



Young Artists and Authors Showcase Plagiarism and AI Policy

Plagiarism is defined by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary as “to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own.” This definition applies not only to writing but also to art, photography, music, and other creative mediums. Therefore, it applies to all submissions to Sister Cities International’s Young Artists and Authors Showcase (YAAS).

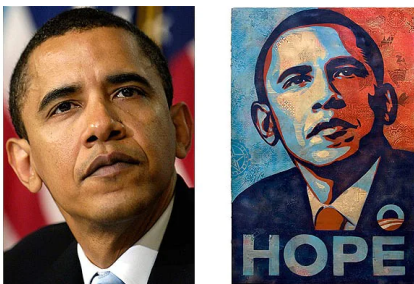
While many works of art are inspired by others, every submission will be thoroughly evaluated for originality. Submissions based on photographs, artwork, or music created by someone other than the submitting student must include express written consent from the original creator.

As a reference, below are high profile examples of alleged visual plagiarism that led to legal challenges in the United States:



Left: Art Rogers, Puppies, 1985. Right: Jeff Koons, String of Puppies, 1988 Source: “Copyright In The Visual Arts.” WordPress. Dec 2011. Web. September 3, 2015.

<https://copyrightvisualarts.wordpress.com/2011/12/20/art-rogers-vs-jeff-koons/>



Left: Associated Press photo of Barack Obama by Mannie Garcia. Right: Poster by Shepard Fairey Source: Kennedy, Randy. “Artist Sues The A.P. Over Obama Image.” The New York Times. 9 Feb 2009. Web. September 3, 2015

https://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/10/arts/design/10fair.html?_r=0



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In addition, all submissions must be the original work of the student and cannot include AI-generated content. This includes, but is not limited to, AI-assisted writing, imagery, music, or compositional tools. Any work found to include AI-generated material will be automatically disqualified.

Any submissions determined to have plagiarized the work of others or violated the AI policy will be rejected. This ensures fairness, celebrates authentic creativity, and maintains the integrity of the YAAS program.

These policies are in place to ensure fairness, uphold the integrity of the YAAS program, and celebrate authentic, student-created creativity. They reinforce the value of original thought, skill, and personal expression, which are at the heart of the showcase.

Any questions about plagiarism and AI in correlation with the Young Artists and Authors Showcase can be directed to youth@sistercities.org.