

Hints and tips for producing artwork

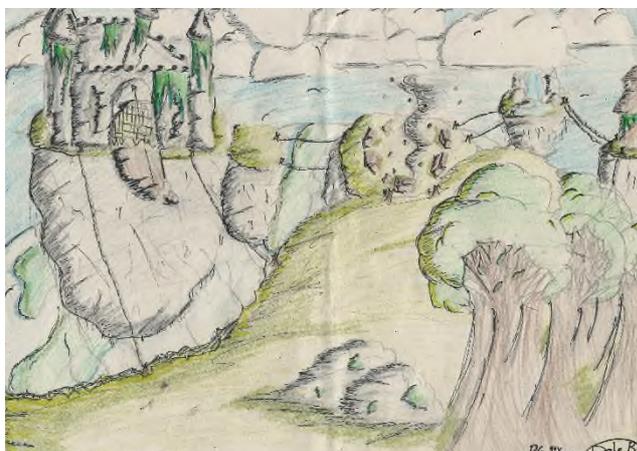
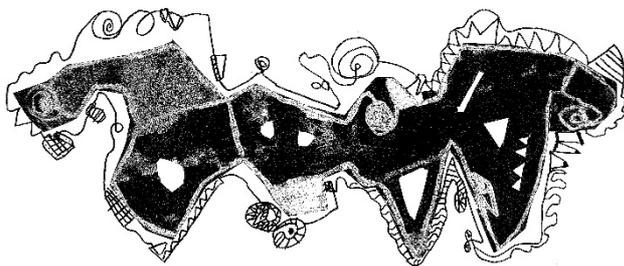
The MUSA Young Artist Award attracts around 1000 entries each year showing a wide variety of styles, approaches, techniques and abilities. How can you make your artwork stand out from the crowd and wow the judges?

Here are our top tips for attracting the judges' attention:

1. Make sure that there's a clear link to the collections of the University of St Andrews.

- Take a look at the images on the Teachers' Resources page of the website and consider how these can influence your pupils' work.
- Consider the objects that pupils looked at during workshops and the connections to the theme that were discussed.
- Pupils don't need to represent the whole of an object. They can take part of it, or even an idea that it represents, and use this as inspiration for their work.

In 2016 Evie Young won first prize in Category B by taking the writing from a Tibetan prayer stone and turning into a piece of graffiti.



In 2017 Dale Restar won second prize in Category D by taking the castle from St Salvator's College Mace and using it to inspire his entry.





In 2013 Sine Dunlop won third prize in Category A by taking the angels from another mace and drawing them into her picture about treasure.



- Pupils can simply recreate the object from the collections.



Emily Webster, 3rd, Category A, 2015



Darren Dilworth, 2nd, Category F, 2013



Aleighsha Chalmers, 1st, Category E, 2017

- Pupils can create their own piece replicating the style or technique of an object or artwork from the collection.



Tara McGhie, 2nd, Category C, 2016

Emily Webster, 2nd, Category E, 2016



Amyleigh Martindale, 3rd, Category E, 2016

2. Allow pupils to be original and creative.

Ensure that pupils are able to add their own personal touch to their work. There's nothing wrong with setting a theme, technique, approach or style, but pupils should be given the chance to be different and add their own flourishes.

3. Be bold and look to create an impact.

- A winning artwork won't always be the most refined or be the work that shows the most natural artistic talent. Often it will be one that has shown boldness, where the pupil has tried something new or has taken a risk.
- Don't be afraid to create 3D entries. They often stand out from the crowd more easily and can appeal to the talents of less "arty" pupils.

- Have a go at trialling different materials and techniques. Previous winners have included a hand created from wire, a heart made of textiles and an astrolabe that used a paper plate.



Arianna Giles, 1st, Category F
2016



Paris Fabian, 1st, Category E
2016



Harry Simpson, 1st, Category A
2013

4. Don't forget to link the entry to the theme.

Good luck!

We look forward to seeing your entries to this year's competition.



Winners at the 2017 MUSA Young Artist Award prize giving ceremony.