



Dear Principal or Guidance Counselor,

Since 1979, the Delaware Governor's School for Excellence has offered rising juniors throughout the state the opportunity to participate in a week of academic, artistic, and leadership development at the University of Delaware. This year's program is scheduled from **Sunday, July 16, 2023, to Friday, July 21, 2023**. Students will move into dormitories on Sunday evening. There will be daily programming Monday through Friday, and a closing ceremony on the evening of Friday, July 21. There is no cost to students/families for the program, courtesy of the Office of the Governor of Delaware.

The Governor's School for Excellence is targeted for gifted academic and visual and performing arts students who **live in the State of Delaware**. Academic students will focus on the humanities, business and economics, leadership, physical and social sciences. Courses will be taught by University of Delaware full-time and adjunct faculty. The visual and performing art students will focus on concentrated practice and study in their chosen discipline. Students will interact with other students from throughout the state in a residential on-campus experience. Students will be assisted by resident assistants and University staff at all times during the program.

Principals direct the selection process and may choose to oversee this process personally or designate this responsibility to a staff member. **The application process should be made available to all eligible 10th graders.** The online Principal Packet includes the program's guidelines, selection process, timetables, forms, and student applications. Please visit <https://www.pcs.udel.edu/govschool> and click on the Principals link for detailed information.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The University of Delaware's COVID-19 policies for in-person learning will apply to Governor's School. As summer policies have not yet been issued by UD, we will provide updated guidance for Governor's School participants as soon as it is available. For additional information about UD's COVID-19 policies, see <https://www.udel.edu/home/coronavirus/>.

Governor's School is composed of four programs:

1. **Academic Program** = approximately 70-85 students (based on the number of eligible tenth graders)
2. **Visual Arts Program** = approximately 13 students
3. **Theatre Program** = approximately 10 students
4. **Music Program** = approximately 40 students
  - Choral Music, Brass, Percussion/Piano, Woodwinds, Strings

Thank you for assisting us in this process of selecting the outstanding students who will participate in the Governor's School for Excellence. If you have any questions, please contact Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, [Jetzain@UDel.Edu](mailto:Jetzain@UDel.Edu).

Sincerely,

*Jason Thompson*

Coordinator, Governor's School for Excellence  
[www.udel.edu/govschool](http://www.udel.edu/govschool)



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## Guidelines for Principals

Principals (or their designee) are critical to the success of Governor's School because they are responsible for overseeing the selection process and for ensuring that all qualified students have an opportunity to apply. The responsibilities of the principal or designee include the following:

1. Announce to tenth-grade students and parents the availability of applications through the principal or other designated offices and from <https://www.pcs.udel.edu/govschool/>.
2. Overseeing the distribution and collection of completed applications.
3. Reminding students of the deadline for submission of applications.
4. Ensuring a fair selection process may include:
  - a. Creating a selection committee of a least three faculty/staff members to rate applications and make recommendations of students who should be considered for participation in the program
  - b. Instructing the selection committee as to the criteria for recommending students
  - c. Establishing a date for supervising the essay portion of the application (if using) for students being considered for the academic program
5. Selecting the school nominee(s) for the respective programs, and forwarding the names and application packages to the designated parties within the established deadlines.
6. Assuring that application packages are complete when they are submitted.
  - a. Forwarding the names and addresses of all applicants to the Governor's School program assistant (Jetzain@UDel.Edu). Academic applications are due to the program assistant by **January 30, 2023** and Visual and Performing Arts applications are due to the program assistant by **January 30, 2023**. Late submissions may not be accepted.
7. Forwarding the registration link to all selected students, so they can register themselves for the program. This link should **only** be shared with final nominees and alternates:
  - a. Academic program Link [Gov23 Academic Registration](#)
  - b. Visual and Performing Arts program Link [Gov23 Arts Registration](#)
8. Please note: Students may only apply to **one** program within the Governor's School for Excellence. Duplicate applications will be returned to the school and the candidate will only be considered for the program indicated in the initial application.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

