



ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jim Hendricks
Director of Marketing & Public Relations
(229) 439-8400
jim.hendricks@albanymuseum.com

ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART ESSAY CONTEST OPENS AUG 24, 2019

College and High School Students Can Win Cash Awards for Essays on Art

[For Release Aug 5, 2019 – Albany, GA]— The Albany Museum of Art’s 5th annual *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words* writing competition opens **Saturday, Aug 24, 2019** for students enrolled in Southwest Georgia high schools and colleges. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three essayists in each of the college and high school divisions at the awards event at **6 pm on Tuesday, Oct 8, 2019**.

The deadline for submitting an essay to the competition is **midnight on Saturday, Sept 21, 2019**.

For the second year, middle schoolers will be included in the competition through an outreach program available in the classroom. While there are no cash prizes for middle schoolers, winning essays in that competition will earn the writer and his or her classmates a free field trip to the AMA.

“This is a great way for students in high school and college to get acquainted with the museum,” AMA Director of Education and Public Programming Annie Vanoteghem said. “They can spend an extended period of time with a specific work of art and uncover what that art is saying to them, either directly or indirectly.”

To participate, a student must visit the AMA and select one of the six designated works of art on the *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words* art object list. Each of the six objects is labeled for the contest and each will be on display at the AMA for the duration of the contest. The objects may be found in the exhibitions *Figure Forward*, *Educators as Artists* and *Fragments of a Violent World*, which continue at the AMA through Oct 12, 2019.

Students may visit the galleries as often as they like. The Albany Museum of Art does not charge admission, so there is no cost to visit.

After selecting one of the objects, the participating student writes an essay of up to 1,000 words relating to the piece. The essay may be written in any style, and may reference real-life events or be fictional. Essays should be written in Word document or a Word-compatible format. Essays may be submitted beginning Aug 24 to **1000Words@albanymuseum.com**.

High school and college entries are judged separately, and each of the two divisions will be awarded first, second and third place, as well as up to three honorable mentions. Cash prizes will be awarded to each of the top three essayists in each division. The awards are \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$100 for third place.

All winning essays will be published online at **albanymuseum.com**.

The winning submissions will be announced at an awards ceremony and essay reading at the Albany Museum of Art at **6 pm on Tuesday, Oct 8, 2019**.

"This is a terrific way to interact with art in a meaningful and hone writing skills that are important for students, whether they're getting ready to take the next step in their education or at a point where they're looking at entering the job market," Vanoteghem said. "Also, it's coming up just as the winter holidays are starting, and what student couldn't use prize money at that time of year?"

All essays must be submitted to **1000Words@albanymuseum.com** no later than **midnight** on Saturday, **Sept 21, 2019**. The official competition rules can be found at **albanymuseum.com/1000-words-writing-competition**.

For more information, contact Annie Vanoteghem at **annie.vanoteghem@albanymuseum.com** or at 229.439.8400.

CURRENT AMA EXHIBITIONS

- *Figure Forward*, works by Jill Frank, Jaime Bull and William Downs, is in the Haley Gallery through Oct 12, 2019.
- *Educators as Artists: Juried College Faculty Exhibition* is in the East Gallery through Oct 12, 2019.
- *Fragments of a Violent World*, nano photography by Michael Oliveri, is in the West Gallery through Oct 12, 2019.

ABOUT THE ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

The Albany Museum of Art, located in Albany, Georgia, adjacent to Albany State University West Campus just off Gillionville Road is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The Albany Museum of Art is open 10 am through 5 pm Tuesdays through Fridays and noon until 5 pm on Saturdays. Admission is free.

For more information about the AMA please visit our website, www.albanymuseum.com or call 229.439.8400. Be sure to follow the @AlbanyArtMuseum on Twitter, AlbanyMuseum of Instagram and AlbanyMuseumOfArt on Facebook.

###