

2026 Sister Rose Thering Fund Literary, Digital & Visual Arts Competition

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS CREATING WORKS OF VISUAL ART (PAINTINGS/DRAWINGS/SCULPTURES)

1. Watch the 2004 Oscar-nominated **Sister Rose's Passion** link to <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LfSyWVscHDN17kgJ26zh1VMbQ-ZVv6nL/view>. .
2. After you have watched the film, create a painting, drawing or sculpture addressing this year's theme.

Theme: TRANSFORMING APATHY INTO EMPATHY

Through her words and actions, Sister Rose Thering fought against anti-Jewish prejudice not merely to create understanding but to educate Catholics about the Jewish faith.

This year's literary and visual arts competition provides an opportunity for you to focus on the theme of **TRANSFORMING APATHY INTO EMPATHY**. All entries must relate to this theme.

Empathy and **apathy** represent opposite ends of an emotional spectrum. **Empathy** is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person, while **apathy** is a lack of feeling or concern. Essentially, **empathy** involves feeling with someone, while **apathy** involves feeling nothing at all.

3. All artwork must be original. Artwork should be signed by the artist and accompanied by a **brief explanation of the design concept and how the artwork pertains to the theme** (150-200 words should suffice). Print this out and give it to your teacher or school administrator, along with your signed **Entry Form**. Don't forget to give your work a title.
 - **Paintings and drawings** should be no larger than 24 x 36 inches and no smaller than 11 x 14 inches and should be signed by the artist.
 - **Sculptures** should measure no taller than 18 inches and no shorter than 6 inches.
4. All entries must be submitted by **Friday, February 6, 2026, so you will want to submit your work to your teacher before that date**. A signed **Entry Form** must accompany all submissions. There will be no exceptions.

**Guidelines for students creating works of
Visual Art (Paintings/Drawings/Sculptures)
Page 2 of 2**

5. **HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR VISUAL ART:** Submit your work to your teacher or school administrator in the form of a **jpg file** (for 2-dimensional artwork—drawings and paintings) or a **360° video** (for 3-dimensional artworks—sculptures).

The name of the JPEG file or video file should begin with the artist's last name and first name with no spaces. For example:

- If Tessa Smith submits a JPEG file, it should be called **smithtessa.JPG**
- If Amir Sanyal submits a video file, it should be called **sanalamir.mov** (or **.mp4**, **.moc**, **.wmv**, etc., depending on the program it was created with).

6. All entrants must complete and sign the **Entry Form**. By signing this form, participants and their parents/guardians grant permission to allow the Sister Rose Thering Fund to use their names and submissions in print or internet form.
7. **JUDGING CRITERIA:** Originality. Relevance to theme and Sister Rose's message. Use of correct grammar, spelling and punctuation. A reference to Sister Rose.
8. Winners will be notified by **March 13, 2026**.
9. Winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony at Seton Hall University on **Sunday, April 19, 2026**. All winners, their families and their teachers are strongly encouraged to attend. Winners will be expected to bring their art to Seton Hall on April 19 so it can be viewed during the Celebration.
10. Any submission that falls outside the guidelines or theme of this competition cannot be accepted