### TIMETABLE

<b>Now</b>	Student requests two teacher letters of recommendation
<b>End of December, 2022</b>	Academic students to submit to guidance counselor: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student Information page</li> <li>2. Two teacher letters of recommendation</li> <li>3. Achievement Test and Academic Rank form</li> </ol>
<b>End of January, 2023</b>	Guidance counselor completes Achievement Test and Academic Rank form that is provided by the student
<b>January 30, 2023</b>	Principal or designee selects Academic finalist nominees and alternates Send the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Registration link to the finalist nominees and alternates, <a href="#">Gov23 ACADEMICS Registration</a></li> <li>2. Selection Form (Page 7) to Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, Jetzain@UDel.Edu</li> </ol>
<b>February 15, 2023</b>	Registrations due to the UD PCS Gov School Staff.
<b>End of February, 2023</b>	Welcome packets to be sent to the students by email from Jetzain Lucero-Palacios.
<b>July 16-21, 2023</b>	Governor's School for Excellence

# ACADEMIC PROGRAM

## SELECTION PROCESS

Students selected for the Academic Program **must meet the following requirements:**

1. Live in the state of Delaware
2. Have an overall grade point average of at least 3.5
3. Scored at least a 4.0 average score on the most recent Smarter Balanced. If the student has not taken Smarter Balanced, they must be in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on the STAR, NWEA/MAP, or equivalent test.

Consideration also should be given to students with the following attributes:

1. Experiences and special talents outshine their grade point averages.
2. Genuinely want to be a part of the program, and who will value this unique opportunity.
3. Leadership ability
4. Intellectual curiosity
5. Sense of social responsibility

Principals are to nominate the designated number of students and one alternate. Enrollment numbers are based on information posted on a school's profile by the DE Department of Education.

Send the Selection Form found on page 7 to the Governor's School program assistant, Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, Jetzain@UDel.Edu.

Public Schools		
School	10th Grade Enrollment	# of Academic Participants
AI duPont High	147	1
Appoquinimink High	347	2
Brandywine High	262	2
Caesar Rodney High	541	4
Cab Calloway School Art	121	1
Cape Henlopen High	506	4
Charter School of Wilmington	252	2
Christiana High	251	2
Concord High	291	2
Conrad School of the Sciences	165	1
Delaware Military Academy	145	1
Delcastle Technical High	406	3
Delmar Sr High	148	1
Dickinson High	180	1
Dover High	419	3
Early College High School at DSU	85	1
First State Military Academy	101	1
Freire Charter School	100	1
Glasgow High	208	1
Hodgson Vo-Tech High	280	2

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Howard HS of Tech	228	1
Indian River High	265	2
Lake Forest High	231	1
Laurel High	174	1
Las Americas ASPIRA Academy	65	1
McKean High	222	1
Middletown High	315	2
Milford High	329	2
MOT Charter	163	1
Mount Pleasant High	277	2
Newark Charter	178	1
Newark High	235	1
Odesa High	277	2
Polytech High	303	2
Seaford High	182	1
Smyrna High	440	3
St. Georges Technical High	281	2
Sussex Academy	119	1
Sussex Central High	473	4
Sussex Tech High	319	2
William Penn High	543	4
Woodbridge High	179	1

**Scale Used: 50-250 students = 1; 251-350 students = 2; 351-450 students =3; 450+ students = 4**

<b>Private Schools</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>10th Grade Enrollment</b>	<b># of Nominees</b>
Archmere Academy	136	1
Caravel Academy	90	1
Padua Academy	173	1
Saint Mark's High School	200	1
Salesianum School	265	2
Sanford School	61	1
St. Andrews School	79	1
St. Elizabeth's High School	109	1
Tatnall School	64	1
Tower Hill School	66	1
Ursuline Academy	51	1
Wilmington Christian School	64	1
Wilmington Friends School	59	1

