Youth De’VIA Competition:

2023-2024 Rules and Guidelines

Sponsored by:

Art, No. 2 by Chuck Baird, 1993
Acrylic on Canvas (24" by 30")
HISTORY

With the backing of De’VIA Artists, the Youth De’VIA Competition is a joint project hosted by the Kansas School for the Deaf (KSD) and Museum of Deaf History, Arts, and Culture, Inc. (MDHAC) in loving memory of Chuck Baird, known as the “Father of De’VIA” and alumni of KSD, class of ‘65.

**Summer 2013:** The first De’VIA Artist Retreat was held at KSD where Sandra Kelly, former MDHAC Executive Director, and Jeanne Ewald, former MDHAC Board Member, coordinated logistics and other activities on behalf of Deaf Artists. The retreat focused on discussions about developing a De’VIA curriculum and hosting a Youth De’VIA Competition because they wanted to honor Chuck Baird’s dream to keep De’VIA alive for generations.

**Summer 2014:** A group of Deaf artists hosted their first working group seminar to initiate the development of the De’VIA Curriculum at the Rochester School for the Deaf. It has since been held annually at different schools for the Deaf for art teachers and other artists. This curriculum was intended to be free and available for Deaf schools or any programs with Deaf children. More information here: [DeVIA Curriculum](#)

**Fall 2014:** Sherry Gabel, a former KSD ASL teacher, and Takako Kerns, a KSD art teacher, developed ideas and guidelines for the Youth De’VIA competition. They asked MDHAC (formerly the Deaf Cultural Center Foundation) to be a sponsor, using funds from Chuck Baird’s Foundation that was passed on to MDHAC by Chuck Baird in 2010.

**January 2015:** The first Youth De’VIA competition began across the United States with 6 schools participating and 142 pieces of artwork submitted. By 2023, the number of participants and submissions grew to a record 17 schools and 940 submissions!

**Spring 2017:** KSD and MDHAC agreed on a more formal partnership, where each has their own set of responsibilities such as KSD dedicating staff time to coordinate all school-related logistics for the national competition, and MDHAC showcasing annual winners in their Chuck Baird Art Gallery and dedicating a specific line item in MDHAC’s annual budget for Youth De’VIA Competition expenses (honorarium fees for judges, costs of shipping artworks, and awards for winners).

**January 2024:** Added 1) competition fees to enhance award amounts given to winners and 2) two new groups, in Divisions, specific to Deaf Plus (as recommended by participants who attended the De’VIA Curriculum Seminar at the Wisconsin School for the Deaf in 2023).
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1. Introduction

This Rules & Guidelines booklet is written to govern the Youth De’VIA Competition for Deaf/hard-of-hearing youths.

The purpose of this project is to promote the creative abilities of Deaf children/youth from schools all over the United States in producing De’VIA artwork describing Deaf experiences in a way that helps them learn more about themselves and their community and heritage. Best works of art, following accepted mediums as established by the committee, are chosen per age group, and results are shared with the public to highlight and raise awareness about Deaf people’s experiences.

The submissions for the Youth DeVIA Competition will be done entirely through Google Drive links for photographs of artwork. All entries will be reviewed by a panel of judges consisting of Deaf Artists.

First-place winners will be shipped to MDHAC and displayed at the Chuck Baird Art Gallery in MDHAC. All winners will receive prizes (Amazon gift cards for secondary winners and art kits for elementary winners).

2. Objectives

Students will create art that expresses their experience and feelings as a Deaf/Hard of Hearing person.

Create art that includes one or more De’VIA elements:
- Deaf/DeafBlind expression of affirmation, resistance, and liberation,
- View of how they experience the world,
- Images/Motifs/Symbols of the experience, and
- Art, Activism, Aesthetics, and Authentic expressions.
3. ELIGIBILITY

This competition is for all Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing school-aged children and youth. Young artists must incorporate one or more aspects of the Deaf experience, language, culture, or history in their submissions.

