



Sacramento County Academic Decathlon

Art Competition 2009-10

The French Revolution

Background

Each year the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) coordinates the Sacramento County Academic Decathlon. This premier scholastic competition for high school students is a 10-event competition in which students compete by taking tests in various subjects. Students also participate in an interview and deliver a prepared and an impromptu speech. The highest scoring team in the county goes on to compete with teams from high schools throughout California.

Purpose of the Art Competition

The purpose of the student art competition is to promote art throughout Sacramento County and select the artwork that will be used to create posters, T-shirts and other printed materials for the 30th Annual Sacramento County Academic Decathlon. The theme for this year's academic decathlon is:

The French Revolution

Any student from a Sacramento County high school is eligible to submit an entry that will be reviewed by a panel of judges. The Academic Decathlon art curriculum and art samples can be found on the United States Academic Decathlon Web site at <http://usad.org/>.

Artwork

Artwork must have the following characteristics:

- Computer generated artwork, original hand created artwork, or a combination of the two.
- Artwork that makes a visual impact, and communicates with clarity the theme of the competition. The artwork does not need to

include text. SCOE will add the Decathlon theme, date, and location to create final printed materials

- Artwork must be easily reproduced on T-shirts and posters. Designs with clear separation of colors work best. Complex designs that have a lot of blending will not work well on T-shirts. If selected, hand created artwork will be scanned and edited in order to meet printing specifications. Artwork need not be a collage.
- All electronic artwork must be created in Illustrator, Freehand, InDesign, or Photoshop. Entries may be created using either a Macintosh or Windows platform.
- Resolution MUST be at least 300 dpi for the overall file and for any embedded images in the file. Images can be either "grayscale" (for black and white artwork) or "CMYK" color mode for color artwork.
- The size of the artwork must be 12" x 18".
- A hard copy 12" x 18" sample must be submitted to enter the competition. Please do not send any electronic files.

Selection Criteria

The artwork will be judged on the following criteria:

1. **Execution of the Theme** - The theme for the 2009-10 Academic Decathlon is "The French Revolution." The theme will focus on eighteenth-century and early nineteenth-century French art. Entries will be judged on how well they reflect the theme.
2. **Craftsmanship** - This criterion includes composition, form, technique, balance, proportion, unity and other qualities that reflect the

artist's ability to successfully create in the particular medium chosen.

3. **Creativity** - The extent to which the student shows originality of idea, an unusual or diverse approach, and uniqueness in the artwork will be evaluated.
4. **Overall Impression** - This includes the overall response to the art as well as how effective it will be as the basic image for the competition's printed materials. In addition, judges will ensure that artwork is in good taste and contains appropriate content for high school students and the general public.

SCOE Exhibit and Reception

Selected art pieces will be displayed in a SCOE art exhibit located on the first floor of the David P. Meaney Education Center. An awards reception will be held in December 2009.

Awards will be presented for the following categories:

- **T-shirt and Poster Design** - This award will be presented to the student who's artwork best represents the Sacramento Academic Decathlon theme. The award-winning design will be reproduced for the Aca Deca materials.
- **Concept and Content** - This award will be presented to the student who's artwork reflects sophisticated integration and interpretation of the theme, relevance to social and artistic dialogue, as well as high quality mastery of the selected medium.
- **Aesthetics and Design** - This award will be presented to the student who's artwork reflects a sophisticated understanding of composition and principles of design in art-making.
- **Honorable Mention** - There will be three (3) awards for Honorable Mentions.

Deadlines and Instructions

1. All entries must be submitted by Friday, November 6, 2009.
2. Submit one hard copy 12" x 18" print.
3. Provide two copies of the attached Student Information Sheet with each entry.
4. All artwork must be submitted to the Sacramento County Office of Education Academic Decathlon Office attention Maureen Gemma or Craig Irish

Mailing address:

P. O. Box 269003,
Sacramento, CA 95826-9003

Physical address:

10474 Mather Boulevard
Mather, CA 95655

Questions? Contact:

Maureen Gemma, Art Coordinator
Sacramento County Office of Education
(916) 228-2371 or mgemma@scoe.net

Craig Irish, Academic Decathlon Coordinator
Sacramento County Office of Education
(916) 228-2660 or cirish@scoe.net

The Academic Decathlon and the Student Art
Competition are coordinated by:

Sacramento
Office of Education **County**



Sacramento County Academic Decathlon

2009-10 Art Competition

Student Information Sheet

Student Name:

School Name:

School District:

Grade:

Media:

Title:

Artist Statement (see below):

In the area above, please include the following information:

- Describe your inspiration and the rationale for your artwork.
- Describe how you incorporated the elements of art and principles of design in your composition.
- Describe how your artwork reflects the theme of the competition, "The French Revolution."

Teacher's Name:

Teacher's E-mail:

Teacher's Phone #:

Student and Teacher Agreement: We understand that if the student's artwork is chosen for the Poster and T-shirt Design, that the work will be reproduced for SCOE's Academic Decathlon published materials.

Teacher's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date