

NCRA Young Authors Cover Art Contest Rubric for Judges

	Excellent	Good	Okay	Needs Work
	4	3	2	1
Visual Impact (overall quality)	The unique organization of art elements, content, & execution create a striking and memorable work. It has the power to “wow” the viewer.	The organization of art elements, content, and execution create cohesive work. The work has lasting impact on the viewer.	The organization of art elements, content, and execution are addressed in the work. The work holds the viewer’s attention.	The organization of art elements, content, & execution are incompletely addressed in the work. There is little or no impact on the viewer.
Interpretation and Creativity (completeness/effort/adherence to theme)	The design shows unique and creative interpretation of the assignment and was continued until it was as complete as possible. Effort was far beyond that required, with great attention to details. The theme is clearly evident and well-executed.	The design shows clear understanding of assignment and the student’s ability to “think outside the box”. With more effort, the project might have been outstanding. The theme is evident in the piece.	The design shows some creativity and adequate interpretation of the theme. However, the work appears unfinished.	The design requirements are fulfilled , but give no evidence of original thought or interpretation. Project is incomplete or lacks attention to detail.
Composition/Design (organization) ~~~~~ (See Elements of Design below)	Shows and effectively utilizes knowledge of the elements and principles of design, combining three or more elements and principles. The design effectively fills the entire space.	Shows an awareness of the elements and principles of design, using one or two elements/principles. The design mostly fills the space.	The assignment was completed, yet work lacks conscious planning and little evidence that an overall composition was planned. The design partially fills the space.	The student did the assignment, but showed little evidence of any understanding of the elements/principles of art ; no evidence of planning. The design space is somewhat used.
Craftsmanship (made with skill of mediums and overall neatness)	It demonstrates a mastery of skill and a clear understanding and application of specific medium qualities. The design is beautiful and complete.	It demonstrates skill and some understanding of specific medium qualities. The design is pleasing and partially complete.	It demonstrates partial skill and understanding of specific medium qualities. The design is fairly neat.	It lacks understanding of specific medium qualities. The design is a bit careless in creation of the work.
Criteria	All criteria of contest have been met. Student work demonstrates the best example of following directions for assignment.	Most of the required criteria have been followed.	Some of the criteria have been met.	Only one criterion has been met.

Judge #1: _____

Judge #2: _____

Total Score: _____