



Artists clockwise from upper left: Evelynn Nowicki, DG Thea LaMastra, Brooklynn Casiano, Melanie Fragoso, Katelyn Poe

## 2016 “Nature of Nolde” Student Art Contest For Berks County, PA Students in Grades 1-12

### TEACHER INFORMATION

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*For more information visit:*

- **Nolde Forest Offices**, 2910 New Holland Rd., Mohnton, PA
- **Art Plus Gallery**, 604 Penn Ave., W. Reading, or
- [www.artplusgalleryPA.com](http://www.artplusgalleryPA.com)

*Direct questions to:*

- [NoldeArtContest@artplusgallerypa.com](mailto:NoldeArtContest@artplusgallerypa.com)
- Russell Slocum, contest coordinator, at 610-796-0418

## SUMMARY

The students of schools throughout Berks County are invited to “capture the nature of Nolde Forest in art.” Bring or encourage your students to look at the natural beauty and resources through an artistic eye. Paint, pencil, marker, crayon, photography, clay—all media will be welcomed.

The contest is open to all Berks County, PA public, private and parochial schools, and to homeschool cooperatives with at least some of the students residing in Berks County.

If you register your school, you are assured of having finalists in the main exhibit at the Nolde Forest mansion in December. You will be able to submit two finalists in each Grade Category taught in your school:

### GRADE CATEGORIES FOR ART MEDIA:

- Grades 1 & 2
- Grades 3 & 4
- Grades 5 & 6
- Grades 7 & 8
- Grades 9 & 10
- Grades 11 & 12

### PHOTOGRAPHY (open to all grades)

For example, if Grades 1-5 are taught in your school, you may submit two finalists in each of these categories:

- Grades 1 & 2
- Grades 3 & 4
- Grades 5 & 6
- Photography

A jury of professional artists will then select three winners in each category. Awards will be presented on Saturday, 12/17.

If you don't register your school, you can still encourage your students to enter the contest through the Independent Entries category.

The contest is designed to meet an array of **Academic Standards for the Arts and Humanities**. These are detailed on the next page.

Each school may register once in each appropriate Grade Category. Register online at [artplusgallerypa.com](http://artplusgallerypa.com). Registration deadline is 10/1/16.

## CONTEST SCHEDULE

**10/1/15:** Deadline for schools to register in contest. You can register at [artplusgallerypa.com](http://artplusgallerypa.com), or by calling event coordinator Russ Slocum at 610-796-0418.

**Now through early November:**

1. Students create art.
2. Set up an exhibit and judging within your school. You can have the students vote, have the art judged by a panel of students and/or teachers, or choose the finalists yourself.
3. Select two finalists in each grade category to proceed to the county-wide exhibit.

**Week of 11/14:** Deliver your finalists' artwork and submission form (received after registering) to Nolde Mansion.

**12/4 to 12/16:** Exhibit opens to public on Sunday, 12/4, 1:00–4:00PM. After that the exhibit will be open Mon-Fri, 8AM-4PM.

**12/7-9:** Winners and teachers notified.

**12/17 (Saturday), 1:00:** Reception at Nolde Mansion. **2:00 PM:** Awards Presentation at Nolde's McConnell Hall. Students may take their artwork after the awards ceremony.

**Through 2017:** Images of the winning artwork will be showcased online at [artplusgalleryPA.com](http://artplusgalleryPA.com)

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

The Nature of Nolde Art Contest is designed to help teachers meet the following Academic Standards for the Arts and Humanities as defined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education:

9.1.(3,5,8,12).A

9.1.(3,5,8,12).B

9.1.(3,5,8,12).I

9.2.(3,5,8,12).G

### **Artist Statements**

It is common for artists to provide an “Artist Statement” explaining why and how they created a specific piece of art, or even their entire body of work. By adding this written component to the art assignment, the exercise may also meet the criteria of 9.4.( 3,5,8,12).D.

Start with an introduction such as:

“By describing how or why he or she chose a specific subject and created a piece of art around it, the artist helps others understand and appreciate the artwork even more. ”

Follow this with criteria appropriate to your grade level.

9.4.3. Grade 3:

Recognize that choices made by artists regarding subject matter and themes communicate ideas through works in the arts and humanities

9.4.5. Grade 5:

Explain choices made regarding media, technique, form, subject matter and themes that communicate the artist’s philosophy within a work in the arts and humanities

9.4.8. Grade 8:

Describe to what purpose philosophical ideas generated by artists can be conveyed through works in the arts and humanities

9.4.12. Grade 12:

Analyze and interpret a philosophical position identified in works in the arts and humanities.

