

January 31, 2026

Middle School and High School

Dear Art Teacher,



Greetings! The Friends of Wabeno is kicking off year four of **“Friends of Wabeno Student Art Contest” and it’s open to all students in Forest County and nearby towns and communities in grades 6-12.** The purpose of this contest is to encourage student-artists and promote creativity and the arts in our Northwoods’ communities.

The Friends of Wabeno is conducting this contest and judges will award 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place and Honorable Mention Award certificates and ribbons. Students submitting artwork will receive a Participation Certificate to show their artwork was exhibited in this community art contest.

All submitted artwork will be showcased at WAM Fest, Saturday, July 18, 2026. All student artists, their families, and art teachers are invited to a special reception during the afternoon at WAM Fest at the American Legion Post 44 in Wabeno where the art will be on display. We are working with the Lakewood Library to make an arrangement for some of the art to be on display at the library following WAM Fest during the month of August for added visibility for the students.

Middle and high school students from each school system may submit one entry in each of four categories:

- **Painting/Drawing** – watercolor, oil, pastels, chalk, pencil, pen, ink, acrylic, crayon, charcoal.
- **Digital Art** - Fractal art, 2-D/3-D graphics, digital collage, 2-D/3-D digital painting and digital photo manipulation. No videos or gif for this competition. Artwork must be printed for this category.
- **Photography** – minimum 5”x7” print (see rules)
- **3D** - clay, paper mâché, wire, the possibilities are endless (NEW THIS YEAR)

The art must be entirely the student’s own work, done with or without teacher supervision. Artwork will be procured from the teacher in May and returned to the teacher at school after Labor Day. Arrangements for pick up and return will be worked out between the teacher and our volunteers.

Attached are the Contest Rules & Guidelines, Entry Form, and School Inventory Form. For your convenience, **all necessary forms** shall be found at the WAM Fest website, [www.WabenoArtAndMusicFest.org](http://www.WabenoArtAndMusicFest.org).

The Friends of Wabeno is a non-profit community development initiative. Expanding the arts in the community, it is believed, will enhance quality of life, attract visitors, and positively impact its people and the local economy.

We look forward to your participation in this art contest. If you have any questions regarding any aspect of this competition, please contact the contest team members below. **We would appreciate hearing back from you by March 15, if students in your class will participate.** Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Friends of Wabeno - Forest County Student Art Contest team

**Sue Bessert**

**Colleen Ansbaugh**

**Mary Beck**, Friends of Wabeno President

715-889-2342 [bbessert@centurytel.net](mailto:bbessert@centurytel.net)