

# First Friday Art & Writing Exhibit





Calling all Current Foster Children
(5-20 years-old) AND
Former Foster Youth (16 & Older)

## Who can participate?

All current foster children and youth are invited to participate in the Art and Writing Exhibit. Youth can write/draw about their experience in foster care, good and bad.

## Where will my work be on display?

The work will be on display in the Lackawanna County Entrepreneurship Launch Pad at 507 Linden Street, Scranton, PA for First Friday in June.

## Why are we doing this?

The Youth Advisory Board wants to help raise awareness about foster care, the need for more foster parents, and the positive experience it can be when a youth has a loving, caring foster home.

## How can I submit my art or writing?

Art and writing can be submitted to your caseworker or foster care worker. Please do not have the youth sign his or her name. Instead, paperclip a sheet of paper with the youth name and age attached to the piece. All pieces must be submitted by May 30, 2014.



This event is being organized by the newly created Lackawanna County OYFS Youth Advisor Board. For more information about the First Friday Foster Youth Art Exhibit or the local Youth Advisory Board, please contact Lori Chaffers at 570-963-6781 or Lea Dougherty at 570-947-5519.

## First Friday Art & Writing Exhibit FAQs

#### Who can participate?

All current and former foster children and youth ages 5-20 years old.

#### What type of work can be submitted?

Any type of writing; stories, poems, song lyrics, etc. The work can be submitted on paper, poster board, typed or hand written. All written work will be on display. Additionally, the YAB will chose some written work to be enlarged for display.

Any type of art; drawings, paintings, sculpture, etc. The work can be on paper, poster board, canvas or anything that can be displayed.

Creativity is encouraged!

#### What should the art represent?

The art and writing should represent the feelings of the youth, positive or negative, regarding their experience in foster care, their experiences that led them to foster care or anything else representative of the youths life experience including their future dreams and goals.

#### What should not be included?

Due to privacy restrictions the art and writing can not include any specific identifying information of the people depicted. If the youth is over 18 and chooses to include their name it is required they sign a release of information form to have their work included in the exhibit. Please submit the work with a sheet of paper attached with identifying information of the youth (name, address, phone number, and caregiver name and phone number) if they wish to have it returned to them following the exhibit.

If work is deemed inappropriate for display at First Friday due to confidentiality or content, the artist will be contacted in advance.

#### Do I need to frame my art work?

YAB will not be framing art work. Work that is submitted will be displayed as is, or mounted as necessary for display. If youth want to mount or frame their art work, they are welcome to submit it that way.

#### Deadline for & Instruction for Submissions

Work must be submitted by May  $30^{th}$  to ensure it can be properly prepared for display. Work can be submitted to your foster care worker, caseworker, the main office with attention to Lori Chaffers, or to the Electric City Building ( $6^{th}$  floor) with attention to Lori Chaffers.

Please contact Lori Chaffers at 570-963-6781 or Lea Dougherty at 570-947-5519 with any questions.