Artist Statements should be submitted on a separate 5.5” x 8.5” sheet of paper, be titled “Artist Statement,” and include the following:

- Student’s name
- Name of artwork
- Medium
- Statement: 20-100 words on why this subject was chosen, how the art was created, and/or other information that might help others appreciate the artwork even more.

## PRIZES

Each participating school (which must register by 10/1/15) will conduct its own field trips, promote the event to students and parents (to encourage independent visits if class trips aren't viable), and coordinate creative work and initial judging. Each school may submit two finalists for each grade category within that school, plus one entry in the Photography category, which is open to all grades.

### GRADE CATEGORIES:

Grades 1 & 2

Grades 3 & 4

Grades 5 & 6

Grades 7 & 8

Grades 9 & 10

Grades 11 & 12

Photography (open to all grades)

The artwork of the finalists from all schools will be exhibited at Nolde Mansion in December. From the entries of finalists within each category, a panel of professional artists from Art Plus Gallery will judge the composition and execution of each work. Three prizes will be awarded within each category:

First Prize: \$50 plus art supplies

Second Prize: \$35

Third Prize: \$25 Gift Card for AC Moore

Art supplies donated by AC Moore Arts & Crafts, Wyomissing.

## PLANNING YOUR VISIT TO NOLDE FOREST

Address for GPS: 2910 New Holland Rd., 19607

Whether students will be visiting Nolde as classes or independently, schools wishing to participate must register for the contest before 10/1/15. There are no fees involved in participating, but transportation to and from Nolde will be the responsibility of the school and/or parents.

**ORGANIZED SCHOOL GROUPS:** If you're planning to have a large group of students visit by bus, van, or caravan, contact Rachel Baur at [rbaur@pa.gov](mailto:rbaur@pa.gov), 610-796-3699 to reserve parking. As our Environmental Education Specialist Supervisor, Rachel can also recommend grade-appropriate points of interest suitable for larger groups.

**INDEPENDENT VISITS:** If a bus trip cannot be arranged, consider encouraging students' families to visit Nolde Forest on their own or perhaps as smaller groups.

**WORKING FROM PHOTOGRAPHS:** If some or many of the students can't get to Nolde Forest in the time provided, perhaps they can work from original photographs taken by teachers, TAs, parents or other students. Since there is a separate category for Photography open to all grade

levels, if even a few students can provide photos for their classmates to reference, all students can participate. If taking this approach, please keep in mind that the subject's specific location within Nolde Forest is still required on the Finalist Entry Form.

### **PARK HOURS**

The park is open every day, from dawn until dusk.

Regular office hours (when the gate for access to Mansion Parking area and mansion offices are open): M-F 8AM-4PM (excludes State Holidays)

### **GROUP VISITS**

The only spaces available for bus parking are located in the Mansion parking area, and the number of these is limited. Organized school groups should call Rachel Baur at [610-796-3699](tel:610-796-3699) or email [rbaur@pa.gov](mailto:rbaur@pa.gov) to schedule visiting dates/hours. Individuals can visit at any time from dawn to dusk.

### **PARKING**

**Mansion Parking Lot** for cars and buses: **M-F, 8AM-4PM**

**Additional Parking:** Nolde's four other parking areas are open every day, dawn to dusk:

- Sawmill parking lot off Rte. 625
- Church Road at North Pond
- Oregon Road at Fire Gate #3
- Oregon Road at Fire Gate #5 (2 spaces)

### **POINTS OF INTEREST**

Part of the fun is discovering interesting scenes and natural beauty for yourself, but here are some favorite spots.