4. DIVISIONS & CATEGORIES

4a. Divisions
All categories of the competition are broken down into seven groups.
  1. Kindergarten & 1st grade
  2. 2nd grade & 3rd grade
  3. 4th grade & 5th grade
  4. Middle school (6th grade to 8th grade)
  5. High school (9th grade to 12th grade)
  6. Deaf Plus* (Kindergarten to 5th grade)
  7. Deaf Plus* (6th grade to 12th grade)

*The term “Deaf Plus” is used here as a general grouping for students with additional learning disabilities and/or who are on an alternative educational track in school.

4b. Categories
Artwork is submitted within these four categories:

2D 2-dimensional: Painting, drawing, printmaking, mixed media, and collage.

3D 3-dimensional: Sculpture, ceramics, jewelry making, wood making.

PH Photography: Black/white, color or/and digital photography.
  The photography must be original and cannot be altered by adding, reversing, removing people or objects, or adding unique effect enhancements. There are acceptable exceptions: color enhancement includes increased contrast, lightening, darkening, and image cropping. Photo collage and triptych photography are also permitted.
CG Computer Generated: The application of computer graphics to create or contribute to the image.

All entries must contain copyright-free art or art released for the entrant and public use. No unauthorized use of any copyrighted images, text, or other material.

5. TIMELINE

Submission Period: March 25, 8:00 A.M. to March 29, 3:00 P.M., 2024

Award Ceremony: May 6th, 2024 (email PDF to art teachers)

First Place Winners’ Artwork will be displayed in the Chuck Baird Art Gallery, within the Museum of Deaf History, Arts, and Culture: September 2024.

6. RULES AND GUIDELINES

6a. Rules

- Artists must submit images of their artwork in JPEG format.
- Digitals cannot be longer than 2MB, or they will not be accepted.
- Selections will be made from digital designs. Artists should provide accurate representation of work to be considered (please only one per piece).
- Students are limited to 3 entries in total.
- Students may enter more than one category. It does not matter which category is entered. Only 3 entries per student are allowed.
- Students are not allowed to copy other artwork.

Artists must submit images of their artwork in JPEG format.

Digitals cannot be larger than 2MB, or they will not be accepted. Selections will be made from digital designs. Artists should provide accurate representation of work to be considered (please only one per piece). Students are limited to 3 entries in total.
Students may enter more than one category. It does not matter which category is entered. Only 3 entries per student are allowed.

This is very important! The image file name must be labeled as follows:

Category code (2D, 3D, PH, CG); title of work; student’s first initial of the first name and last name; grade; school’s initials

A 2-dimensional work titled “Tiger” by Chuck Baird, 12th grade for Kansas School for the Deaf should be named: 2DTigerC{Baird}{12}{KSD}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code category</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Student’s First Initial</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>School’s Initials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2D Tiger</td>
<td>CBaird 12</td>
<td>KSD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6b. Guidelines

**EXCEL SPREADSHEET:**

Submit an Excel spreadsheet.

The template and guidelines can be downloaded from [www.ksdeaf.org](http://www.ksdeaf.org) OR [https://www.museumofdeaf.org/de-via](https://www.museumofdeaf.org/de-via). They also will be emailed with your invitation in October.

7. **SUBMITTED ENTRIES:**

The entry fee is $100 per school with 5 or more student submissions. $50 per school with 4 or less student submissions.

**Youth De'VIA Competition Fee**

Images and Excel spreadsheets must be submitted to youthdevia@kssdb.org from March 25th, 8 a.m. to March 29th, 3 p.m. Incomplete entries will not be accepted.
8. JUDGING CRITERIA:

The artwork will be judged using the following criteria: originality, creativity, uniqueness, and professional quality. Judges will look for originality, creative use of language, and use of the theme in an inventive and meaningful way.

9. PRIZES & AWARDS:

All teachers will be notified via email of the winners on May 6, 2024.

