



ARTIST TOOLKIT

INSTRUCTIONS FOR K-12 STUDENTS
Updated February 2026



FEEDING CREATIVITY ART COMPETITION

Artwork accepted: February 9, 2026 – March 13, 2026

CTFB's Feeding Creativity Youth Art Competition invites K-12 students to explore a future full of possibilities through art. This year's theme, "The Future is Fresh," invites students to imagine a future where everyone has access to nutritious food — and where big ideas grow because basic needs are met. More than just produce, "fresh" means energy, potential, and the power to dream big. Submissions are due March 13, and the winning artwork will be featured on a Food Bank truck! Register today to receive updates and reminders.





DATES TO REMEMBER

- February 9** Competition Opens
- March 13** Deadline for submitting artwork
- March 23-27** People's Choice Award Online Voting
- March 23-April 3** ... Judging Week
- May 12** Gallery Night & Truck Reveal!





GRAND PRIZE WINNER

- Artwork is displayed wrapped on a truck that travels throughout Central Texas.
- Artwork will be prominently displayed at Central Texas Food Bank until December 31, 2026.
- Announcement on social media platforms including Facebook and Instagram.

MORE CHANCES TO WIN

- Gold Brush Award (All levels)
- CTFB Spotlight Award (One winner)
- K-4 Awards:
 - Colorful Voice Award
 - Imagination in Action Award
 - Emerging Artist Recognition
- 5-8 Awards:
 - Narrative Power Award
 - Creative Concept Award
 - Rising Artist Recognition
- 9-12 Awards:
 - Conceptual Depth Award
 - Technical Excellence Award
 - Young Visionary Recognition



K-4TH GRADE AWARDS (EARLY ELEMENTARY)

These focus on imagination, effort, and joyful storytelling:

- Gold Brush Award – Top overall honor in the grade bracket
- Colorful Voice Award – Celebrates bold, expressive use of color and creativity
- Imagination in Action Award – Recognizes strong visual storytelling or fantasy elements
- Emerging Artist Recognition – Honorable mention; effort, joy, and promise



5TH-8TH GRADE AWARDS (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

Here, students are beginning to develop style, voice, and depth:

- Gold Brush Award – Overall standout piece in concept, execution, and theme
- Narrative Power Award – For strong storytelling and emotional resonance
- Creative Concept Award – Honors originality and innovative interpretation of the theme
- Rising Artist Recognition – Honorable mention for expressive, promising entries



9TH-12TH GRADE AWARDS (HIGH SCHOOL)

This level allows for deeper technique and commentary — awards reflect vision, skill, and message:

- Gold Brush Award – Best-in-show level honor for top artistic and thematic execution
- Conceptual Depth Award – Highlights powerful symbolism, message, or perspective
- Technical Excellence Award – Recognizes skillful use of media and composition
- Young Visionary Recognition – Honorable mention for unique voice or standout growth



CROSS-BRACKET (ALL GRADES) – SPECIAL AWARDS

If you want to elevate a few standout pieces across all age groups:

- Best in Show – The single most outstanding submission across all entries
- People's Choice Award – Voted on by gallery visitors or online participants
- CTFB Spotlight Award – For artwork that best represents CTFB's mission of hope, nourishment, and community





The winning artist of the 3rd Annual Feeding Creativity art competition will have their artwork printed on a Central Texas Food Bank truck. Winning art from 2025 is shown above.



RULES + REGULATIONS

- Two-dimensional, horizontal design.
- No larger than a 1:3 rectangle.

Accepted mediums:

- Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
- Drawings: colored pencil, pencil, ink, marker, pastels, charcoal (It is recommended that charcoal and pastel drawings be sealed with a fixative.)
- Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, watercolor, etc.
- Graphic Design: must be two-dimensional



Each entry must be original in concept, design, execution, and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Any entry that has been copied from an existing photo or image (including a painting, graphic or advertisement) that was created by someone other than the student is a violation of the competition rules and will not be accepted. For more information on copyright laws, we recommend you visit the Scholastic website: <https://www.artandwriting.org/awards/how-to-enter/copyright-plagiarism>



OUR COLOR PALETTE

Hex, CMYK, RGB + Pantone Values

We strongly encourage students to incorporate Central Texas Food Bank colors in their artwork.



Central Texas Food Bank Brand Colors

Primary Colors

NOURISHING GREEN

HEX #00953B
R 0 | G 149 | B 59
C 86 | M 16 | Y 100 | K 3
PANTONE 355C



HARVEST ORANGE

HEX #FF8A34
R 255 | G 138 | B 52
C 0 | M 56 | Y 88 | K 0
PANTONE 165C



FRESH SPROUT*

HEX #A4D300
R 164 | G 211 | B 0
C 42 | M 0 | Y 100 | K 0
PANTONE 2291C



Central Texas Food Bank Brand Colors

Secondary Colors

MARIGOLD

HEX #FFB71A
R 255 | G 183 | B 26
C 0 | M 31 | Y 98 | K 0
PANTONE 1235C



WATER BLUE

HEX #6AABE4
R 106 | G 171 | B 228
C 45 | M 10 | Y 0 | K 0
PANTONE 284C



VIOLET CROWN

HEX #510D77
R 81 | G 13 | B 119
C 75 | M 100 | Y 10 | K 0
PANTONE 2607C



SYMBOLS + IMAGERY

At the Central Texas Food Bank, our mission is to ensure equitable access to fresh, nutritious food for all. In our visual representations, we frequently incorporate symbols that resonate with vitality and abundance, such as vibrant carrots, crisp apples, luscious berries, leafy lettuce and an array of other fruits and vegetables. Additionally, we embrace symbols of harvest such as golden wheat stalks and a radiant sun. Artists may consider including these elements in their submission.



CENTRAL
TEXAS
FOOD
BANK

SUBMIT YOUR ARTWORK

STEP 1 of 2: Take 2 photos of your work – (1) a close-up shot, and (2) a wide shot that shows your piece hanging up or leaning against a wall. Please send us the highest resolutions so we can see all of the details. Do not include any people in your photographs. You don't need a fancy camera - a cell phone will do just fine.

The link to register for the Feeding Creativity art competition includes an Artist Information and Release Form. The form requires a detailed description of the artwork, clearly identifying the major elements of the work. For example, “self-portrait” or “a picture of two people” would not work since many artworks could fit those descriptions. The following is an example of a useful description: “A painting of two people; the person on the left wears a green sweater and khaki pants; the person on the right wears a black shirt and a striped skirt. A dog sits at their feet.”

The Artist Information and Release Form contains a legal release and a certification that the artwork is original in design and execution. The artist, an art teacher/instructor and a parent or guardian must sign where appropriate. Entries without signed originality certifications and artwork releases may not be accepted.



STEP 2 of 2: Drop your artwork off at the reception desk at Central Texas Food Bank Monday through Friday between 8:00 am – 5:00 pm and no later than 5 pm on Friday, March 13.

NOTE: If you would like your artwork returned, you must schedule a time to pick it up after the Gallery Night on May 19, 2026. We are not able to mail you back the artwork.

Each work must have a typed label with the following information securely applied to the back:

- Artist Name
- Artwork Title
- Medium
- School/Organization Name
- Art Teacher/Instructor Name
- Grade

Do not attach labels, ribbons, etc., to the front of the piece. Please indicate which side is up by marking arrows pointing towards the top on the back.



CONTACT US

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