**Scale Used: 50-210 students = 1; 211-325 students = 2; 326-435 students =3; 436+ students = 4**

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**ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

**SELECTION FORM**

**Instructions to principal/designee**

Please complete the Selection Form and email it to Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, [Jetzain@UDel.Edu](mailto:Jetzain@UDel.Edu) by **January 30, 2023**

<b>Principal/Designee Name:</b>	
<b>Principal/Designee E-mail:</b>	
<b>School Name:</b>	
<b>School Phone No.:</b>	
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	

**Final Nominee(s) (List their full name here)**

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**Alternate (1 per school, not required) (List their full name here)**

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**Principal’s signature**

**Date**

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## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

### SUGGESTED CRITERIA AND RATING PROCEDURES

The selection committee should identify students who are high academic achievers, but also demonstrate intellectual curiosity, leadership ability, and a sense of social responsibility. The committee need not limit itself to the handful of students with perfect grades; consideration also should be given to academically qualified students whose experiences and special talents outshine their grade point averages.

1. After reading the applications, the evaluator may choose to proceed as follows:  
Scan before scoring. Before making a detailed rating of an individual application, scan it to get a general picture. Consider these questions:
  - A. Is the application complete, including the recommendations?
  - B. Does the application offer information that bears on the development and potential of the individual (e.g., consider his/her achievement test scores, participation in community activities, teacher recommendations)?
  - C. Does the application alert the rater to a strength or weakness that should be considered in evaluating the application -- e.g., an exceptional mechanical or mathematical aptitude, but a poor ability to communicate?
  
2. First-Stage Rating: Assign a point value to the teacher's recommendations. The following point scale is an example:
  - 13-15 Outstanding Student = consistently shows ability and desire to excel in all areas
  - 10-12 Excellent Student = shows the ability to excel in most subject areas
  - 7-9 Good Student = shows the ability to excel in some subject areas
  - 4-6 Average Student = has the potential to excel in some subject areas

Students who earn the highest ratings in the first stage should be invited to participate in the essay-writing portion of the application process (optional at the school's discretion).
  
3. Second-Stage Rating: Assign a point value to the essay. The following point scale may be used:
  - 26-30 Excellent/exceptional/exciting to the reader
  - 21-25 Very good/comprehensive/clever response
  - 16-20 Good/above average/acceptable response
  - 11-15 Average/acceptable response
  - 0-10 Below average/unacceptable response
  
4. To assign point values for Smarter Balanced combine both scores & record the combined score.
 

If the student has not taken the Smarter Balanced assessment, please use the STAR or equivalent test. Use your best judgment when assigning a point value.



5. Record students' scores on the score sheet as indicated.
  - a. Record the student's essay score.
  - b. Record the two teacher recommendation scores, the points for the student's grade point average, ninth-grade Smarter Balanced or PSAT score, and points for honors, awards, or community service. Please use your best judgment when assigning point values to the honors, awards, or community service section.
  - c. Total student score equals the essay, teacher recommendations, grade point average, Smarter Balanced or PSAT score, and honors/awards/community service.

## ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS AND TOPICS

The essay portion is **optional** but is provided as an additional measure should the individual school wish to administer it. The following instructions should be given to students when they are called together to write their essays should the school choose to use the essay portion in the selection process.

Please choose *one* of the following quotations and describe in *500 words or fewer* what the quote means to you. Essays will be judged on organization, clarity of expression, development of the theme, and grammar.

1. "Get a good idea and stay with it. Dog it, and work at it until it's done, and done right."

*Walt Disney*

2. "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

3. "The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather in a lack of will."

*Vince Lombardi*

4. "No culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive."

*Mahatma Gandhi*

5. "Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty."

