

Visual Arts in Celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, 1517- 2017

Guidelines for Visual Arts: Advanced Open (for those not currently being schooled, but who are practiced and proficient in visual arts)

Goal

These guidelines are not meant to be restrictive or to stifle creativity, but to be prompts to stimulate students' creativity to design artworks rich with heart and meaning that touch their audience in ways that strengthen their faith. We desire that the artists' and audiences' hearts will praise God for his grace, love, might, and wisdom. We wish that artists might also find that their hearts have been challenged in terms of their own call to be faithful to the Lord.

Composition Guidelines: Advanced Open

Any 3-Dimensional or 2-Dimensional media (e.g., any drawing or painting media, printmaking, photography, textiles, sculpture, not including video). Please title all artwork.

Submissions accepted from artists who are beyond post-secondary studies or who are self-taught artists.

All submissions should include an artist's statement—200 word maximum.

You may want to focus on one medium, looking at the processes used by the artists during the time of the Reformation (e.g., oil painting, etching).

Or you may want to, for example, draw inspiration from art from the time of the Reformation such as the woodcuts, etchings, paintings, and other works by:

- Albrecht Dürer
- Lucas Cranach the Elder
- Lucas Cranach the Younger
- Hans Holbein the Younger
- Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Some ideas and topics for conceptual and thematic artworks (or generate your own):

- Have there been any reformations in the church in your lifetime, or your grandparents' lifetime?
- How would you illustrate the five "solas"?
- What is the role of art for Christians and the Church, then and now?
- What is the role of the church in politics, then and now?
- God protects and gathers his people wherever they are. How does your experience in Canada compare to the experiences of Christians during the Reformation?
- Illustrate how the Reformation has impacted the world on a global scale.
- Examine the difference between a ritualistic/church-mediated relationship with God and a personal relationship with God.
- Look into the backstories of some of the Reformers, e.g., what did they produce/write, what were some of their personal struggles and how did God use these personal struggles to refine them? Illustrate some personal aspects of their lives and how that connected to their part in the Reformation. (e.g., Luther, Farel, Zwingli, Cranmer, Calvin, Beza, Bullinger, Guido de Brès, etc.).
- Look at how God used broken individuals to do great things for him both in the Reformation and during Biblical times.
- What does it look like to stand up for the Word of God like Luther did at the Diet of Worms? What does it look like to represent Christ in your workplace/sports team/neighbourhood?
- Luther had to do hand calligraphy on a piece of paper to produce the theses he nailed to the door. Compare how you could spread gospel truths in the present using the technology that is available to you.
- Illustrate how education changed because of the Reformation. That is, how education, becoming more widely available, equipped believers to read the Word of God for themselves.
- How would you feel to be able to read the Bible for yourself for the first time? Imagine what Protestant worshippers began to experience as they left the superstitions of Roman Catholicism and discovered the freshness of the gospel message and the release from guilt and worry.

Submission Guidelines for Post-Secondary and Advanced Open Categories

We envision two rounds of interest in your artwork. First, we hope that you will submit your artwork for local Reformation celebrations around October 31. The deadline for this use of your art will be established locally and would probably be sometime before the end of **October 2017**. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will not be directly involved in this round but we encourage you to contact your local Canadian Reformed School to find out how your original artwork can be included in any Reformation Day exhibitions, assemblies, conferences, or performances. Principals will have been advised of this visual arts invitation.

A second submission deadline has been established for you to submit photos of your art to the Celebrate 1517 Committee. This date is **December 2, 2017**.

For the purpose of this adjudication, artists are asked to submit high quality photographs: For example, 8.5x11 size pictures taken with a SLR quality camera would need to be a minimum of 2040x2640 pixels but *preferably* 2550x3300 pixels. This means that the resolution of the file would be a minimum of 240 dots per inch (DPI) but *ideally* 300 DPI. Since the visual arts adjudication subcommittee cannot gather into one place all the original art from widely-dispersed entrants, judging will only take place based on photographs. Thus, you should send photographs that show detail and you probably should include more than one photograph.

Please send your files as uncompressed email attachments to Celebrate1517@gmail.com. *Please do not mail original artwork or photographs as these cannot be returned by mail.*

In addition, please note: All artwork must be original, no copies or reproductions. Please title all artwork. Please include a filled-out **submission form**, for which you will find multiple links on our Celebrate 1517 webpages. The Celebrate 1517 Committee will code the submissions to ensure complete anonymity when your art is passed on to the visual arts adjudication subcommittee. We hope your art will edify you, your community, our adjudication committee, and then be chosen for publication.

Permissions

By including your signature on our submission form, you are giving your permission for your submitted work—assuming it is selected—to be included in a commemorative book to be published, Lord willing, in 2018.