1. Sawmill Parking & Picnic Area – Old Sawmill building, dam, stream, assorted evergreen tree varieties
2. Watershed Trail: Pristine stream, stone & wooden bridges, springs, spring houses
3. Boulevard Trail: Varied terrain and tree species; clearings; 20-mile view from high point in park
4. The Rock Outcrop: Large rocks, scenic overlook
5. Ridge Trail: Overlooks and mossy areas
6. Park Office Lane: Stone barn and old stone spring house; field habitats, nest boxes
7. Nolde Mansion: Garden with old tiles and fountain; historic stone Tudor building with turret
8. Middle Trail: Original row plantings of white pine
9. Fire Gate #5: field habitat, nest boxes, picnic area
10. Turtle Pond and North Pond: Ponds with Painted Turtles, Northern Water Snakes, dragonflies, butterflies, red spotted newts, aquatic life
11. Bird feeding station behind McConnell Environmental Education Hall

### **MAP**

You'll find a downloadable map and more information at

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/noldeforest/>

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- a. To register, email [noldeartcontest@artplusgallerypa.com](mailto:noldeartcontest@artplusgallerypa.com), and include:
- School name and address
  - Teacher name
  - Grade participating

You'll receive a confirming email promptly, and your artwork submission forms in October. Once you have selected your finalists, this form should be submitted along with the artwork.

- b. There should be no more than one piece from any one student among the art media, but the same student may enter another piece in the Photography category.
- c. Original art (not copies) should be submitted for the art media. Photos should be no smaller than 5" x 7", and no larger than 11" x 14".
- d. Finalist artwork and submission forms should be delivered to Nolde Mansion between Monday November 14 and Friday, Nov. 18, between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.
- e. The submission form will include a separate label which should be firmly attached to the back of the artwork or frame.
- f. Winners of the Nolde Mansion exhibit, as well as their teachers, will be notified Dec 7-9, using the contact information supplied on the Submission Form.
- g. Winners need not be present at the Dec. 17 awards presentation to claim their prize, but they must do so before 1/1/17. Prizes not claimed by this time will be forfeited.
- h. Following the Saturday afternoon (12/17) awards presentation, the artwork can be taken by the artists, families or teachers. Nolde Forest and Art Plus Gallery will not be responsible for any artwork that is not picked up by 1/1/17.
- i. All reasonable care will be taken in handling pieces submitted, but Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center, Friends of Nolde and Art Plus Gallery do not insure or assume responsibility for any work.

## TIPS FOR ENTERING

**Framing/Matting:** While it is not required that submitted artwork be matted and/or framed, we recommend it. In addition to helping protect the art, doing so can add a more finished, professional look to the piece that may help it stand out.

**Artist Statement:** Even if you are not requiring the Artist Statement, consider explaining what it is to your students and offering them the option of submitting one with their artwork. Like a frame, it can help a piece stand out. (Guidelines are on p. 4.)

## ABOUT THE SPONSORS



### **Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center**

New Holland Rd. (Rt. 625)

Reading, PA 19607

610.796.3699

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/noldeforest/>

It is only 3.5 square miles, yet Nolde Forest's diverse terrain, habitats and natural resources, along with nearly 10 miles of trails, offer endless opportunities for recreation, education and relaxation.

A century ago, the rolling hills here had been nearly stripped of trees to fuel the foundry that operated off New Holland Road through much of the 1800s. When hosiery baron Jacob Nolde acquired this property in the early 1900s, a single white pine grew amid meadow vegetation. Inspired by this tree, the German-born Nolde hired an Austrian forester to create a coniferous forest. It was not long until the plantings began to form a "luxury forest," a source of family pleasure and pride. In 1926, Hans Nolde, a son of Jacob, initiated work on the Tudor-style mansion that became his family's year-round home.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased the property in the late 1960s, and in 1970 it became Pennsylvania's first environmental education center operated by the Bureau of State Parks.



### **Friends of Nolde Forest**

(Reachable through Nolde Forest administrative offices)

The Friends of Nolde Forest is a non-profit group of volunteers dedicated to supporting the environmental center's educational programming, and to protecting and enhancing the forest's diverse habitats. Their contributions are many and varied, including helping to build bridges, install benches and birdhouses, directing and working with volunteers for trail maintenance, and raising funds to meet the needs of the Center. On the first Sunday of each month from September through May, The Friends of Nolde Forest host an open house at the Nolde Mansion that now serves as the center's administrative headquarters, inviting the public to tour the magnificent Tudor estate and learn more about the fascinating history of the Nolde family and forest.



**Art Plus Gallery**

604 Penn Ave.

West Reading, PA 19611

610.375-9122

[www.artplusgallerypa.com](http://www.artplusgallerypa.com)

Founded in 2000, Art Plus Gallery is a non-profit cooperative of 25 local artists working in a wide range of media including oils, watercolors, pen & ink, jewelry, sculpture, fibrearts and pottery.

