

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY
ACADEMIC DECATHLON
ART COMPETITION 2025-26**

**THE ROARING
TWENTIES**

Due: November 14, 2025



SACRAMENTO COUNTY ACADEMIC DECATHLON ART COMPETITION 2025-26

Background:

The Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) coordinates the annual 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 speeches. 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 this year's Sacramento County Academic Decathlon. The theme for this year's academic decathlon is: The Roaring Twenties.

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

ARTWORK:

Artwork must have the following characteristics:

- Original hand created artwork, computer generated 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.
- The size of the artwork must be 11" x 17".
- A hard copy 11" x 17" must be submitted to enter the competition. Please do not send any electronic files at this time. The Overall Excellence winner will be contacted and asked to submit an electronic file (original format and as a PDF).

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SELECTION CRITERIA:

The artwork will be judged on the following criteria:

Execution of the Theme – Entries will be judged on how well they reflect the overall theme and style of art from the period.

Craftsmanship – Includes composition, form, technique, balance, proportion, unity and other qualities that reflect the artist's ability to successfully create in the chosen medium.

Creativity – The extent to which the student shows originality of idea, an unusual or diverse approach, and uniqueness in the artwork will be evaluated.

Overall Impression – This includes the overall response to the art as well as how effective it will be as the selected 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.

AWARDS:

The following awards will be presented:

- **Overall Excellence** - This top award will be presented to the student whose art work best represents the Academic Decathlon theme, and addresses: concept, content, aesthetics, and design. The award-winning design will be reproduced for Decathlon materials, including: T-shirt, poster and event programs.

Awards also will be presented for digital and traditional media. Awards will be given in each of the following categories, as well as up to three overall Honorable Mentions:

- **Concept and Content** - This award will be presented to the student whose 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 whose art work reflects a sophisticated understanding of composition and principles of design in art-making.

Award certificates will be delivered to teachers for distribution to students. The recipient of the Overall Excellence award will be honored at the Academic Decathlon Awards.

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Deadlines and Instructions

- All entries must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 14, 2025.
- A hard copy 11" x 17" of the artwork must be submitted.
- Please attach to each entry two copies of the attached Student Information Sheet.
- All submitted artwork will be reviewed and juried for the selection of awards.
- All artwork must be submitted to: Charlene Evangelista-Gibson or Craig Irish

SHIPPING:

Sacramento County Office of Education – Academic Decathlon
10150 Missile Way, Mather, CA 95655

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

10474 Mather Boulevard, Mather, CA 95655

Questions? Contact: Academic Decathlon
Staff Sacramento County Office of
Education acadeca@scoe.net





SACRAMENTO COUNTY ACADEMIC DECATHLON

2025-2026 ART COMPETITION

STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

(An electronic, Microsoft Word version of this form is available for download at: <https://www.scoe.net/divisions/c-sapa/ad/downloads/>)

Each submitted work of art must include two copies of this completed form.

Student's Name:

School Name:

School District:

Grade:

Media: ☐ Illustration ☐ Painting ☐ Digital ☐ Mixed-Media ☐ Photography ☐ Other

Title:

Artist Statement In the area below, please include the following:

The inspiration for your work and your process of creating it.

How the elements of art/principles of design guided your choices in the development of the artwork.

How your artwork reflects this year's competition theme, "The Roaring Twenties".

ARTIST STATEMENTS ARE USED IN THE JUDGING PROCESS. ONLY STATEMENTS OF WINNING ARTWORK WILL APPEAR IN THE EXHIBIT.

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 "Overall Excellence" award, that the work will be reproduced for SCOE's Academic Decathlon published materials (print, electronic and online) and that no compensation will be provided.

Teacher's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date