*Mother Teresa*

**ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

**SELECTION COMMITTEE SCORING TABLE**

Applicant’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

		<b>Points</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Student Essay</b> 0-30 points	
<b>2</b>	<b>Teacher Recommendation 1</b> 4-15 points	
<b>3</b>	<b>Teacher Recommendation 2</b> 4-15 points	
<b>4</b>	<b>Grade Point Average: record the actual average</b> 0-5 points	
<b>5</b>	<b>Smarter Balanced Score or PSAT Score</b> Up to 15 points	
<b>6</b>	<b>Honors, awards, community service</b> 0-20 points: please use your best judgment for assigning a point value.	
	<b>TOTAL</b> Maximum total = 100 points	

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# VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM

## TIMETABLE

<b>End of December, 2022</b>	Students to send resumes and additional materials to the principal or designee.
<b>January 30, 2023</b>	Principal or designee selects Arts finalist nominees and alternates. Send the Following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Registration link to the finalist nominees and alternates, <a href="#">GOV23 ARTS Registration</a></li> <li>2. Deadline for principals to submit to <a href="mailto:Jetzain@UDel.Edu">Jetzain@UDel.Edu</a>: Visual &amp; Performing Arts Nominees form (pages 13 and 14), and Student resumes and supporting materials</li> </ol>
<b>February 15, 2023</b>	Registrations due to the UD PCS Gov School Staff.
<b>March 1 – 15, 2023</b>	Auditions for Instrumental Music, Choral, and Theater
<b>By mid-March, 2023</b>	Finalists announced to students (ONLY for Instrumental Music, Choral, and Theater). Welcome packets emailed to students from Jetzain Lucero-Palacios.
<b>April 19, 2023</b>	Visual Arts portfolio due to <a href="mailto:Jetzain@UDel.Edu">Jetzain@UDel.Edu</a>
<b>Late April, 2023</b>	Visual Arts finalists announced to students. Welcome packets emailed to students from Jetzain Lucero-Palacios.
<b>July 16-21, 2023</b>	Governor's School for Excellence

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# VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM

## SELECTION PROCESS

Students nominated for the Governor's School must reside in the state of Delaware. Although there is no eligibility requirement with regard to overall academic grades, a student nominated for the Visual and Performing Arts program must be a serious student in good academic standing, as well as proficient in his/her/their category.

Principals are asked to oversee the selection process and to choose up to twelve (12) nominees from the following seven categories:

1. **Music Program** (up to 8 per school)
  - a. Choral Music
  - b. Instrumental Music—Brass
  - c. Instrumental Music—Piano/Percussion
  - d. Instrumental Music—Woodwinds
  - e. Instrumental Music—Strings
2. **Theatre** (up to 2 per school)
3. **Visual Arts** (up to 2 per school)

Of the total twelve (12) nominees, eight (8) can be nominated from the music categories in any given combination. Flexibility in the distribution of nominees in the music categories gives the school the opportunity to select their most talented/gifted vocal/instrumental students. Of the total twelve (12) nominees, two (2) are to be nominated for the Theatre category, and two (2) are to be nominated for the Visual Arts category.

All nominees will audition or have their work reviewed by a selection committee that includes University of Delaware and Governor's School faculty with expertise in art, music, and theatre. Or the faculty that teaches the arts program. A three-part selection process is recommended for identifying nominees to audition or interview for the Visual and Performing Arts programs. *Failure to report for the interview or audition or to submit art entries on time may disqualify students from the program.* Unfortunately, not all those nominated for the Arts program will be selected to attend because enrollment is limited to ensure maximum individual attention. **ALL Finalists will be announced by mid-March or late-April (Only for Visual Arts) by email from the UD's Governor's School for Excellence program assistant, Jetzain Lucero-Palacios.**

### Instruction to the teachers

Music, art, or theatre teachers make their recommendations to their principal by end of January.

### Instructions to the principal/designee

1. From this pool of recommendations from the teachers, select nominations.
2. By **January 30, 2023** send: (Important to adhere to this deadline for an audition or interview scheduling)
  - a. Registration link to nominees, [GOV23 ARTS Registration](#).
  - b. Resume, supporting documents, and nominee form to Jetzain@UDel.Edu.

