

1ST ART! INVITATIONAL STUDENT ART COMPETITION, 2010

Sponsored by BMO Financial Group

1ST ART! FAST FACTS

(Please see #1- 7 below for details)

PROFILE

A national invitational student art competition awarding 13 regional prizes of \$2,500 and 1 national prize of \$5,000. Educational institutions may invite three eligible students from each visual art specialty to participate.

WHO

Post-secondary, undergraduate level visual arts students expected to graduate in 2010 are eligible.

WHAT

Drawings, prints, photography, painting, mixed media, and three-dimensional works in metal, glass, ceramic, wood. Dimensions should not exceed 100" (ca. 254 cm).

HOW

Complete the 1st Art! Submission Form, and include the artist statement, description of submission, and a CD with photographs of the submission in the specified format.

WHERE

Send your submission materials to: Dawn Cain, Curator, BMO Corporate Art Collection, 302 Bay Street, 6th Floor, Toronto, ON, M5X 1A1

WHEN

Submission deadline is **May 15, 2010**.

COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. WHAT IS THE 1ST ART! INVITATIONAL STUDENT ART COMPETITION?

The 1st Art! Invitational Student Art Competition celebrates exceptional achievements by studio arts students in each province and territory in the country.

Canadian institutions offering post secondary, undergraduate level diploma, certificate, or degree programs with a studio arts focus are asked to select three students in their last phase or year of their programs to complete a Submission Form and provide digital images of a recent work of art (see other details below, question # 3). Institutions offering more than one studio arts program may select three students from each program: for example, if an institution offers both a BFA degree in studio art as well as a diploma in Graphic Arts or Visual Studies, it may select six students to apply, three from each program. Similarly, if institutions offer specialty programs in different media, Photography, Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, for example, three students from each program may be selected to make submissions to BMO 1st Art!

One successful student from every province and territory - 13 in all - will be awarded \$2,500 for his or her submission. A national winner will also be selected from the entrants, receiving an award of \$5,000 for his or her submission. The national winner's submission will become part of BMO Financial Group's Corporate Art Collection. Monies must be accepted as awarded and may not be transferred or assigned.

In addition to their awards monies, each winner is given an all expenses paid trip to Toronto to attend the opening reception of the 1st Art! Exhibition (see below, question # 5). BMO will ship all of the winning works to Toronto for the 1st Art! Exhibition. The 13 regional winners' submissions will be returned after the exhibition, unless other arrangements are made between BMO and the artists.

2. WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Students who have been selected by the Deans, Instructors or Administrators of their institutions, and who are expected to graduate from their studio-based programs in 2010 are eligible to enter the 1st Art! Invitational Student Art Competition. Students may be enrolled in a college, art school, cégep, or university. The competition is open to part-time as well as full-time students at the post secondary, undergraduate level: MA or PhD students are not eligible.

Promotional agencies and employees of BMO Financial Group, their families and persons with whom they are domiciled are not eligible for this competition.

3. WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE?

Those students invited by their Deans, Instructors, or Administrators to enter the competition must send their completed 1st Art! Submission Form with the required materials to the Curator of BMO Financial Group's Corporate Art Collection, by **May 15, 2010** (see address below, question # 6).

THE SUBMISSION MATERIALS ARE:

1. Digital images of the work of art being submitted in a PC compatible jpg file, with a resolution of 300 DPI and an image size no smaller than 10 inches (25.4 cm) horizontal measurement. Using these specifications, please include an (1) image of the submitted work in its entirety, as well as (2) one detail image, and, if possible, (3) an image of the work installed on a wall, etc.
2. A complete description of the piece being submitted, including title, media, size
3. Artist statement of 150 - 200 words addressing your work in general and the submission in particular.
4. Letter of enrollment signed by a representative of your educational institution attesting to the expected year of completion/graduation for your art program. Your expected year of completion/graduation must be 2010 to be eligible for this year's competition.

Submission Forms are sent to your school in early January, 2010. Application materials can also be downloaded from the BMO internet site at: <http://www2.bmo.com/bmo/files/images/7/1/BMOfirstArt.html>

4. WHAT ARE THE GUIDELINES FOR ARTWORK SUBMISSIONS?

The artwork submitted by applicants must be a recent piece, produced within the past year. The following restrictions apply with regard to scale and media: acceptable (unframed) dimensions should not exceed 100" (ca. 254 cm); media may be works on paper, canvas, textile, or board, including drawings, photography, prints (e.g., engravings, lithographs, mixed media, etc.), and painting (e.g., pastels, oils, acrylic, watercolours, mixed media, etc.), as well as three-dimensional works in metal, glass, ceramic or wood. In regions where the only art programs offered specialize in other media, exceptions will be made to accommodate alternative materials (e.g., the Traditional Arts Certificate Program at Aurora College in the Northwest Territories, where student projects typically use fur, animal hides, beadwork, stone, etc.).

5. HOW AND WHEN ARE THE SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSIONS FOR THE 1ST ART! INVITATIONAL STUDENT ART COMPETITION DETERMINED? WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THAT?

The adjudication process will take place in July 2010. The six Selection Committee members include BMO Financial Group's Curator, a BMO Financial Group executive, and artists, curators, educators, art dealers, and gallery directors from eastern, western, and central Canada. The Selection Committee reviews the digital images submitted by the applicants, assesses the artwork in terms of artistic and technical merit, and selects one submission as the winner for each province and territory, in addition to selecting a national winner - 14 awards in all.

The 14 winners are contacted shortly after the judging takes place. A full-page announcement naming the winners of BMO 1st Art! 2010 and illustrating their submissions will appear in the Fall 2010 issue of Canadian Art magazine. An Exhibition of the winning submissions will be held at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, 952 Queen Street West, Toronto, in October, 2010 (dates to be determined). In addition to their award monies, BMO will provide each winning artist with an all expenses paid trip to Toronto to attend the opening reception for the 1st Art! Exhibition in October 2010.

All decisions regarding this competition and the selection of successful submissions remain with BMO Financial Group and are final and without appeal. All submissions and competition materials become property of BMO Financial Group and none will be returned.

6. WHERE DO I SEND MY 1ST ART! SUBMISSION MATERIALS?

Submission Forms with requested materials, including digital images of the work of art being submitted to the competition, can be sent any time before or by the deadline of **May 15, 2010** to:

Dawn Cain, Curator
BMO Financial Group
Corporate Art Collection
302 Bay Street, 6th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5X 1A1

E-MAIL: dawn.cain@bmo.com

VOICE: 416.867.5290; **FAX:** 416.366.0418

Forms may be submitted by fax, regular mail or email. Digital images should be sent on CDs by post/courier. Most entrants prefer to send their submission materials by courier in one envelope. Some educational institutions will also arrange to send submission materials for all their students in one package. Please contact Dawn Cain with any questions you may have about the submission process.

Submissions that are incomplete, illegible, damaged, or do not conform to or satisfy any condition of the Rules and Guidelines may be disqualified by BMO Financial Group or the Selection Committee. BMO Financial Group takes no responsibility for lost, misdirected, late or destroyed submissions, or for typographical or other production or distribution errors.

7. HOW WILL I KNOW IF I'VE WON?

BMO Financial Group will contact the successful applicants as soon as possible after the results are determined in July 2010, using the telephone number(s) and other data provided on their Submission Forms. Please note that the Submission Forms require all applicants to certify that their submission constitutes their own work, and that applicants acknowledge and confirm compliance with the 1st Art! Invitational Student Art Competition Rules and Guidelines, releasing BMO Financial Group and/or its advertising agencies without further compensation.