



2026 Cecil Head Art + Design Scholarship

Call for Entries



Cecil F. Head (American, 1906–1995), *Buildings in Winter*, 1935, 32 x 26 in. Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, Gift of the Artist, 82.315.
© Cecil F. Head.

Cecil F. Head is recognized as one of Indiana's finest painters. Born in Lebanon, Indiana in 1906, Head graduated from the John Herron Art Institute in 1929 and maintained a studio in downtown Indianapolis. He was instrumental in the development of The Southside Art League in Greenwood and remained active in the arts community until his death in 1995 at the age of 89.

Head was listed in *Who's Who in American Art* in 1992. During his lifetime, Head endowed a fund that would later help establish the Cecil Head Fine Arts Scholarship Awards with the goal of encouraging high school art students to continue with their art education. All graduating high school seniors in Johnson county and southern Marion county, who intend to major in art at a college, university, or art school, are invited to apply for these awards.

Cecil Head Fine Arts Scholarship Awards Guidelines

Digital Submission Due Date

Monday, March 2, 2026, at 11:59 PM

Eligibility

Open to all graduating high school seniors in Johnson and southern Marion Counties who intend to major in art or the applied arts at a college, university, or art school. Participating schools: Center Grove High School, Edinburgh High School, Lutheran High School, Decatur Central High School, Roncalli High School, Beech Grove High School, Indian Creek High School, Franklin Central High School, Southport High School, Franklin Community High School, Greenwood Community High School, Perry Meridian High School, and Whiteland Community High School.

Awards

A panel of judges will select 5 winners:

- 1st place — \$5,500
- 2nd place — \$4,500
- 3rd place — \$3,000
- Two Honorable Mentions — \$1000 each

Award checks will be mailed directly to the Bursar's office of selected schools.

General Information

There is no limit to the number of applicants from any one school. Each student must submit five(5) works of art.

Accepted Mediums: The ability to work in different media is important. More than one type of fine art and or applied arts mediums should be included in the submission.

Submission Process: All entries will be submitted digitally. The original student works must be photographed or scanned, and the photographs or scans of the original student artworks should be submitted as JPGs attached to an email to Payton Higdon at schooltours@discovernewfields.org. If you need assistance or help with technical issues, please email Payton Higdon at schooltours@discovernewfields.org.

Submission Email

Please include in the message the student's name, school and parent email address, school, school address, and phone number. Each student work should be submitted as a JPG. In the email, include the materials used, dimensions, and title of the artwork.

Selection

- Digital submissions are due by Monday, March 2, no later than 11:59 PM.
- Judging will take place the week of March 9-13. If selected for Final Judging and Awards Presentation you will be notified by Newfields staff.
- Final judging will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2026, between 11 AM-12 PM at the Johnson County Museum of History. If selected for Final Judging, you will bring your original works to the:

Johnson County Museum of History
135 Main Street
Franklin, IN 46131

- Final winners will be announced that morning and must be present to win.

Timeline

Receiving Submissions	January—March 2, 2026
Submissions Deadline	March 2, 2026, at 11:59 PM
Jurying of Works	March 9—13, 2025
Final Judging	May 2, 2026, from 11 AM—12 PM

Final Judging Timeline

Students Drop Off	Set Up Art	9:30 AM—10 AM
Judging		10 AM—11 AM
Award Ceremony		11 AM—12 PM

Completed Scholarship Submissions Should Include:

- ☐ JPG file of the artwork
- ☐ Completed 2025 Application Form
- ☐ Two Teacher Endorsements
- ☐ Transcript of Grades

2026 Cecil Head Art + Design Scholarship Application Form

Please print or type:

Name

_____	_____	_____	_____
Last	First	Middle	Pronouns

Address

_____	_____	_____	_____
Street	City	State	Zip Code

_____	_____	_____
School Email	Parent/Guardian Email	Preferred Phone Email

High School

Attending _____

Proposed field of study _____

Preferred Phone Number _____

Please list art schools, colleges and universities to which you have applied. If you have been accepted, please place an A in front of the name _____

Brief employment history: _____

Please tell us about yourself in a 500-word essay about your interests, hobbies, and reasons for choosing your proposed field of study. Attach the essay in a Word document.



2026 Cecil Head Art + Design Scholarship Endorsement Form

(Applicant's Name)

Applicant should give this sheet to 2 teachers in their general area of interest. Their feedback may either be provided by filling out the sheet by hand (then scanned), or by submitting a typed PDF on school letterhead (preferred method). Instructor feedback must be included with the student's digital application.

**Please relate your opinion of this student and include their ability in the
visual arts as a field of study**

Signature _____

Title _____

Address _____

Phone _____