



Reference: 20200305-5381
File no.: 12/2/8/13
Enquiries: A Lundie

Curriculum GET Minute: DCG 0004/2020

To: Deputy Directors-General, Chief Directors, Directors, Heads: Curriculum Support, Circuit Managers, Deputy Chief Education Specialists, FET and GET Coordinators, Subject Advisers and Principals of all ordinary public schools, special needs and independent schools

Subject: Invitation to Grades 7 to 12 learners to participate in the 2020 WCED Nelson Mandela University National MathArt competition

1. The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) has adopted STEAMAC as one of its strategic priorities. This approach includes the Arts, Agriculture and Coding, in addition to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects.
2. Ongoing research has shown the positive influence of the Arts on the performance of learners and the development of the STEM subjects. The STEAM (STEM and Arts) approach to education assumes that Art is an integrative and transformative element in teaching and learning.
3. In line with the STEAMAC approach, learners in Grades 7 to 12 are invited to participate in the WCED Nelson Mandela University's National MathArt competition. This competition is a project of the Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Centre and a partner of the WCED.
4. The theme for this year's competition is *My Universe*. The MathArt competition challenges learners to create an original artwork that connects Mathematics in a visual and creative way to the theme of the competition. The focus is to present Mathematics in an artistic manner by creating a two-dimensional (2D) artwork using Mathematics.
5. Grades 7 to 12 learners from all WCED schools are invited to participate in this event.
6. The purpose of the MathArt competition is to encourage learners to think creatively and allow them to explore Mathematics in a different manner.

7. The combination of Mathematics and Visual Art
 - a) provides an innovative approach that ensures motivation and engagement for learners and teachers in both Mathematics and Visual Art;
 - b) enriches Mathematics and Visual Art learning in a meaningful way; and
 - c) enhances cross-disciplinary teaching and learning in line with 21st century skills.

8. As Visual Art forms part of the Creative Arts Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement teachers may use the artworks created by Grades 7 to 9 learners for this competition as an assessment task.

9. Kindly note the following guidelines for participation:
 - The competition is open to all learners in the Senior Phase and FET band: Grades 7 to 12.
 - All entries must be entered **online** on or before **17:00, 30 April 2020**. Only electronic entries will be accepted. Please click on the website address at <http://www.mathart.co.za/#> .
 - Each learner may submit only one entry.
 - Learners are free to choose any wet and/or dry medium, including but not limited to pencils, pens, watercolours, temperas, acrylics, crayons, pastels or ink, found material, clay, wood, paper, etc.
 - Learners may submit only 2D artworks. Relief work is allowed, but it should not be thicker than 2 cm and all pieces must be securely attached.
 - The size of the 2D entry should not be smaller than an A4 page (21 x 29 cm) and not larger than an A2 page (42 x 59 cm).
 - All entries must be the learner's original artwork. Copies from the internet or other sources will not be accepted.
 - The artwork may not be a photograph or computer-generated graphics.
 - Artworks may not contain copyright material, threatening, offensive or abusive materials.
 - All submissions must be made by an individual learner. Group submissions are not permitted. There is no restriction on the number of individual artworks submitted by a school.
 - The name of the learner or school may not appear on the front on the artwork. The learner's name, surname, grade and school must be typed (font: Arial, font size: 11) and pasted with a clear glue stick on the back of the artwork (please do not staple it).
 - Learners must also write a paragraph about their artwork, by answering the following questions:
 - a) Which topic in Mathematics did you use to complete the artwork? Explain your answer.
 - b) How did you creatively connect "My Universe" and Mathematics? Explain your answer.
 - c) Do you think creativity can be used to teach Mathematics?
 - The answers to the questions must be written or typed out in one paragraph (50 to 100 words).

10. An exhibition of the selected entries will take place at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Gallery in Port Elizabeth from 20 June to 04 July 2020.

11. The National Prize-giving will take place on 04 July 2020 at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Gallery in Port Elizabeth.

12. The WCED Provincial Prize-giving will take place on 27 August 2020 at the Artscape theatre. The works exhibited at the provincial exhibition will include the national winning entries as well as additional artworks selected by a provincial panel of adjudicators.

13. Click on the following link or scan the QR codes for a presentation that provides detailed information on the competition:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b9gnj11Fkg9xs5-VyUtZQafSYqFWTuBw/view?usp=sharing>



14. Visit the official MathArt website: <http://www.mathart.co.za/#>, that will provide information on the following:

- Theme
- How to enter
- Rules
- History of the competition
- Assessment rubric

15. Teachers are requested to contact the Creative Arts subject adviser at their district office for further information. Creative Arts subject advisers' contact details are listed below:

District	Subject adviser	Telephone number	Email address
Metro North	Noeline Appel	021 938 3051	Noeleen.Appel@westerncape.gov.za
Metro Central	Betsie Strydom	021 514 6762	Betsie.Strydom@westerncape.gov.za
Metro South	Natasha Esbach	021 370 2045	Natasha.Esbach@westerncape.gov.za
Metro East	Michelle Petersen	021 900 7016	Michelle.Petersen@westerncape.gov.za
Metro East	Gezania de Jongh	021 900 7009	Gezania.DeJongh@westerncape.gov.za
West Coast	Deon Burger	021 860 1200	Deon.Burger2@westerncape.gov.za
Cape Winelands	Cantél Ross	023 348 4618	Cantel.Ross@westerncape.gov.za
Overberg	Margie Clarke	028 214 7349	Margie.Clarke@westerncape.gov.za
Eden & Central Karoo	Phillip Jaftha	044 279 1681	Phillip.Jaftha@westerncape.gov.za
Head Office	Anina Lundie	021 467 2016	Anina.Lundie@westerncape.gov.za

16. We would like to encourage all schools to use the opportunity to participate in this exciting project.

17. Kindly bring the contents of this minute to the attention of the teachers concerned.

SIGNED: PAD BEETS

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 2020-03-11