

## COMPETITION FAQs for Students

- 1. Do I need to have a sponsoring teacher to enter the Competition?**  
Entrants must list a teacher that has been relevant to their submission, but a teacher does NOT need to approve or serve as an official sponsor. A teacher must be listed on your submission to ensure you are enrolled in an accredited middle or high school.
- 2. I live or attend a school outside the U.S. Can I participate?**  
Yes. We accept international entries.
- 3. Do you accept submissions from students in alternative classroom settings, like a home school or non-campus institution?**  
Yes, with confirmation from an approved instructor.
- 4. Do I need to be in a class teaching the ARTEFFECT Unsung Hero Lesson Plan to enter?**  
No. Any student in grades 6-12 can enter the Competition.
- 5. Can I enter the Competition if I've won an ARTEFFECT award in a previous year?**  
Yes.
- 6. Can I enter the Competition if I have won *two* ARTEFFECT awards in previous years?**  
No.
- 7. Can I enter the Competition if I've won an ARTEFFECT award and a certificate in a previous year?**  
Yes.
- 8. Can I enter the Competition if I've won more than one certificate in a previous year?**  
Yes.

**9. Can I enter a group project?**

No. We do not consider group entries.

**10. Can I use source images from the internet?**

You may use historical source images from the internet, although we discourage entrants to copy source material directly. Existing and known historical portraits and images of the Unsung Hero can be used for inspiration and general reference within an artwork, but judging will consider your originality and creative interpretation of the story.

**11. What is the judging criteria?**

Our judging is based on three key elements: creative interpretation, aesthetic quality, and your impact statement. For more information, visit our [Rules](#) page and view the [Scoring Rubric](#).

**12. Can I create an artwork based on an Unsung Hero that I find by myself?**

We strongly recommend you choose an Unsung Hero from our [approved list](#). If there is an Unsung Hero that you feel very committed to choosing for your artwork who is not listed, *you must send an email to [info@LowellMilkencenter.org](mailto:info@LowellMilkencenter.org) with the name and detailed biographical information about the hero and receive a confirmation email in return that the unsung hero is approved.* Please save this email correspondence for your records. If this is not done, your entry will be disqualified. If you'd like to discover a new unsung hero, check out our [Discovery Award competition](#)!

**13. Can I enter ARTEFFECT with work that has been previously published, exhibited, or recognized by another program?**

If your work has been previously published, exhibited, or recognized by another program, confirm that they do not hold exclusive rights to your work before entering ARTEFFECT. In the case that your work receives an award, it must be free to use in our publications or exhibitions.