN:** Artwork and entry form are **due by 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 2025**. Winners will be announced May 2025, and a complete list of the finalists will be available on SaveDallasWater.com later in the month. A reception for winners, their teachers and families will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Artwork and entry form can be hand delivered or mailed to:

**2024 Water Conservation Arts Contest**  
**City of Dallas OEQS Water Conservation Division**  
**1500 Marilla Street, Room 2AN**  
**Dallas, TX 75201**  
**ATTN: Education Coordinator**

**HOW:** See Entry Rules on page 2 and 3 for additional information.



## High School Visual Arts Contest Entry Rules

***Theme: True Blue Water Conservation, 40<sup>th</sup> Art Contest***

***THE ENTRY FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH EACH SUBMISSION!***

Competition is open to any student enrolled in grades 9 through 12 attending high school in the City of Dallas. Entries must be postmarked or received no later than **5:00 p.m. on April 4, 2025**.

Entries must be separated and labeled by category. Artwork must be flat – do not roll or fold. An entry form must be taped to the back of each artwork and the theme is to appear on the front of the design small or prominently displayed. Entries may be mailed or delivered to:

**(YEAR) Water Conservation Arts Contest  
City of Dallas OEQS Water Conservation Division  
1500 Marilla Street, Room 2AN  
Dallas, TX 75201  
Attn: Education Coordinator**

Artwork must visually demonstrate the importance of saving water (Examples on page 4). Artwork will be judged on creativity, originality, artistic merit, and adherence to guidelines and criteria. Please ensure it is family-friendly content.

- ***Creativity:*** How well the artwork communicates the **2025 theme: True Blue Water Conservation, 40<sup>th</sup> Year (at minimum, 40<sup>th</sup>, must appear small or prominently)**
- ***Originality:*** Artwork should creatively reflect the idea or concept chosen to illustrate water conservation with as little repetition of pre-existing ideas as possible.
- ***Artistic Merit:*** How well the different elements or components come together as a whole.
- ***Adherence to Guidelines:*** Entries must follow all guidelines, or the submission will be disqualified. See Criteria on page 3 for additional detailed information.

**\*\*\*\*** Each entry must be the work of one (1) student. The concept, design and artwork must be the original work of the student entering. If the judges determine that someone other than the student has assisted in the creation of the work, the entry will be disqualified. Winners are selected at the discretion of the judging panel. At any time during the term of the contest and at the judging panel's discretion, an additional award category may be created by grade level or honorable mention winners may be selected. The City of Dallas reserves the right to disqualify submissions that do not meet the requirements of the contest. **The artwork must feature at minimum a 40<sup>th</sup> small or prominently displayed.**



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### Guidelines and Criteria

#### Theme: True Blue Water Conservation, 40<sup>th</sup> Art Contest

The acceptable mediums include: painting, drawing, collage, print, and sculpture considered studio art:

- Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
- Drawing: charcoal, pastel, ink, pencil, colored pencil, markers
  - Charcoal and pastel entries must be sprayed to secure medium
- Collage: must be two dimensional
- Print: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints
- Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as ink and pencil, etc.
- Sculpture from stone, metal, clay, wood, plaster (photograph and secure the medium before delivery)

All entries must follow these criteria:

- **Entries to include an 'Artist Statement' of 300 words or less including:**
  - List the theme and title of the piece.
  - Incorporate at minimum, a 40<sup>th</sup> into the artwork.
  - What inspired your work
  - How the art piece relates to the theme and promotes water conservation
- Only one (1) entry per student
- Artwork should be mounted on a neutral colored board (white, gray, black)
  - Do not mount paintings
  - No glass
  - If desired, sign name on the mount and **not** on the artwork itself
- Charcoal and pastel entries must be sprayed to secure medium
- Submission should be portrait orientation
- Submissions should be no larger than 24" x 24" with the mount adding no more than one (1) inch to the size
- Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate any U.S. copyright laws.



## **Water Conservation Tips**

True blue water is our most precious resource and water conservation is the key to keeping it flowing from faucets and hydrants. The oceans would not exist if there had not been the first drop of water. Wind in a sail provides travel on waterways. Waterfalls produce electricity through hydroelectricity. People need to drink water every day to be healthy! Without water, we would not have colorful textiles, clean homes or nourishing food. Together, we can keep true blue water available for all of us and the entire planet!

1. Water covers 71% of our planet but there is only 1% available fresh water for drinking and use at home, at school, for work, and at play!
2. The drop of water falling on your head as rain may have been the same drop of water a dinosaur drank. It's all the same water in the water cycle!
3. Take shorter showers – five minutes or less. Try to save even more by turning the water on to get wet then turn it off to lather up and finally turn it back on to rinse off.
4. Think about other ways to use water before letting it go down the drain. Water plants with pasta water or the water used to boil eggs or potatoes! Find healthy ways to reuse water.
5. Avoid water toys that need a constant stream of water.
6. Only run the dishwasher or washing machine when they are full.
7. Watch for leaky faucets and learn how to help your mom or dad fix them. Did you know that it can waste over 25 gallons of water a day?
8. Ask your parents to install a water-saving shower head. In addition to the water it saves, it also saves the fuel that would have been used to heat up the extra hot water. That saves your family money and helps reduce pollution.
9. Do not let the water run when you wash dishes.
10. Do not let the water run when you brush your teeth. Wet your toothbrush, brush your teeth, turn the water on to rinse your mouth out and then turn it off! Or fill a glass with water.
11. In Dallas, water twice weekly or less. Become best friends with your sprinkler system and the controller, learn how it operates! Another landscape tip: too much water causes grass and plants to have shallow roots which can make them unhealthy.
12. Try to do one thing each day that will save water. Even if the savings are small, every drop counts.