The gallery is known for connecting artists to the community and the Berks County community to the world of art. In addition to exhibiting the artwork of its members, the gallery encourages the artistic pursuits of Berks County students, seniors and various community groups. It also regularly provides exhibit space to other area artists ranging from aspiring new talents to seasoned professionals with national reputations.

“Outreach” has always been part of the mission of Art Plus Gallery, and much of this has focused on reaching out to students and schools. Through significant art-related activities such as The Nature of Nolde Art Contest, the gallery is able to support teaching efforts, recognize excellence, share creativity with a wider audience, and hopefully build enthusiasm for a lifelong pursuit of artistic expression.



**A.C. Moore**

1101 Woodland Rd.

Wyomissing, PA 19610

610.374.4311

[www.acmoore.com/about](http://www.acmoore.com/about)

The art supplies and gift card prizes for The Nature of Nolde Art Contest have been generously donated by A.C. Moore. This specialty retailer offers a vast selection of arts, crafts and floral merchandise to a broad demographic of customers. Their assortment of merchandise averages more than 40,000 different SKUs in each of their 140 stores, which are located in the Eastern United States from Maine to Florida. They also offer custom framing in the majority of their stores. In-store events and programs for children and adults provide hands-on arts and crafts experience and encourage the creativity of customers.

## CONTEST RULES

The Nature of Nolde Art Contest is sponsored by the Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center, the Friends of Nolde Forest, Art Plus Gallery, and AC Moore Arts & Crafts Stores.

In broad terms, there are two levels of recognition: “Finalist” and “Winner.”

“Finalist” refers to an artist whose work is selected to appear in the exhibit at Nolde Mansion. Finalists’ art will be exhibited and judged in seven grade categories:

- Grades 1 & 2
- Grades 3 & 4
- Grades 5 & 6
- Grades 7 & 8
- Grades 9 & 10
- Grades 11 & 12
- Photography (open to all grades)

“Winner” refers to an artist whose work is selected from all finalists by a panel of judges, to be awarded a prize for exceptional merit. Three prizes will be awarded within each category:

- First Prize: \$50 plus art supplies
- Second Prize: \$35
- Third Prize: \$25 Gift Card for AC Moore

### **Entering the Contest**

The contest is open to all Berks County, PA students in grades 1-12. This includes public, private and parochial schools, as well as homeschoolers.

All art media are acceptable, including but not limited to paints, pencil, markers, crayons, clay and photography.

The subject must be some aspect of Nolde Forest.

Schools may register in advance and start with an in-school contest to determine their own finalists for the public exhibit at Nolde Mansion. Registered schools may submit two finalists for each grade category in that school. The deadline for school registration is 10/1/16.

Students whose schools are not registered in the competition, or who wish to enter an additional piece of artwork independently, may submit jpgs for a preliminary judging in the “Independent Entries” category. At least three additional finalists will be selected from every 100 Independent Entries received. The deadline for emailing Independent Entries is 11/1/16.

Students may create a “plein air” work of art on the spot, but this is not required. Students may work from photos, sketches or memory, and do their art at home or in the classroom.

Artwork of all finalists from the schools and Independent category will be exhibited at the Nolde Mansion in December.

All submissions must be made in strict accordance with the Submission Guidelines and timetable detailed elsewhere in this document. Submissions not following these guidelines may not be accepted.

Family members of Art Plus Gallery members may participate, although immediate family members will not be eligible for any of the cash awards. If they are selected as winners, they will be awarded Special Recognition.

Artwork submitted in the contest may be photographed for Art Plus Gallery's online exhibit of the winning pieces, and for possible use in event publicity and media coverage.

### **Judging**

Within each Grade Category, a panel of artists from Art Plus Gallery will judge each piece based on the following elements:

- Clarity or creative interpretation in capturing the nature of a setting, animal or feature of Nolde Forest
- Composition, artistic style & execution
- Presentation of the artwork and impact upon the viewer

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

First Prize: \$50 plus age-appropriate art supplies from AC Moore

Second Prize: \$35

Third Prize: \$25 AC Moore Gift Card

The decisions of the judges are final.

Winners need not be present at the Dec 17 awards presentation to claim their prize, but must do so before 1/1/17. Prizes not claimed by this time will be forfeited.

Following the Saturday afternoon (12/17) awards presentation, the exhibit will close to the public and artwork can be taken by the artists, families or teachers. Nolde Forest and Art Plus Gallery will not be responsible for any artwork that is not picked by 1/1/17.