Awards and prizes will be mailed to schools in early May.

Prizes:
Elementary group - Art Kits
Middle/High school groups - Amazon gift cards

First-place winners’ artwork will be displayed at the Museum of Deaf History, Arts, & Culture in late September. First-place winners are required to have their parent/legal guardian sign a Media Content & Release form for MDHAC; if MDHAC doesn’t have a form signed, then the artwork will be shared without a name. First-place winners will be asked to create a description of the artwork to add to the museum. The De’VIA coordinator will contact the first-place winners’ art teacher with the form. The art teacher will be responsible for collecting the signed form of Media Content & Release.
10. 2022-2023 Winners:

2D CATEGORY

GRADES K-1

1st place
“Red Eye”
Williams
Wisconsin School for the Deaf

2nd place
“Growing a Flower”
Miles
Kansas School for the Deaf

3rd place
“Butterfly”
Avila
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“The Butterfly”
Colon Ares
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Honorable Mention
“Cool Bird”
DeSiervi
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Honorable Mention
“Cat”
Barnett
Metro Day School
GRADES 2 - 3

1st place
“Light for the Deaf”
Bradshaw
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

2nd place
“ASL in the Eyes”
Azrelyant
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

3rd place
“MERRY AMERICA”
Caceres
Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia

Honorable Mention
“ASL Trees”
Marchand
North Carolina School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Dog”
Olana
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Train in the City”
Johnson
Metro Deaf School
GRADES 4 - 5

1st Place
“Flowering Hand”
Temple
Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind

2nd place
“Deaf Diversity”
Vore
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

3rd Place
“Mighled Hands”
Bundy
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Honorable Mention
“Brave”
Robarts
Wisconsin School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Duh!”
Torres Ortiz
California School for the Deaf, Fremont

Honorable Mention
“Volleyball”
Mougni
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Through Deaf Eyes”
Viring
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick
MIDDLE SCHOOL

1st place
“The Flower Vase”
Sambas
Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

2nd place
“Train”
Deguire-May
Metro Day School

3rd place
“Unequal Communication”
Nur
Metro Day School

Honorable Mention
“Flower”
Simmons VanMeter
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“De’VIA Always Here”
Abdo
Metro Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“I’m Deaf”
Nelson
Metro Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Love”
Blanco
Jean Massieu School for the Deaf
HIGH SCHOOL

1st Place
“Lock Down”
Kennedy
Model Secondary School for the Deaf

2nd Place
“Starbucks in ASL”
Olwal
Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

3rd Place
“OMG!”
Hayden
Kansas School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“We Are Deaf”
Lee
Metro Day School

Honorable Mention
“Growth”
Salih
Phoenix Day School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Access”
Brown
Alabama School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Learn Academics”
Heil
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf
3D CATEGORY

GRADES K - 1

1st place
"Wide Awake"
Awaan
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

2nd place
"Facial Expression"
Silverman
California School for the Deaf, Fremont

3rd place
"Douglas Tilden, The Sculptor"
Lee
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Honorable Mention
"FISH with a Ring"
Leis
Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia

Honorable Mention
"Tree"
Smith
P.S. 347 “47” The America Sign Language and English Lower School
GRADES 2 - 3

1st place
“Peacock”
Watson
Kansas School for the Deaf

2nd place
“Wings”
Flories Cabrera
California School for the Deaf, Fremont

3rd place
“Butterfly”
Zummo
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Honorable Mention
“Look”
Robbins
P.S. 347 “47” The America Sign Language and English Lower School

Honorable Mention
“Cow”
Plummer
Kansas School for the Deaf

GRADES 4 - 5

1st place
“Ice and Fire”
Maugh
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

2nd place
“Snail”

3rd place
“Audists vs Deaf”
Jarez-Najera
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Eberwein Zornoza
California School for the Deaf, Fremont

