



Art Takes a Bus Ride

Art Competition for
San Mateo County Students
Grades 1 through 12

2025/2026 theme: *Time Travelers Take the Bus: 50 Years in Motion*

Hop on board the bus and time-travel through San Mateo County – past, present, and future!

In celebration of **SamTrans' 50th anniversary**, explore how students, schools, and neighborhoods have changed over the decades or imagine what our communities and transportation might look like in the next 50 years. From foggy coastlines to busy freeways, and redwood forests to city streets, your artwork will highlight San Mateo County life.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES: Student work will be judged against others in the same grade. Artwork must be original and created by **students only**.

- The student's name, grade, school, and teacher must be written on the back of the artwork.
- SamTrans must be incorporated into the art in some way.
- To view the artwork of previous winners, visit: [SamTrans 24/25 Art Takes a Bus Ride](#)

SIZE OF ARTWORK: Artwork should be created on **9 inches high x 12 inches wide white paper in a horizontal orientation** to fit on the scanner used for making the wrap. *No exceptions – submissions not meeting these requirements will be disqualified.*

MEDIA: Media can include paint, crayon, felt pen, pastel, collage, and mixed media. Original artwork in digital media (Illustrator, Photoshop, etc) is accepted. **NO AI ARTWORK ACCEPTED.**

- The use of bold, rich color is required! Avoid using colored pencils and avoid leaving lots of white space on the canvas.

RELEASE FORM: All artwork must be accompanied by the Release Form on the next page. Please have the form signed by a parent or guardian for all students participating in the competition. If you have further questions, please email **Allison Gamlen** at agamlen@smcoe.org.

DELIVERY OF ARTWORK: All entries (including digital) must be delivered **FLAT** (not rolled or folded) to Allison Gamlen, San Mateo County Office of Education, 101 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City, **up until December 5, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**

JUDGING: All entries are judged on creativity, artistic merit, and theme interpretation. All decisions are final. Winners will be notified by e-mail.

RECOGNITION: One winner will be selected from each grade (a total of twelve winners). The winners will also be recognized at the Art Takes A Bus Ride event in **May 2026**.



Release Form

Artwork must be submitted with a completed release form to be considered.

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

_____	_____	_____
First Name	Last Name(s)	Grade
_____	_____	
School	District	
_____	_____	
Teacher	Teacher Email Address	

I, _____, hereby give and grant to the San Mateo County Transit District free and unlimited right to use, distribute, publish and republish, for any and all news, trade, publicity, commercial or other advertising purposes, artwork submitted by my child named above for the **2025/2026 Art Takes a Bus Ride** competition.

_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date

E-mail Address

Phone Number