



Kentucky Governor's Mansion Centennial Celebration Visual Art and Essay Contest Information

Sponsored by First Lady Jane Beshear, the Kentucky Governor's Mansion Centennial Committee and the Kentucky Department of Education

General Information

January 20, 2014 marks the 100th anniversary of Kentucky's current Governor's Mansion. According to the Governor's Mansion [Web page](#), the building is the official residence of the sitting Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. It is a proud symbol of Kentucky's history and has been home to the state's governors since 1914.

The Governor's Mansion is both a private home and a public building. It serves as the center of the first family's ceremonial, social and political activities. As each governor moves in, it takes only a few moments to realize that he or she has become a part of history simply because of living in this place. In 1972, the mansion was listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#).

As part of the 100th anniversary celebration of the Kentucky Governor's Mansion, students are invited to submit either artwork or an essay, based on the themes for each described below. Entries are limited to one per student. Questions can be directed to:
maryann.miller@education.ky.gov or rebecca.blessing@education.ky.gov.

VISUAL ART CONTEST

Visual Art Contest Eligibility:

Students in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, grades K through 12, are invited to create an original artwork portraying the history of the Mansion. All students in public, private and home schools in the Commonwealth are eligible to enter.

Award levels are as follows: grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12.

- All students entering works will receive a certificate of participation.
- First, second and third place students at each award level will receive a certificate of merit signed by Governor Steve Beshear and First Lady Jane Beshear.
- Students placing first at each award level will receive \$100 and an invitation to join First Lady Jane Beshear at the Governor's Mansion for an awards luncheon and ceremony in early April 2014. Students may be accompanied by their teacher and parent(s) or guardian.
- The first place students' artwork will become the sole property of the mansion as part of the permanent art collection of the Governor's Mansion and will be displayed at the ceremony and to the public for one month following the awards ceremony.

Visual Art Contest Themes:

Students are to choose one of the following themes for their artwork:

1. Several Governors have chosen to redecorate a room in the mansion, such as the Family Dining Room, the State Dining Room or the First Lady's Salon. If you were the Governor of Kentucky, how would you redecorate one of these rooms? What color would you paint the walls? What kind of furniture, curtains and carpets would you put in the room? What kind of artwork would you display?

Research the rooms and create an original artwork depicting how the room would look when you would finish your redecoration.

2. Many prestigious events such as balls, receptions for dignitaries (foreign, United States and Kentucky) and receptions for the people of Kentucky take place in the State Ballroom. Which type of event do you think would be the most impressive? How would the people be dressed? Would it be a formal or informal event? How would people from other countries be dressed?

Research the governors of Kentucky from 1914 to the present time. Research the style of clothing appropriate to the time period of the governor that you choose. Create an original artwork depicting an event in the State Ball Room that is historically accurate.

3. The Governor's Mansion and the surrounding grounds were modeled after the *Petit Trianon*, Queen Marie Antoinette's villa near the Palace of Versailles in France. The building and grounds have many unique and interesting details. How would it look during different seasons, night and day?

Research photographs of the Mansion and create an original artwork depicting any aspect of the Mansion and grounds.

Visual Art Contest Rules and Guidelines:

- All entries must be the *original* artwork of the student.
- Any two-dimensional (2-D) or three dimensional (3-D) media is acceptable.
- All entries must be submitted electronically by e-mailing pictures of the artwork to the mailbox specified below. The pictures should be JPG files. **The complete entry, including entry form, must not exceed 5 MB.**
- Students may enter one original artwork. Students may submit two views of the work, one of the entire work and one to show details not apparent, or a second view of a 3-D work.
- Electronic entries should be of sufficient clarity to indicate the quality of the student work.
- Students should utilize primary sources for reference.
- 2-D entries should be no smaller than 5" X 7" nor larger than 16" X 20".
- 3-D entries must be no larger than 12" in any direction nor weigh more than 10 pounds.

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Addresses theme. It is apparent that the history of the Kentucky Governor's Mansion is the subject of the artwork. Works not addressing the theme will be disqualified.
- Creativity. It is apparent that the work is the original work of the student.
- Composition. The work shows a conscious use of the principles and elements of design and solid compositional theory.
- Craftsmanship. The work is presented in a professional manner.
- Historical accuracy of the depiction. Research is evident.

Each criterion will be scored on a scale of 0-5 where five is excellent and zero is not fulfilling the judging criteria. Works will be judged at the grade appropriate level.

Accepted Entries

First place works become the sole property of the Governor's Mansion as part of the permanent collection there. Arrangements will be made with the first place winners to get their actual artwork transported to Frankfort for display at the Governor's Mansion for the awards luncheon and ceremony.

Small 2-D pieces should be *neatly* mounted on an 8" X 10" stiff backing; all works should be *neatly* mounted to a stiff backing. It is not necessary to mat works. Stretched canvases and canvas board are both acceptable. Pencil, charcoal, pastel and other easily smudged media should be treated with a fixative and protected with a cover sheet or clear plastic.

