

2026 Orange County's Artists of the Year PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Complete and sign this document **ONLY if the student AND parent are unable to sign this document online**. Fill in with blue or black ink the upload to the application.
- Scan the signed document as a pdf OR take a picture and save as a jpg.
- The student will be required to upload the pdf or jpg of the signed document to her/his/their online application, due on Friday, January 9, 2026.

STUDENT NOMINEE:**SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION NAME:**

This agreement is between the student, named above, parent, signed below, (collectively "**The Nominee**"), the student's nominator ("**Teacher**") and Artist of the Year, its sponsors (including but not limited to MediaNews Group, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Chapman University, and Arts Orange County) and their successors, licensees, and assigns (collectively "**The Program**").

ORIGINAL ARTWORK AND WRITTEN STATEMENTS: The Nominee attests all artwork and written statements submitted in the student application were created by the student nominee.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS AND DEADLINES: The Nominee understands that all application components, including written statements, a résumé, and links to artwork, must be submitted by the deadline noted on the Artist of the Year website at <https://www.artistoftheyear.org/> in order for the student to be considered as a semifinalist for Artist of the Year. If extensions are announced, the extended date will be considered the deadline.

LINKS TO ARTWORK: The Nominee agrees to make all video links and websites showcasing artwork accessible to the public. The Nominee understands that submitted artwork will be available to view publicly online without the need for passwords or permission to view. Exceptions to this are films that are required to be offline due to other film festival guidelines. Online omissions of student artwork may be arranged directly with Executive Producer of The Program and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

PUBLICATION OF ARTWORK / PERFORMANCES / STATEMENTS: The Nominee understands that all materials, including written statements, a résumé, and links to artwork, submitted as a part of this application may be used by The Program and/or by any of their media products to promote Artist of the Year and will not be removed from online sources by request of the nominee, parent, or nominating instructor once published.

INTERVIEW DATES: The Nominee understands that the dates and times for the in-person interviews are scheduled in late-March as noted on the website. Once dates are confirmed, alternate interview dates will not be available. If the student nominee is not able to attend on the scheduled date of the interview, he/she/they will still be named as a semifinalist but will not be considered as a finalist nor the Artist of the Year.

PRESENTATIONS / PERFORMANCE AVAILABILITY: The Nominee understands that the student nominee will be asked to participate in an in-person presentation of her/his/their art form and an interview if chosen as a semifinalist. The Nominee also understands that all chosen finalists and Artists of the Year may be asked to present their art form/performance as a part of a year-end performance event. The Nominee and her/his/their Teacher will make best efforts to work with the nominee and her/his/their other instructors to ensure that the nominee will be available to present/perform at the year-end event.

CONTACT INFORMATION SHARING: The Nominee understands that contact information submitted as a part of the application WILL be shared with Artist of the Year sponsors. Student information WILL NOT be shared with any entity who is not a sponsor of Artist of the Year.

INDEMNIFICATION: The Nominee and Teacher agrees to indemnify and hold harmless The Program and any other named sponsor, and any location used in cooperation with the Artist of the Year program should harm come to any student, teacher, or parent as a result of participating in this program and from any claim, action, and cause of action and liabilities which may be asserted by third parties arising out of the performance of obligations pursuant to this Agreement.

STUDENT NOMINEE

Hand Sign Here

Student's Signature

Student's Name (please print)

Date

STUDENT'S PARENT/GUARDIAN

Hand Sign Here

Parent / Guardian's Signature

Parent / Guardian's Name (please print)

Date