

# 1st Annual APS Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest

*Teaching history, acceptance, and tolerance through art.*

Dear Teacher/Principal/Parents,

To celebrate Black History Month, we are having the 1st Annual Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest and would like to invite all APS students to participate. The contest is open to all Albuquerque Public School students, K-12. Winners will be judged in three categories: Elementary, Middle and High School. Winners will be awarded money and prizes at a special ceremony on March 19, 2026. The theme for Black History Month 2026 is “**A Century of Black History Commemorations**”. This theme marks the 100th anniversary of the first celebration of black history with the first Negro History Week being celebrated in February 1926. Attached you will find our poster and permission slip.

## Rules:

1. When creating their art, students may create any piece of original art, it could be a portrait or poster of a person or event that commemorates Black History. They may use any materials they want, i.e., pencils, crayons, coal, markers, paint, clay etc. They may use any artistic medium that is original.
2. Art must be students’ own original work (no tracing, no programs may be used, no computer assisted or enhanced art and no A.I. generated art is allowed).
3. Students should write their name and grade, their teacher’s name and their school’s name on the back or at the bottom of their art. Students should turn their artwork and the permission slip into their Homeroom, Art, or Social Studies teacher, or send/drop-off their art directly at the contest drop off location which is, Albuquerque Public Schools Fine Arts, located at 912 Oak Street SE, Building M, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87106, on or before, Friday, **February 27, 2026**. Drop off art between the hours of 8am – 4pm, Monday through Friday.
4. Only one submission per student. Duplicate submissions will be disqualified.

**Transfer of Rights:** Note, upon submission, all entries become the property of the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest and will not be returned. The winner’s photograph, artwork, and school name will be shared with the media and posted on our website [www.blackhistoryartcontest.com](http://www.blackhistoryartcontest.com). Each applicant and his/her parent or guardian must agree to give all rights of the submitted artwork, including copyright, to the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest. This transfer of rights will allow the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest, at a minimum, to reproduce, distribute, and display the student’s art artwork. The winner’s submission will be duplicated in various mediums and used to promote Black History Month throughout the world. This foregoing means that when you submit your artwork to participate in this contest, your artwork will become the property of the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest and will not be returned.

**Public Disclosure:** All activities, including this contest, are open to the public. Therefore, all aspects of students’ involvement in this contest, including students’ artwork, will be subject to public disclosure. We are proud to have Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts as this year’s sponsor.

With Gratitude, Donna Vaughn,  
Coordinator APS Visual and Performing Arts  
2026 Black History Art Contest



# 1st Annual APS Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest

*Teaching history, acceptance, and tolerance through art.*

**\*\*1st Annual APS Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest Permission Slip\*\***  
Complete the following questions and return this page with your art:

Your first and last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Teacher's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Teacher's email: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Teachers phone number \_\_\_\_\_

School's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly tell us about the person(s)/event/art you submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian phone  
number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your home address: \_\_\_\_\_

As parent/legal guardian, I acknowledge that my child created the submitted artwork and has followed all contest guidelines and regulations. I give permission for my child to enter his/her artwork in the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest. I agree to allow the submitted art to be distributed publicly. I also understand that if it is discovered my child's artwork is not original, the artwork will be subject to disqualification.

I understand that all rights to the submitted artwork, including copyright, will be owned by the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest. This transfer of rights will allow Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest at a minimum, to reproduce, distribute, and display the artwork as appropriate. I give Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest permission to use my child's name, photograph, voice, video image, biographical information, and his/her artwork for promotional purposes in print, radio, television, and Internet promotion, without compensation or prior notice.

I agree to release and hold harmless Albuquerque Public Schools, the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest and their volunteers, employees, officers, affiliates, agents, advertising and promotional agencies, sponsors and donors from any and all damages, injuries, claims, causes of actions, or losses of any kind resulting from my child's participation in this contest, including infringement of intellectual property rights. Albuquerque Public Schools and the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest and their volunteers, employees, officers, affiliates, agents, advertising and promotional agencies, sponsors and donors assume no responsibility or liability for any damages, injuries, claims, causes of actions, or losses of any kind arising in whole or in part from the Albuquerque Public Schools Visual and Performing Arts Black History Art Contest.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parents/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date