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***STUDENTS GET CHANCE TO SEND ART TO WASHINGTON***

PIERRE, S.D. – The competition that puts the artwork of South Dakota students in the nation’s Capital is coming up, and U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem, in cooperation with the South Dakota Arts Council, is now accepting entries.

Each spring, a nationwide high school arts competition is sponsored by the members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Congressional Art Competition is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the artistic talent in the nation, as well as in each congressional district.

The contest is open to all South Dakota high school students. The first-place winning entry will be displayed in the Cannon Tunnel of the United States Capitol for one year. The winning artist will be invited to a reception highlighting their artwork in conjunction with the exhibit ribbon-cutting ceremony. The second-place winning entry will be displayed in Rep. Noem’s Washington, D.C., office.

The Arts Council will only accept digital submissions on behalf of Rep. Noem. Students should send high-resolution JPEG images along with PDFs of the student release forms to [rebecca.cruse@state.sd.us](mailto:rebecca.cruse@state.sd.us). Submissions must be received by Monday, May 1. Winners will be notified by May 5 and will be responsible for shipping their artwork and student release forms to the SDAC offices. The South Dakota Arts Council will have the artwork framed and will ship it to Washington, D.C., for the student.

Please review the artwork specifications and guidelines before submitting at <http://www.arts council.sd.gov/CAC/index.aspx>.

The South Dakota Arts Council, an office of the South Dakota Department of Tourism, is a state agency serving South Dakotans and their communities through the arts with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of South Dakota.

The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of the Office of Tourism and the South Dakota Arts Council. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen.