VASE Rules & Policies Changes

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022
VASE Mission:

High School (9-12) — Middle School (6-8) — Elementary (PK-5)

The mission of the TAEA Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) is to recognize exemplary student achievement in the Visual Arts by providing art students and programs a standard of excellence in which to achieve.
TEAM, Junior VASE, High School VASE, and State VASE: Equal Partners Under TAEA

VASE Structure:

State Director: TEAM
Tracey Hall

State Director: Junior VASE
Suzy Greene

State Director: High School VASE
Chris Cooper

State Director: State VASE Event
Sarah Pagona
VASE BLUE Ribbon Board:

Each year, the State Directors of VASE, under the TAEA Executive Director and President, select and convene the Blue Ribbon Board to address concerns from VASE participants, and guide and changes needed to VASE Rules & Policies. This Board represents VASE events from all levels, and all ESC Regions in Texas.

The 2022 Blue Ribbon Board met in July, and wrote & approved the following policy changes/clarifications. This Board continually strives to make VASE a positive learning experience to help guide Visual Arts students in developing their creative potential, while exercising each artist’s expressive spirit.

In order to make the VASE Rules & Policies shorter and easier to read, Blue Ribbon Board and State VASE information are separate documents. Each is referred to in the VASE Rules & Policies, and under the “Rules & Policies” drop menu on the VASE portion of the TAEA website.
There are no major Rules or Policies changes for 2022 with the exception of a section added concerning Juror Ethics.

All other slides in this presentation relate to modifications of existing VASE Rules & Policies.
VASE Rules & Policies 2022 modifications:

Section I.2– Entry Regulations (page 2)
A. 1. Originality (a.)

i. Using/copying published images is not allowed. This also applies to song lyrics and other published literary works; no non-original/published creative words should be used as either subject or background. Students are encouraged to incorporate their own words in their artwork if they choose.

Examples of non-original/published creative words include: song lyrics, poetry, plays, novels.

Spirit of the modification:

The modifications here help to spell out what type of literary works should not be copied into VASE entries, even as a collage material or ground for other media. We should not allow creative writing by another artist to be used; encourage students to use their own creative words.
Section I.2– Entry Regulations (page 2)
A. 1. Originality (a.)

ii. Published material such as newspaper & magazine pages may be used ONLY as a textural ground or as collage material. Regarding ground/collage material containing non-original images; such imagery may NOT be used in its entirety. ALL non-original images contained within ground/collage material MUST be re-purposed and/or manipulated well beyond their original form/composition. Examples of non-original/copyrighted images include: comics, licensed characters, artist-rendered illustrations, anatomical illustrations.

Spirit of the modification:

The main emphasis of this modification is that when using newspaper or magazine pages as collage material or ground for other media, students must take care to NOT use imagery that is not original, specifically copyrighted and trademarked images belonging to other artists. Comic strips are not allowed, since they are copyrighted property of another artist, and quite often trademarked as well.
Section I.2– Entry Regulations (page 2)

A. 1. Originality (c.)

(c) All artwork must have the Reference PDF attached to the back of the artwork (or in the case of 3D artwork, must be included with the attached Online Student Intent and Artwork Identification Form). Each page of the Reference PDF can contain up to FOUR images.

Spirit of the modification:

This section and others relating to attached references have been edited to refer to the Reference PDF that was implemented as a means of collecting artwork references into one uploadable document during 2021’s online VASE events. VASE is keeping the uploaded Reference PDF as a way to collect reference images, notes, and other information that students would like to communicate, but cannot, on the Online Intent Form.

Other sections of VASE Rules & Policies relating to reference images are highlighted as well to incorporate the new Reference PDF that must be attached to all artwork, and uploaded into VASE entries. Edits also include the addition of “Online” to “Intent Form”.

VASE Rules & Policies 2022 modifications:
Section I.2– Entry Regulations (page 3)

(3) Inappropriate/Offensive Works of Art:

ii. Artworks that include any image or language that is recognized as negative toward any race, ethnicity, culture, or gender.

Spirit of the addition to this rule:

Added to the list of prohibited topics under “Inappropriate and/or Offensive Works of Art” is an item that addresses Hate Speech and Imagery (including icons and symbols). TAEA and VASE do NOT encourage images that demonstrate any kind of bigotry or hatred directed toward those who are different from ourselves as artists, and choose not to let VASE artwork be a platform for any type of Hate Speech or Imagery.
(t) DVD or external portable storage device for animation/motion graphics must be put in a bubble padded, 9 x 12 envelope with a copy of the Online Intent Form (top ID portion only) and a still image printed and attached to the front of the envelope. In addition, the media file must be uploaded onto an online platform (ex: YouTube channel), and that URL copied & pasted into the Online Intent Form.

