2026-2027
YAM BOOK



A Guide to TAEA Youth Art Month Activities

Cover Art by: Mingjia Sun - Fort Bend ISD
2026 Flag Design Contest Winner

TAEA
TEXAS ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

YOUTH ART MONTH®

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All Pages are hyperlinked for easy access to information!

MONTH AT A GLANCE
YAM Activities/Due Dates

August

- **District Representatives,** Register here for txEDCON (TASA/TASB) August 17, 2026 - September 22, 2026

September

- **District Representatives,** Upload high resolution images of artwork and digitally completed permission form to the txEDCON (TASA/TASB) dashboard (No artwork will be mailed)
- TASA/TASB Convention October 8-11, 2026 - George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, TX (Registered attendees only)

November

- **District Representatives,** Register here for the YAM Spring Exhibition November 2, 2026 - December 4, 2026.
- **District Representatives and Teachers** attend the YAM FAQ Meeting at the TAEA Conference at Moody Gardens in Galveston on November 13 at 1 P.M.
- **District Representatives and Teachers** attend the YAM Breakfast at the TAEA Conference at Moody Gardens in Galveston, TX on November 14, 2026 at 7 A.M.
- **Teachers,** plan a lesson for the YAM Flag Design Contest Theme: **My Community, My Story**

December

- **Teachers,** please visit the YAM Flag Dashboard to upload ONE Flag Design Image & signed Artwork Permission Form by Friday, December 11, 2026.
- **District Representatives,** select your district's YAM Spring Exhibition artwork. Be sure to include 2D and 3D artwork.(see guidelines here)
- **District Representatives,** Register your YAM Spring Exhibition entries and upload high resolution images of artwork and digitally completed forms to the YAM Spring Exhibition dashboard by December 4, 2026.



District Representatives should be the only ones mailing in artwork. If more than one piece is selected to represent your district, they will all be mailed by the District Representative in one box.

- 2D media will need to be shipped in one box.
- 3D media will need to be shipped separately.

Please do not mail any physical artwork until you are contacted in January with a list of artwork to mail.

MONTH AT A GLANCE
YAM Activities/Due Dates

January

- **Teachers,** Request Proclamations from the school principal, superintendent, mayor and local elected officials.
- **District Representatives,** mail selected artwork to **Brittany Sciacca, 1 Leopard Lane, Lorena, TX 76655** no later than **January 15, 2027.** Please reference the 2D and 3D artwork shipping guidelines.

February

- Finalize district plans for YAM art shows, exhibits and other art advocacy celebrations.

March

- Celebrate Youth Art Month! Click Here for more information!
- Participate in Big Art Day.
- Attend the YAM Spring Exhibition **(invitation only)** at the Bullock Texas State History Museum - **March 21, 2027** (artwork on display February 28 - March 21, 2027)
- YAM Scrapbook submission window opens on or before **March 12, 2027**. Click here for more information!

April

- **Teachers,** save artwork for the 2027 txEDCON (TASA/TASB) Art Exhibit taking place Sept. 16-19, 2027 - Henry B. González Convention Center, San Antonio, TX. (Registered attendees only)
- Continue working on your YAM Scrapbook due **June 12, 2027**. Click here for more information!

May

- Continue working on your YAM Scrapbook Report due **June 12, 2026** Click here for more information!

June

- Submit your YAM scrapbook report to the dashboard on the TAEA website.
  Click here for information on how to submit your report!
- Selected teachers and district representatives attend the Governor's Gallery Reception **Date:** TBD

About Youth Art Month

WHAT?

TAEA sponsors a number of programs celebrating art during the month of March:

- Exhibition of artwork advocacy at the txEDCON (TASA/TASB) Convention, with student art demos
- Texas Flag Design Contest
- Exhibition of artwork during the month of March at The Bullock Texas State History Museum and more!

WHEN?

MARCH IS YOUTH ART MONTH!

WHY?

