



You're Invited...

52nd Annual Neptune Festival Youth Art Show Sunday, September 27, 2026

Welcome to the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival Youth Art Show! This one-day outdoor art show provides exhibition opportunities for students in Virginia Beach and across the region at no cost. Pre-registration IS NOT required, as in-person registration is completed the day of the art show for Grades 6-12. The show is judged by local art professionals and awards totaling over \$1,000 are bestowed upon students in three grade levels: Grades 6-8, Grades 9-10 and Grades 11-12. The Neptune Festival Youth Art Show will also feature selected works from Grades 4 and 5. This will serve to widen exposure, participation, and engagement in the community arts at an earlier age, though no awards shall be given for this age group.

Art Teachers will select a total of 2 pieces of student work from Grade 4 and a total of 2 pieces from Grade 5. Teachers will deliver to the Elementary Division Contacts (Sarah Trainum - sarah.trainum@vbschools.com - at Landstown Elementary for Public Schools; and Alexa Odanga, at Star of the Sea - alexa.odanga@sosschool.org for Private Schools).

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:00am-11:00am - Registration & Set-Up (6th through 12th grades only) at 32nd Street/Boardwalk

Register and hang your artwork (Orange Tags: Grades 6-8, Yellow Tags: Grades 9-10, Green Tags: Magnet Grades 9-10, Blue Tags: Grades 11-12, White Tags: Magnet Grades 11-12).

Participants receive a FREE Neptune Festival Tote Bag while supplies last (limited quantity).

11:00am-4:00pm - Youth Art Show (32nd – 33rd Streets/Boardwalk)

3:30pm - Awards Ceremony (33rd Street/Boardwalk)

4:00pm - Take Down (32nd to 33rd Streets/Boardwalk)

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

PARKING

- Paid parking is available at the VB Public Parking Garages on 31st and 34th Street or limited free parking is available a few blocks inland. Be sure to read applicable parking signs.

DISPLAYING AND HANGING YOUR ARTWORK

- Participants will be allowed to enter up to a maximum of 4 works of art.
- Size of artwork must not exceed 36x36 inches.
- No glass may be hung from the fence, due to weather conditions and pedestrian safety. All 2D art should be framed without glass but may include acetate or plexiglass to protect work from the weather.
- All participants grade 6-12 will hang their own artwork (grades 4-5 will be selected & displayed by art teachers and Neptune Festival Volunteers only).
- Hang your artwork in the color-coded area associated with your colored nametag(s).
- Binder clips, wire, and paper clips are provided (while supplies last).
- Wire is recommended for the back of canvas board paintings. Use screws or staple guns to attach in advance.
- Work should be properly displayed and matted/mounted, preferably on matboard versus cardstock or construction paper to protect from wind at the beach.
- Color coded name tags are provided at registration and should be placed in the lower right corner of artwork once you register your work.

- You must provide your own display for 3-D artwork (such as pedestals, tables, stands, etc.).
- Art Show coordinators and art teachers from schools are not responsible for the care of students. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to care for their child during the art show. Consider staying the day.
- The Neptune Festival, including Youth Art Show coordinators and associated volunteers and personnel are not responsible for your artwork at any time during the art show and are not liable for any damage. Participants should be present for the awards ceremony at 3:30pm and take-down following the awards.
- Families are encouraged to vote for the Student Choice Award at the Youth Art Show, and to tour the professional Neptune Festival Art Show as well.
- Dress in layers as it may be cool in the morning and warm as the day proceeds. You may wish to bring a chair, food, beach towel, drinks, and sunscreen. Enjoy the Neptune Festival!
- If the show is canceled, it will be posted on Facebook: @VBCPSVisualArts and X (Twitter): @VBCPSVisualArts as well as Neptune Festival FB Page: @NeptuneFestival. There is no rain date for the Art Show.
- If it starts to rain after the show begins, come prepared to cover your artwork. After the rain stops, please uncover your artwork. Be mindful of the artwork you select in relation to weather conditions.

AWARDS

Winners to be selected by professional artists. Awards will be presented on the day of the art show at 3:30pm at 33rd Street and the Boardwalk. Participants should be present for the awards ceremony.

Grades 4-12

1 People's Choice - Yellow Ribbon

Grades 6-8

5 - Honorable Mentions (Yellow Ribbon)

1 - 3rd Place (White Ribbon, \$20 + Gift Cards)

1 - 2nd Place (Red Ribbon, \$35 + Gift Cards)

1 - 1st Place (Blue Ribbon, \$50 + Gift Cards)

Grades 9-10

5 - Honorable Mentions (Yellow Ribbon); 5 - Honorable Mentions, Magnet (Yellow Ribbon)

1 - 3rd Place (White Ribbon, \$20 + Gift Cards); 1 - 3rd Place, Magnet (White Ribbon, \$20 + Gift Cards)

1 - 2nd Place (Red Ribbon, \$35 + Gift Cards); 1 - 2nd Place, Magnet (Red Ribbon, \$35 + Gift Cards)

1 - 1st Place (Blue Ribbon, \$50 + Gift Cards); 1 - 1st Place, Magnet (Blue Ribbon, \$50 + Gift Cards)

Grades 11-12

5 - Honorable Mentions (Yellow Ribbon); 5 - Honorable Mentions, Magnet (Yellow Ribbon)

1 - 3rd Place (White Ribbon, \$25 + Gift Cards); 1 - 3rd Place, Magnet (White Ribbon, \$25 + Gift Cards)

1 - 2nd Place (Red Ribbon, \$50 + Gift Cards); 1 - 2nd Place, Magnet (Red Ribbon, \$50 + Gift Cards)

1 - 1st Place (Blue Ribbon, \$100 + Gift Cards); 1 - 1st Place, Magnet (Blue Ribbon, \$100 + Gift Cards)

Grades 6-12

1 - Best in Show (Neptune Plaque, RWB Ribbon, \$250 + Gift Cards)

The above awards total over \$1,100 in cash and prizes! We look forward to seeing you at the Youth Art Show. Please contact the Youth Art Show Committee Co-Chairs at (757) 550-0498 for additional information.

This year's planning committee consists of volunteers from the Neptune Festival, Bayside HS, Catholic HS, Landstown ES, and Star of the Sea School.

Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.

- Pablo Picasso -