# Student Art in the Library - Judging Instructions and Criteria

## Instructions
Evaluate each piece using the four judging criteria indicated below and award points from 10 points (high) to 0 points (low). The criteria guidelines are below. Total the score and compare the results with the rating key to determine if that score agrees with your opinion of the piece. You may alter the points accordingly to match your overall evaluation of the work.

## Point Rating Scale
| Superior (37 - 40) | Excellent (33 - 36) | Good (29-32) |

## Criteria

### 1. Design and Composition
Observe the totality of the piece. Does it look complete? Consider if the following elements and principles are evident in the work. Note: Not all of the principles or elements will apply to every medium.

**Principles**
- **Unity**: Do the parts work as a whole? Consider the marks, shapes, colors, values, and textures.
- **Balance**: Is there an equal distribution of visual weight? Has symmetrical or asymmetrical balance been created in the shapes, colors, textures, and values?
- **Rhythm/Movement**: Has the student created fluidity of form in three-dimensional works? Has the student used shapes or directional lines to connect pieces within two-dimensional works? Does your eye travel around the entire picture plane?
- **Emphasis**: Is there a defined focal point or center of interest? **Contrast**: Has the student included a variety of values, shapes, colors, lines, and textures?

**Elements**
- **Line**: Is there variety of line? Have lines been used to create texture, perspective, or movement?
- **Shape**: Is there variety of shape? Have geometric shapes, free-form shapes, positive shapes, or negative shapes been successfully created and used in the work?
- **Space**: Has the illusion of foreground, middle ground, and background space been successfully created through the use of overlapping shapes, altering sizes, varying color intensity, altering objects placement on the page, including perspective lines or changing the clarity of details?
- **Form**: Has the illusion of depth been successfully created in two-dimensional works through the use of geometric forms and value? Have appropriate figures been used to represent the ideas within three-dimensional works?
- **Color**: Is there variety of color? Have colors been used to create space or emotion? Have any color wheel relationships been included to support the idea within the work?
- **Value**: Is there a defined light source? Have highlights, shadows, and cast shadows been included in the picture? Is a 10-point value scale present?
- **Texture**: Are there visual or tactile surface characteristics in the work? Does it have variety of texture and interesting patterns?

### 2. Technique/Skill of Construction
Has the artist demonstrated a high level of skill/ability in the use of the selected techniques chosen to construct the piece? For example, does a piece of sculpture display an effective use by the artist of tools, coordination, methods, and working materials? Does the artist use the right brush or the right paper in the piece, and has the artist used all his or her materials and skill to make an effective piece for what he or she is trying to convey?

### 3. Presentation
Is the finished piece presented in a neat and pleasing manner? Is the artwork framed, matted, or attached to an appropriate base? Is the artwork free of smudges and extraneous marks? Are the chosen materials of sufficient quality and appropriate to the nature of the work? What is the initial impression and visual impact of the piece? Does it convey what the artist intended and encourage a response from the viewer (a response implying that it is funny, endearing, provocative, well-done, etc.)?

### 4. Creativity and Originality
Is the work executed in a manner that is unique to the idea expressed? Is there evidence of creative thought?