Youth Art Month (YAM) is an annual observance held each March to emphasize the value of art education for all children and to encourage support for quality school art programs.

HOW?

- District Representatives Register artwork for the txEDCON (TASA/TASB) Exhibition and YAM Spring Exhibition
- Teachers submit Texas YAM Flag Designs
- Submit a digital Scrapbook of YAM Celebrations throughout the year!

CLICK HERE

to read more about Youth Art Month!

txEDCON (TASA/TASB) & YAM Spring Exhibition Rules & Guidelines

Please note that District of Distinction has different requirements. Click for more information.

ENTRY FEE:
$12 PER PIECE

Due to the growth in our Youth Art Month Programs, BOTH txEDCON and YAM Spring Exhibition will be juried.

Entries allowed based on district size:

Over 25,000 students: 8 entries: $96.00
10,000 to 25,000 students: 6 entries: $72.00
Less than 10,000 students: 3 entries: $36.00

Entry Guidelines:

- Current TAEA Member Teachers may submit **ONE** piece of artwork
  (registration, high quality artwork images and digitally completed permission form uploaded by District Representative only)
- Students in grades PK-12 may participate
- 2D & 3D artwork accepted

txEDCON ONLY (digitally uploaded high quality artwork images only physical artwork will NOT be mailed)

CLICK HERE
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE RULES AND GUIDELINES

txEDCON (TASA/TASB) Registration & Artwork Submission

ONLINE REGISTRATION:
AUGUST 17 - SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

Online Registration Guidelines:

District Representatives
(usually a Fine Arts Director)

- Register student entries on the txEDCON (TASA/TASB) dashboard.
- Upload high quality artwork images and digitally completed permission forms
- Complete **ALL** registration requirements by the deadline prevent disqualification.

(any incomplete registrations, missing artwork images and/or permission forms, or inappropriate subject matter will result in a disqualification and will still be required to be paid).

CLICK HERE
TO ACCESS THE ARTWORK DIGITAL SUBMISSION VIDEO

CLICK HERE
HOW TO DIGITALLY COMPLETE PERMISSION FORM VIDEO

CLICK HERE
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE RULES AND GUIDELINES

Youth Art Month Flag Design

2026-2027 Theme:

My Community, My Story

Annually, during the month of March, student designed flags from every state are displayed at the National Art Education Association Conference and honored during the NAEA Flag Ceremony. TAEA Member Teachers are encouraged to submit ONE design that will be juried to select the winning entry which will be made into a flag to become the face of Texas Youth Art Month. The TAEA YAM Flag will be displayed along with past winners at the YAM Spring Exhibition!

Entry Guidelines:

Only **ONE entry** per TAEA member is allowed. If you teach at multiple campuses, you can submit one entry per campus.

The design must incorporate the theme **"My Community, My Story"** and be representative of the State of Texas.

Students should include Texas imagery in the design and include the words "Youth Art Month" or "YAM" if possible.

Artwork can be created on an 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper with unlimited colors!

Students in Pre-K-12th Grade are eligible to participate!

Sample Flag Lesson Plan

Upload ONE high quality Flag Design Image and signed, digitally completed Artwork Permission Form to the YAM Flag Dashboard by **Friday, December 11, 2026.**

The winning entry will be announced January 2027 after all entries are juried!

CLICK HERE

to see previous YAM Flag Winners

YAM Spring Exhibition Registration and Artwork Submission

ONLINE REGISTRATION:
NOVEMBER 2, 2026 – DECEMBER 4, 2026

Online Registration Guidelines:

District Representatives
(usually a Fine Arts Director)

- Register student entries on the YAM Spring Exhibition dashboard
- Upload high quality artwork images and digitally completed permission forms for each entry
- Complete **ALL** registration requirements by the deadline prevent disqualification.

(any incomplete registrations, missing artwork images and/or forms, or inappropriate subject matter will result in a disqualification and will still be required to be paid).

