



10th Annual Creative Arts Contest

BLACK EXCELLENCE

a Celebration of Culture

FAIRFAX COUNTY ALUMNAE CHAPTER - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated

Open to all Fairfax County Middle and High School Students (currently enrolled in grades 7 – 12)
Contest is open until APRIL 13, 2025.

TOPIC: *Black Excellence: A Celebration of Culture*

The Arts & Letters Committee is looking for young creatives to bring their unique perspective to the theme, "Black Excellence: A Celebration of Culture." We look forward to a collection of inspired pieces to share with the community. All works must not violate any U.S. copyright laws.

Categories:

- **Poetry/Spoken Word** (No more than 20 lines)
- **Creative Writing** (Between 750 – 1000 words)
- **Visual Arts** (Two-dimensional, all mediums, techniques, and styles across disciplines)
- **NEW! Technical Arts** (A physical scale model – 1/4" or 1/2" scale which is equal to 1'0")

Prizes: Submissions will be reviewed for awards of \$150 for first place winners, \$125 for second place winners, and \$100 for third place winners. Each winner will receive a cash prize and certificate of achievement. Winners will be announced and notified via e-mail.*

Selection Process: All works will be judged based on originality, creativity, and artistic quality as well as spelling and grammar. Works not meeting the requirements may be disqualified. The panel of judges consists of members of Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. All decisions made by the judges are final.

Copyrights: The author retains all copyrights to the submitted work. Winning works along with the author's name may appear on the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. website with the copyright notice intact and may be published in forthcoming newsletters as deemed appropriate by the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. By entering the contest, you consent to the publication of your work, if it is selected as a winning entry.

— SUBMISSION GUIDELINES —

**Please read these guidelines carefully. All designs regardless of discipline should be based upon the stated topic. Entries that do not meet these requirements will be disqualified.*

1. Two (2) creative submissions per person are allowed. No collaborations for any medium.
2. All entries must be previously unpublished online, in an exhibition, or in print, and represent the author's original ideas, thoughts, and work.
3. Works must be intended for an audience composed of young adults, as opposed to works for children. Subject matter that is positive, uplifting, and inspirational is encouraged. Works that include strong sexual references, extreme violence, racism, and/or other content that is not appropriate for a mainstream audience are automatically disqualified.
4. Use a standard font such as Times New Roman or Arial in 11 pt. black font color only for written pieces.
5. If submitting audio, video recordings, or visual pieces, submissions must be sent via e-mail as an attachment or link under 10MB. Please include the written, poetry or spoken word piece.
6. Model and physical scale for technical art should further the mood and tone of the show and topic. Submission must include a video of the physical scale model and a 1-page typed statement summarizing proof of a unified design concept and highlight elements that support the theme.
7. Working links to large artwork files are acceptable (i.e. Dropbox or Google Docs). Each file submitted should be in an electronic format (pdf or jpeg preferred). Label image files in the following manner: first and last name, image name, and medium used (i.e. *JaneBrown_SoundofSilence_OilPainting*).
8. All entries must include a cover page that has the title of your work, the category, your full name, grade, school, phone number, and e-mail address. Each page (after the cover) must include the title of your work and a page number in the footer.
9. Submit all entries via e-mail to: artsandletters@fcacdst.org. The subject line should read: 2024 Creative Arts Contest.
10. Manuscripts/all submissions must be received via e-mail by **no later than 11:59 PM April 13, 2025.**



Privacy Policy: All contact information submitted is kept in confidence, used solely for notification purposes, and shall not be made public by the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will not lease, sell, or share personal information collected. Minors under 18 must have parental permission to enter the contest.

**Submission of an entry does not serve as a guarantee of future membership, and winning does not serve as an endorsement from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. or the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter.*

Deadline: Manuscripts, applications, creative submissions, and permission to release forms must be received via e-mail at artsandletters@fcacdst.org by **no later than 11:59 PM APRIL 13, 2025.**

Fill out, sign and e-mail the form below to: artsandletters@fcacdst.org

****OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM****



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Student Name: _____

Grade: _____ School: _____

Teacher: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____



Permission to publish if chosen. The author retains all copyrights to the submitted work.

Mailed entries must be postmarked by April 13, 2025 and sent to:

Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter – Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

P.O. Box 222224 | Chantilly, VA 20153-1224

Inquiries and e-mail entries can be sent to: artsandletters@fcacdst.org