Honorable Mention
“AWESOME”
Goff
California School for the Deaf, Fremont

Honorable Mention
“Spread Deaf Love”
Bundy
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

Honorable Mention
“I am on Diet”
Plummer
Kansas School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“William Hoy”
Koehn
Wisconsin School for the Deaf
MIDDLE SCHOOL

1st place
“Paint Magic”
Simmons VanMeter
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

2nd place
“Deaf and Hearing Worlds”
Reyes
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

3rd place
“VOLCANO”
Conway
Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia

Honorable Mention
“Art”
Jones
Metro Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Cat”
Smith
Wisconsin School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Pheasant’s-Eye”
Guadalupe-Garcia
Kansas School for the Deaf
High School

1st place
“Submarine”
Pejack
Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

2nd place
“ASL in Full Brain”
Spurrier
Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind

3rd place
“Cat’s Playtime”
Tuttle
Kansas School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“The Crazy Ideas in My Mind”
Hamilton
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Eye Tree”
D'Angelo Jr.
Model Secondary School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Fox's Flowers”
Westphal
Wisconsin School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“Leading Me to Independence”
Sanderson-Lunze
Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind
PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORY

GRADES K - 1

1st place
“A Pretty Butterfly”
Bolin
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

2nd place
“Eye Love You”
Rodriguez
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

3rd place
“Peacock”
Facio-Ayon
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

GRADES 2 - 3

1st place
“FINISH”
Lugo
Maryland School for the Deaf,
Frederick

2nd place
“Campfire”
Daniels
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

3rd place
“Alien”
Fudge
Rocky Mountain Deaf School
Honorable Mention
“Zebra”
Shonkwiler
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Cloudy”

GRADE 4 - 5

1st Place
“Frida Kahlo”
Pifer
Wisconsin School for the Deaf

2nd Place
“House”
Flores
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

3rd Place
“Rainbow in the Sky”
Ruppert
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Angel”
McCarthy
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Vee Vee”
Abenchuchan
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick
MIDDLE SCHOOL

1st Place
“Deaf vs Hearing”
Oring
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

2nd Place
“Spoken Words”
Wynn
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

3rd Place
“Deaf Seized”
Kapustka
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

HIGH SCHOOL

1st Place
“Don’t Ever Accept Failure”
Williams
Alabama School for the Deaf

2nd Place
“Sign Language is the Primary Language”
Hayden
Kansas School for the Deaf

3rd Place
“Hands Glow”
Austin
Model Secondary School for the Deaf
HONORABLE MENTION
“Make No Noise”
Tuttle
Kansas School for the Deaf

COMPUTER GENERATED/DIGITAL CHANGED CATEGORY

GRADE K - 1

1st Place
“I LOVE YOU”
Petersen
Phoenix Day School for the Deaf

2nd Place
“Fat Hippo at Play”
Facio-Ayon
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

3rd Place
“Happy in Gray”
Cortez-Contreras
Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia
Honorable Mention
“Fox”
Bolin
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Me Sign”
Coleman
Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

GRADE 2 - 3

1st Place
“KISS FIST”
Sanchez Ramos
Maryland School for the Deaf, Columbia

2nd Place
“Love It”
Gardea-Zavala
Phoenix Day School for the Deaf

3rd Place
“Pulgrtstam”
Werner
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Heart”
Ochoa
Phoenix Day School for the Deaf
GRADE 4- 5

1st Place
“Two Continents”
Blaise
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

2nd Place
“Poppy Flower”
Ramos-Esquitoza
Rocky Mountain School for the Deaf

3rd Place
“Impire”
Blomgren-Smith
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Crow”
Tellez
Phoenix Day School for the Deaf

Honorable Mention
“F-18 Airplane”
Markey
Rocky Mountain Deaf School

Honorable Mention
“Fox”
Cardenas
Phoenix Day School for the Deaf
Honorable Mention
“Deaf Yellow Horse”
Gray
Rocky Mountain Deaf School