After artwork has been juried,
only the District Representative
will be notified to mail the selected physical artworks to:

Brittany Sciacca, TAEA YAM VP
1 Leopard Lane
Lorena, TX 76655

CLICK HERE
TO ACCESS THE ARTWORK DIGITAL SUBMISSION VIDEO

CLICK HERE
HOW TO DIGITALLY COMPLETE PERMISSION FORM VIDEO

CLICK HERE
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE RULES AND GUIDELINES

Spring Exhibition Artwork Preparation

CLICK HERE

TO DOWNLOAD THE PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS



2D media selected must:

- **NOT** exceed 18" x 24" (including 2"-3" mat)
- have a white or black mat (2"-3"max)
- be light enough to hang with Velcro dots
- fit in a poster board box
- include a LOOSE cover sheet.

Please do **NOT** tape any coversheets to the artwork.





3D media selected must:

- fit into a 6"x12"x12" box
- weigh no more than 12 lbs.

If there are loose elements to the 3D media such as sand, pebbles, etc. ease package those items in a Ziploc bag and include in your box.

CLICK HERE

TO ACCESS THE ARTWORK PREPARATION AND SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

Governor's Gallery



Every year, the First Lady of Texas, Mrs. Cecilia Abbott, visits the Spring Exhibition and selects artwork to be featured in the Governor's Gallery! This is a great honor because the selected artists will have their work on display for an entire year!

Artist who receive this honor will also be recognized at a private ceremony in the summer at the Governor's Mansion, where they can see all of the selected pieces of art as well as tour the rooms with docents to share historical information. It is truly a great experience!







CLICK HERE

TO VIEW THE GOVERNOR'S GALLERY!

Requesting Proclamations for Youth Art Month

STEP 1
Write a letter to your local officials and Include the proclamation form linked below!

STEP 2
Submit a Youth Art Month appearance request for your event!
The Mayor's or Governor's secretary will probably contact you regarding this matter.

STEP 3
Call your local official's office to follow up one week after the letter and appearance requests are sent.

STEP 4
Pick up the approved proclamation with the mayor's/governor's signature and duplicate for distribution!

School Boards will usually add the request to their meeting agenda, and public officials are usually eager to participate in Youth Art Month if you just ask them!

CLICK HERE

TO ACCESS AND DOWNLOAD THE PROCLAMATION FORM

Big Art Day
Thursday, March 4, 2027

Big Art Day is a statewide art event to raise awareness of art education and the positive effect art has on our communities!

It is an attempt by the Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) to engage all art educators, their students and communities in a single day art event!

This event is for members and by members!
Read more about Big Art Day here!



CLICK HERE

TO REGISTER YOUR BIG ART DAY EVENT!

CLICK HERE

FOR BIG ART DAY CELEBRATION IDEAS!

Youth Art Month Celebration Ideas

1. Have a Family Art Night!
2. Celebrate Big Art Day!
3. Paint faces at lunch!
4. Organize a "March for Art" school parade where students dress up as their favorite artist or work of art!
5. Invite local artists to conduct demos for your students!
6. Have district art shows!
7. Partner with schools within your district to create collaborative artwork!
8. Request a proclamation!

Document and save all YAM activities and events photo and information to later submit for the YAM Scrapbook Report!

When you are sharing your Youth Art Month Celebrations via social media, please tag TAEA at:

X- @Txarted or @TexasYAM
FB - @TexasArtEducationAssociation
IG - @txarted

CLICK HERE

FOR MORE YOUTH ART MONTH CELEBRATION IDEAS!

YAM Scrapbook Report

CLICK HERE

TO VIEW THE YAM REPORT & DIGITAL SCRAPBOOK GUIDELINES

SUBMISSION WINDOW OPENS: ON OR BEFORE MARCH 12, 2027

SUBMISSIONS DUE: JUNE 12, 2027

01 Who can submit a YAM scrapbook report?

A summary report of your Youth Art Month activities should be submitted to the VP YAM by one of the following:

Local YAM chairpersons

Area Art Education Association YAM chairpersons

Art Educators in school districts that do not have a designated YAM chairperson

Individual schools that promote YAM activities

02 What should my report include?

The ELECTRONICALLY submitted local report should include:

The enclosed written summary report.