The Governor's School for Excellence is subject to funding approval from the Governor's Office. If the program is not funded, the program will be canceled, and all applicants notified by email.

**Theatre Arts and Visual Arts Nominees Form**  
(No more than two students may be nominated in each category)

**Instructions to principal/designee**

Send to Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, Jetzain@UDel.Edu, by **January 30, 2023**.

1. This Nominee Form
2. Resumes
3. Supporting documents
4. Have nominees complete the registration form, [GOV23 ARTS Registration](#).

<b>Principal/Designee Name:</b>	
<b>Principal/Designee E-mail:</b>	
<b>School Phone No.:</b>	
<b>School Name &amp; District:</b>	

**Theatre Arts**

**First student name:**

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**Second student name:**

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**Visual Arts**

**First student name:**

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**Second student name:**

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**Principal/Head of School's signature**

**Date**

The Governor's School for Excellence is subject to funding approval from the Governor's Office. If the program is not funded, the program will be canceled, and all applicants notified by email.

**Choral and Instrumental Music Nominees Form**

**Instructions to principal/designee**

Send to Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, [Jetzain@UDel.Edu](mailto:Jetzain@UDel.Edu), by **January 30, 2023**.

This Nominee Form

1. Resumes
2. Supporting documents
3. Have nominees complete the registration form, [GOV23 ARTS Registration](#).

<b>Principal/Designee Name:</b>	
<b>Principal/Designee E-mail:</b>	
<b>School Phone No.:</b>	
<b>School Name &amp; District:</b>	

**No more than eight (8) students may be nominated in any combination of the listed music categories. Student Application forms must accompany this form.**

<b>Student Name</b>	<b>Choral</b>	<b>Brass</b>	<b>Piano/ Percussion</b>	<b>Woodwind</b>	<b>Strings</b>
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					

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# CHORAL MUSIC

## Choral Program Overview

Students selected for the choral music program will have opportunities to rehearse and perform several kinds of music and literature. They will work with professional vocal artists and instructors to improve their technique and knowledge, both as solo performers and participants in a chamber vocal ensemble.

Since many music students have already auditioned and been ranked for the All-State Chorus, teachers and principals are encouraged to refer to, but not be restricted by this list when nominating students for the choral music program.

Final student selection will be made by the Governor's School selection committee and will be based on performance criteria.

## Applying instructions

1. Students must submit to the principal/designee a resume letter listing any vocal training, experience as a performer (solo, group or chorus), and any music honors or awards received **by end of December.**
2. Principal/designee to complete selection by the **end of January.**
3. Principal/designee to provide the registration link, [GOV23 ARTS Registration](#), to nominees **by January 30, 2023.**
4. Principal/designee to provide Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, Jetzain@UDel.Edu, the resume and Nominee Form by **January 30, 2023.**

## Auditions instructions for the students

Auditions will take place on UD campus. Students will be contacted directly to arrange their audition date and time.

### At the Audition:

1. Nominees will be asked to sing a solo vocal selection of their choice. Preference is for selections from the classical vocal art song repertoire. However, a popular song or Broadway musical selection, while less desirable, is acceptable.
2. Nominees will sight sing and perform exercises at the discretion of the judges.

# INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

## BRASS

Only students who play brass instruments with proficiency should be nominated in this category. Since many music students have already auditioned and been ranked for the All-State Band, teachers and principals are encouraged to consult, but not be restricted to this list when nominating students for Instrumental Music—Brass.

## PIANO/PERCUSSION

Only students who play percussion instruments with proficiency and advanced pianists should be nominated in this category. Since many percussion students will have auditioned and been selected for the All-State Band, teachers and principals are encouraged to consult, but not be restricted to this list when nominating students for percussion. Since there is no All-State category for pianists, it may be more difficult to identify students with pianistic talent. Choral accompanists often are a good source for talent in this area.

