**Cameron Art Museum: Rising Stars Exhibition Contract**

***Rising Stars: High School Student Art***

**February 7, 2026- March 1, 2026**

**Reception Hall**

Organized in collaboration with schools in the eight-country radius in Southeastern NC that Cameron Art Museum serves, this exhibition features work of area students, highlighting the talent of our newest generation of artists.

**ELIGIBLE WORK**

This exhibition will include works from high schools in the 8 counties we serve: Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Duplin, Onslow, Pender, New Hanover, and Sampson. These counties also include Whiteville City Schools (Columbus) and Clinton City Schools (Sampson).

Each county/ school system is invited to deliver work from 10 artists currently enrolled in High School (grades 9-12). Each county will be responsible for jurying their work.

The Exhibition theme will be *Close to Home: Where I Live.*

**ARTWORK DROP OFF**

Artwork can be dropped off at CAM **January 26-30, 2026.** Work will be received at our Visitor Services desk. It is recommended that work is dropped off as one cohort from the county.

Please **prepare the label information** in advance on the second page of this document. Installation will be February 2-6, 2026. The exhibition opening will be Feb 7, 2026.

**ARTWORK PICK UP**

Works must be **picked up from CAM between March 3-8** during CAM business hours. CAM staff will work with each county regarding an alternative off-site return delivery location. CAM is not responsible for work that is not picked up after the exhibition.

For questions regarding drop off or pick up of artwork, contact Georgia Mastroieni, Deputy Director of Operations: georgia@cameronartmuseum.org

**LIMITATIONS**

* One work of art per artist
* All work must be 2-D.
* Artwork can be maximum 8.5  x 11 inches, maximum matted work 11” x 17” and maximum framed is 14” x 17”. CAM reserves the right to refuse work that is submitted outside of these parameters. The size limitations reflect the space available for installation
* Students or schools are responsible for matting work and if they choose, framing it also. For matted work, the matt needs to safely attached to artwork. Light and standard weights for frames are requested. Framed work must be ready to hang, with all hanging hardware safely installed including hanging wire, sawtooth hangers, or other appropriate items. CAM accepts no responsibility for damage to any work for any reason including faulty hanging hardware. CAM reserves the right to use nails if necessary and may be unable to hang works in exceptionally heavy frames.
* *Rising Stars*is a family-friendly exhibition. Content including language and images must be appropriate for all audiences, a G-rating, and CAM reserves the right to remove any item from the exhibition at its sole discretion.

**ARTIST STATEMENTS/ QR CODES**

Each participating artist is invited to record a statement about the work on view. Recordings can be no longer than 1 minute. Each participating county/ school system should prepare and upload one video with the recording of your artists. If an artist does not want to record a video, you have the option of an opening sequence of slides of work from those artists.

Videos can be uploaded to our [Dropbox account here.](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/nbsro3eezw0r37q8afy84/AMdq4RaPOdvEYVT4pL-noGY?rlkey=stbfz1e4jv0scvrpwnfcl18t2&st=iw5kvdrx&dl=0)

Please label your entry: Date\_County or School District\_Student Name

A QR code will be created for each county/ school system in the exhibition. All recordings and editing must be completed and uploaded by January 26, 2025. Sample questions include:

What is this work about? What materials did you explore and why? How does this piece reflect the theme *From Mountains to Sea?* What did you learn while creating this work?

**USAGE RIGHTS**

By submitting for this exhibition, artist grant Cameron Art Museum permission to reproduce images of said work for all standard museum purposes including by not limited to documentation and record-keeping, publication in exhibition materials, brochures, educational materials, exhibition publicity in all media including print, television, the museum’s website and other educational websites. Artists grant the use if these images as stated here without further compensation from Cameron Art Museum.

**\*Cameron Art Museum reserves the right to refuse the entry of any work in this exhibition for reasons including, but not limited to, content, size, and materials used.**

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Artist’s Representative/ teacher Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Artist’s Representative Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Artist name (as it should be listed):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Work:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Artist’s Grade and school:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Contact Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student/ Family contact Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Concurrent CAM Exhibition**

Students are asked to submit work in response to our landscape exhibition ***From Mountains to Sea***. Interpretation of the theme is open to the students’ response to their landscape and the natural world, to their experience with the geography of North Carolina, and seasonal changes in their environment.

[Slides of work in the exhibition can be viewed here:](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1lm2gDFO9zP7h0ijbckIz8Yi7qNi6XjtDVIC0BAvytJc/edit?usp=sharing)

*From Mountains to Sea*

*November 8, 2025 - May 10, 2026*

*Sponsored by Wells Fargo*

Set against the backdrop of rising tides, shifting seasons, and storm-ravaged horizons, *From Mountains to Sea* focuses on our evolving landscape through the lenses of contemporary North Carolina artists whose visions echo both the fragility and profound strength of the natural world, as well as man’s place in it. The artists in the exhibition, many of whom have lived through hurricanes, floods, and wildfires, transform memory and grief into healing and hope, highlighting their relationship to the natural world. The landscapes included here are beautiful and provocative, scarred yet sacred; they speak of loss, change, and rebirth, the very rhythms of nature itself.

*From Mountains to Sea* reflects, celebrates, and engages with the inextricable relationship between humanity and the natural world. Featuring work by [John Beerman](http://johnbeerman.com/), [Elizabeth Bradford](https://www.elizabethbradford.com/), [Patrick Dougherty](https://www.stickwork.net/), [Mario Marzan](https://www.mariomarzan.com/), [Thomas Sayre](https://www.thomassayre.com/), and others, each work of art is more than mere imagery; together they constitute a dialogue with the land we call home. Artists from western North Carolina, including [Julyan Davis](https://julyandavis.com/), [Bill Green](https://www.billgreenphotography.com/), and others respond directly to Hurricane Helene, the deadliest strike on the mainland United States since Hurricane Katrina.

Although the natural world is a familiar subject, this exhibition includes works in a wide variety of contemporary styles and media. From digital projection and animation to found-object assemblage sculpture, these artists bring new approaches to urgent topics. There is lyrical beauty here, coupled with an exploration of the complex relationship between man and the environment. This exhibition is organized by CAM with a gallery guide written by Colton Klein.