Listing of monetary and in kind donations.

Innovative ideas to bring awareness to the community about YAM.

Copies of your scrapbook, documentation of photographs, news clippings, posters, printed programs, proclamations, and or endorsements.

Evidence of increased support for art education in the local area.

03 Important Reminders!

All local reports will be organized into a state report (or scrapbook) for the National YAM organization. Please use the online form when submitting your report ELECTRONICALLY.

Award(s) of Excellence will be presented to at least one local YAM chairperson at the TAEA Conference! Selection will be based on the extensiveness of YAM activities as well as thoroughness of the report.

Artwork Permission Form

STOP

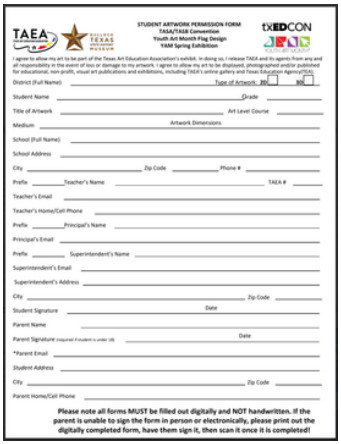
Please note: Our system auto populates student letters, certificates, artwork labels, etc. based on what is entered into the system. We want our student artist's information to be accurate, so **ALL forms MUST be filled out digitally (TYPED) and NOT handwritten!** Incorrect information will be printed as entered.

CLICK HERE

TO DOWNLOAD THE PERMISSION FORM IN ENGLISH

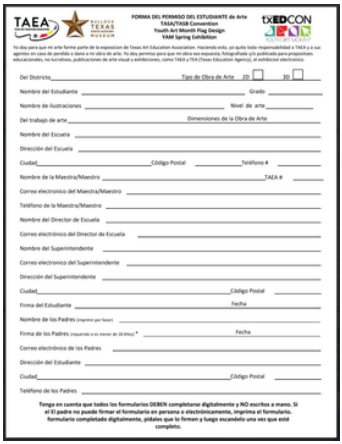
CLICK HERE

TO DOWNLOAD THE PERMISSION FORM IN SPANISH



STUDENT ARTWORK PERMISSION FORM
TAEA/TASB Convention
Youth Art Month Flag Design
YAM Spring Exhibition

Please note all forms MUST be filled out digitally and NOT handwritten. If the parent is unable to sign the form in person or electronically, please print out the digitally completed form, have them sign it, then scan it once it is completed!



FORMA DEL PERMISO DEL ESTUDIANTE de Arte
TAEA/TASB Convention
Youth Art Month Flag Design
YAM Spring Exhibition

Tenga en cuenta que todos los formularios DEBEN completarse digitalmente y NO escritos a mano. Si el El padre no puede firmar el formulario en persona o electrónicamente, imprima el formulario. formulario completado digitalmente, pídales que lo firmen y luego escanéelo una vez que esté completo.

CLICK HERE

TO VIEW A HOW-TO VIDEO ON FILLING OUT FORMS DIGITIALLY

Youth Art Month Contact Information

Youth Art Month VP

Brittany Sciacca

Email Address:

yam-vp@taea.org

District Representatives:

Please do not mail any physical artwork until you are contacted in January with a list of artwork to mail.

Shipping Address:

Brittany Sciacca, YAM VP
1 Leopard Lane
Lorena, TX 76655

Youth Art Month VP-elect

Latonya Johnson

Email Address:

yam-elect@taea.org

Youth Art Month Facilitator

Gretchen Bell Young

Email Address:

yam@taea.org