The Student Art Competition is sponsored to select original artwork that may be used to create signature items, such as note cards, T-shirts, mugs, etc., for sale at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia gift shop. Winning artwork may also be used on the garden website, brochures and promotional materials. Creative concepts for how the artwork might be used will be considered by the judges, as well as the reproducibility of the design, how functional the design is to create gift shop items, and how well the design represents the State Botanical Garden of Georgia. For example, a photograph or painting of a Southwestern landscape, beach scene, or urban architecture would not represent the garden and not likely be considered as a winner.

All entrants submitting artwork must be 9th grade and above (including college students) who attend school full or part-time in Georgia. A maximum of two entries per artist may be submitted.

Prizes include $1,000 for 1st place, $500 for 2nd and $250 for 3rd place. Judges may award Certificates of Merit. There is no entry fee for the competition.

Media of your choice, including hand-produced and computer-generated art, is acceptable. All works must be two-dimensional and original in concept. Remember that various types of images are needed to create gift shop images. A keychain or hat may have a very small area that needs a clean image in one color, while a t-shirt can show subtle color blends and intricate details. Previous winners have included pen and ink, photography, watercolor, oils and combinations of media.

Square, horizontal, round, oval or vertical formats are accepted. Please indicate the hanging direction if necessary.

The deadline to submit artwork is Sunday, March 31, 2024, 11:59 p.m. EST.

All artwork must be submitted through the online submission form. Email Noel Fortunato at June.Fortunato@uga.edu if other arrangements need to be made.

Winning artwork will be displayed on the State Botanical Garden’s social media pages.

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia will take reasonable measures to care for the artwork but cannot be liable for damage, breakage or theft while in transit, in storage, during judging or on display. Signed entry forms serve as a release for the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Friends of the Garden, and judges from any liability.

First, second and third prize winning submissions, copyright and reproduction rights become the property of the State Botanical Garden of Georgia and may be used by the garden and/or Friends of the Garden to create promotional materials and products for sale without restrictions by the artist. The State Botanical Garden of Georgia or Friends of the Garden may offer to purchase works awarded Certificates of Merit with these same rights.

For additional information, contact Noel Fortunato at June.Fortunato@uga.edu or 706-542-6130.