

TIPS FOR SUCCESS WHEN MAKING A SUBMISSION TO THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS STUDENTS

START EARLY

The annual theme for the Student Achievement Awards is revealed in August and submissions are due in November so give yourself lots of time.

AVOID CLICHÉS

If the theme is “transformation,” expect everyone else to use butterflies as symbols. If the theme is “peace” expect people to use doves. Try to be original and distinguish your entry from others’ by being creative and original.

MAKE SURE YOUR ENTRY REFLECTS THE THEME

Judges are going to look for a clear connection between the assigned theme and your work. Make sure that attention to the theme is not just an afterthought.

YOUR SUBMISSION SHOULD BE FINISHED AND YOUR BEST WORK

Competition is strong. To be successful your work will have to demonstrate skill and effort.

HAVE FUN WITH THE THEME

While you want to stick with the theme, don’t be afraid to experiment with it. Themes are purposely chosen to be open to some interpretation. Be creative!

ALSO:

- Visual art pieces, including digital arts, should include an artist’s statement consisting of a few paragraphs, giving the judges a basic introduction to your work.
- If you submit a video, include which media player should be used. USB keys are preferred over DVDs.
- If you submit an audio recording of an original song, please include lyrics.
- If your visual arts entry is made up of more than one piece, include an explanation as to how the judges should view it.
- Remember that the Student Achievement Awards celebrates the work between students and members of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation. A sponsoring OSSTF/FEESO member is there to give guidance on your entry. They can advise, edit, direct or inspire, but they are part of the process.
- Every entry must be accompanied by a completed entry form signed by your OSSTF/FEESO sponsor (teacher or support staff member at your school).
- Winners will not be announced until early March and entries will not be returned until the beginning of May.