Three-dimensional pieces must be firmly mounted to a base not to exceed 12" in any direction or be free standing. Students assume all risks with fragile works; works should be sturdy enough to survive shipping and handling.

Deadline

Electronic entries of the artwork and a scanned copy of the completed entry form must be submitted via e-mail by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2014, to:

mansion100contest@education.ky.gov

Remember: the file size of the total e-mailed entry must not exceed 5 MB.

ESSAY CONTEST

Essay Contest Eligibility

Students in the Commonwealth, grades 4 through 12, are invited to create an essay portraying the history of the Governor's Mansion. All students in public, private and home schools in the Commonwealth of Kentucky are eligible to enter.

Award levels are as follows: grades 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12.

- All students entering works will receive a certificate of participation.
- First, second and third place students at each award level will receive a certificate of merit signed by Governor Steve Beshear and First Lady Jane Beshear.
- Students placing first at each award level will receive \$100 and an invitation to join First Lady Jane Beshear at the Governor's Mansion for an awards luncheon in early April 2014. Students may be accompanied by their teacher and parent(s) to the luncheon.
- The first place students' essays will become the sole property of the mansion as part of its permanent collection. Essays will be displayed at the awards ceremony and to the public for one month following the awards ceremony.

Essay Contest Themes

Students are to choose one of the following writing prompts for their essay:

1. The Governor's Mansion has undergone many changes over the years in order to maintain its beauty and stay current with the times. Governors and their families traditionally make renovations or redecorate parts of the mansion, and the current Governor and First Lady have gone to great lengths to make the Mansion more energy efficient. Conduct your own research and determine what change(s) to the mansion you believe to be the most significant. Explain the nature of the change and why you believe it was important, citing your research as proof.
2. The Governor's Mansion and the surrounding grounds were modeled after the *Petit Trianon*, Queen Marie Antoinette's villa near the Palace of Versailles in France. The building and grounds have many unique and interesting details and the Kentucky Governor's Mansion is unique in comparison to the Governor's residence in many other states. Why do you believe it is important to preserve the Governor's Mansion? Be sure to support your claims with evidence from your research.
3. Life in the Kentucky Governor's Mansion is very different today than it was in the early years. The way people dressed, the décor of the rooms, the food that was served, the appearance of the grounds, etc. differed from what exists today. Compare how life in the early years of the Mansion would differ from life there today. Support your statements with evidence from your research.

Essay Contest Rules and Guidelines:

All entries must be submitted via e-mail as a PDF file.

All entries must be original works of students and must be accompanied by a completed entry form. **The complete entry, including the entry form, must not exceed 5 MB.**

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Content and Quality of Research (addressing the chosen prompt with accurate information)
- Strength of Argument (support of claims using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence)
- Exposition (language skills, organization and grammar)

Each criterion will be scored on a scale of 0-5 where five is excellent and zero is not fulfilling the judging criteria. Entries must include a works cited page.

Entries for grades 4-6 should be no less than 100 words and no more than 500 words. Entries for grades 7-9 should be no less than 300 words and no more than 1000 words. Entries for grades 10-12 should be no less than 600 words and no more than 1500 words. (Word counts do not include the works cited page).

All essays become the sole property of the Governor's Mansion and will not be returned.

Deadline

An e-mail with a PDF of the essay (including a works cited page) and a scanned copy of the completed entry form must be received by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2014. Entries should be sent to:

mansion100contest@education.ky.gov

Remember: the file size of the total e-mailed entry must not exceed 5 MB.

KENTUCKY GOVERNOR'S MANSION CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
VISUAL ART AND ESSAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM:

A scanned copy of this form must accompany each electronic entry.

NAME: _____

ENTRY: **ARTWORK** **ESSAY** *(Check the appropriate category of entry.)*

AGE: **GRADE:** _____

SCHOOL: _____ **DISTRICT:** _____

STREET: _____ **CITY:** _____

ZIP CODE: _____ **SCHOOL PHONE:** _____

TEACHER'S NAME: _____

TEACHER'S E-MAIL: _____

TEACHER'S SIGNATURE: _____

My signature verifies that I have read the contest requirements and approve my student to enter his or her original work in the Kentucky Governor's Mansion Centennial Celebration Visual Art or Essay Contest. I assure that this is my student's original work.

STUDENT'S HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **, KY** **ZIP CODE:** _____

HOME E-MAIL: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

My signature verifies that I have read the contest requirements to enter my work in the Kentucky Governor's Mansion Centennial Celebration Visual Art or Essay Contest. I understand if I am chosen as the first place winner in my category, my work becomes the sole property of the Governor's Mansion. I assure that this is my original work.

If a student is under 18, his or her parent or guardian must also sign the submission form.

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE: _____

My signature verifies that I have read the contest requirements and approve my child to enter his or her original work in the Kentucky Governor's Mansion Centennial Celebration Visual Art or Essay Contest. I assure that this is my child's original work.