**Spirit of the modification:**

This modification states the addition of the requirement for animation/motion graphics to have video files uploaded onto a safe, online platform such as YouTube, and the URL copied/pasted into a space on the Online Intent Form. This will be repeated for rules covering other media that includes the option of adding a video file to show movement.
Section II: Policy, Procedures and Code of Ethics (page 6)

(2) Online Student Intent and Artwork Identification Form:

(c) Students should complete an Online Intent Form for each artwork entered before the posted Data Upload & Certification Deadline, answering the questions asked in complete sentences and in their own words. Jurors will use this written information to develop questions and evaluations during the interview. Students must use only the space provided online; no additional sheets can be attached. Each response MUST contain at least 40 words (exception: “What Media did you use?” question must contain at least 10 words). Students must NOT repeat phrases or sentences to reach this minimum.

Spirit of the modification:

The section addressing the Online Intent Form includes references to the Data Upload & Certification Deadline (2 days before the event) where all FOUR parts of the entry must be uploaded, and the teacher must certify the entry, in order for the entry to be adjudicated. This item includes the word minimum for most parts (40). This measure is intended to prompt teachers to help students learn to elaborate in their writing, and explain their creative thought processes more eloquently.
Section II: Policy, Procedures and Code of Ethics (page 6)

(2) Online Student Intent and Artwork Identification Form:

(d) Each 2-D artwork entered must have an official Online Intent Form (printed from Dashboard) and the Reference PDF securely attached to the center back of the artwork.

(e) Each 3-D artwork must have an official Online Intent Form (printed from Dashboard) and the Reference PDF glued or stapled to a stiff board and tied to the artwork with string or wire.

Spirit of the modification:

These two items spell out the forms needed to identify artwork and help with Qualifications and Adjudication. Both the Online Intent Form and the Reference PDF will need to be printed and attached to all artwork, just like the old Intent Form, printed & filled out by hand, and the collected artwork references, were attached before. These printouts should be more readable for Qualifiers and Jurors, and the Reference PDF should more concisely attach to artwork, with all elements contained in a one or two page printout.
Section II: Policy, Procedures and Code of Ethics (page 7)

(4) Student Agreement and Artwork Release Form: Each teacher must upload a signed Student Agreement and Artwork Release Form. A student who is not 18 by the time of the event must have a parent signature. Release form uploads are due by the Data Upload & Certification Deadline.

Spirit of the modification:

This item states the way that Student Agreement and Artwork Release Forms will be collected now that all FOUR parts of the entry will be uploaded. Teachers will be printing forms, sending them home for signatures, then upon their return, scanning or photographing them and uploading that image into the student’s entry, using the Teacher Dashboard. The Data Upload & Certification Deadline is on Thursday, two days before the Regional Event.
(3) Jurors (adjudicators): A VASE Juror (adjudicator) is a visual arts advocate who has a history of working within visual arts as a working artist, art educator, museum/gallery professional or art related vendor that possesses training, experience and/or a degree that enables them to apply ethically and impartially VASE standards to the adjudication process.

(a) In order to serve as a VASE Juror for TEAM, Junior VASE or VASE, certification training must be completed successfully and maintained according to the program’s guidelines.

(b) Beginning during VASE 2022, a State VASE juror MUST be an active and currently paid member of TAEA.

(c) Jury Foremen at all levels MUST be certified jurors.
(d) **Jury Foremen** must be TAEA members and certified art educators. They may only serve as a foreman at one event in a region.

(e) **Juror Ethics:** Jurors (adjudicators) will observe the policy and ethic codes of TAEA and VASE and uphold the VASE Juror Code of Ethics & Professional Standards. Jurors should maintain confidentiality both during the adjudication process and after the VASE Event.

(f) **SEL Note:** During the interview process, jurors may not comment (written or verbal), address or insinuate judgement about a student’s wellness or mental health to the student. If a juror has safety concerns regarding a student’s wellness or mental health, they must not address the concern to the student, but will communicate directly with the juror foreman/regional director who will communicate with that student’s VASE sponsor.
Section II: Policy, Procedures and Code of Ethics (pages 7-8)

(g) **Violation of VASE Rules & Policies and/or event procedures** can result in warning, sanction, and immediate dismissal from an Event, and/or removal from the VASE Juror Pool.

(h) **Removal of Juror:**

(i) Violation of TAEA/VASE Policy/Ethics or VASE Juror Code of Ethics & Professional Standards

(ii) Unprofessional behavior towards a VASE participant or sponsor in terms of commentary on wellness, appearance, and mental health. During the adjudication process, the juror may not sexually or emotionally harass an interviewee and shall maintain professional and ethical behavior at all times.

(iii) Chronic Event Attendance Issues

(iv) Refusal to respond to directions from the juror foreman/regional director including but not limited to pacing, commentary, scoring and other assigned responsibilities.

*The complete VASE Juror Code of Ethics & Professional Standards is available on the VASE Juror home page. See this new page by clicking on the new Juror Icon on VASE Home.*