## STRINGS

Only students who play string instruments with proficiency should be nominated in this category. Since many strings students will have auditioned and been selected for the All-State Orchestra, teachers and principals are encouraged to consult, but not be restricted to this list when nominating students for strings.

## WOODWINDS

Only students who play woodwind instruments with proficiency should be nominated in this category. Since many music students have already auditioned and been ranked for the All-State Band, teachers and principals are encouraged to consult, but not be restricted to this list when nominating students for Instrumental Music—Woodwinds.

### Applying instructions

1. Students must submit to the principal/designee a resume letter listing music instruction (individual and group) received, related experience as a performer, and any music honors or awards received **by end of December**.
2. Principal/designee to complete selection by **end of January**.
3. Principal/designee to provide the registration link, [GOV23 ARTS Registration](#), to nominees **by January 30, 2023**.
4. Principal/designee to provide Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, Jetzain@UDel.Edu, the resume and Nominee Form by **January 30, 2023**.

### Auditions instructions for the students

Auditions will take place on UD campus. Students will be contacted directly to arrange their audition date and time

#### At the Instrumental Music Audition:

1. The nominee will select one piece from his or her repertoire to perform.
2. The judges will select a second piece from the nominee's repertoire for him or her to perform.
3. Nominees may also be asked to sight read from music provided by the judges and/or to play scales to four sharps and four flats.



# THEATRE

The subject area teacher should recommend nominees for the Theatre program to the principal. If there is no teacher of dramatic arts or theatre in the school, then the teacher who is responsible for drama productions (e.g., an English teacher or a counselor) may recommend students.

## Applying instructions

1. Students must submit to the principal/designee a resume letter listing theatre courses completed, acting experience (either formal or informal), training and/or experience in directing, theatrical lighting, stage makeup, costume design, or stagecraft, and any honors or awards received in drama or stagecraft **by end of December.**
2. Principal/designee to complete selection by **end of January.**
3. Principal/designee to provide the registration link, [GOV23 ARTS Registration](#), to nominees **by January 30, 2023**
4. Principal/designee to provide Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, Jetzain@UDel.Edu, the resume and Nominee Form by **January 30, 2023.**

## Auditions instructions for the students

Auditions will take place at UD campus. Students will be contacted directly to arrange their audition date.

### At the Theatre Audition:

1. Nominees should be prepared to perform a prepared scene or speech (a minimum of one minute and a maximum of three minutes) from a play of the nominee's choice.
2. In addition to their prepared pieces, nominees may be asked to improvise, do some movement or vocal exercises, or speak with the faculty.
3. Please bring a photo of yourself to the audition. The photo should be from the waist up. A school photo is fine.

# VISUAL ART

Students who have demonstrated talent and strong commitment to art should apply for consideration in the area of drawing/painting. (*The program does not include three-dimensional art.*) The emphasis in drawing will be to provide the student with the basic elements of visual thinking through drawing media and techniques as used in contour line drawing. Line, line systems, and form will be emphasized along with the concept of light, three-dimensional space, and texture. The media used in painting will be watercolors and acrylics.

## Applying instructions

1. Students must submit to the principal/designee by **end of December**.
  - I. Resume letter listing art courses completed both in and out of regular school, amount of experience (i.e. how many hours per week spent in practicing art), any honors or awards received for artistic achievement, and any plans for future art study.
2. Principal/designee to complete selection by **end of December**.
3. Principal/designee to provide the registration link, [GOV23 Arts Registration](#), to nominees on **January 30, 2023**.
4. Principal/designee to provide Jetzain Lucero-Palacios, Jetzain@UDel.Edu, the resume, and Nominee Form by **January 30, 2023**.
5. Students are to submit five (5) digital images to Jetzain@UDel.Edu. **Due on April 19, 2023.**
  - o This will give visual art students more time to work on their drawings and/or paintings.
6. The Selection Committee will review the submitted works and make final selections by late April.

