

2025 “The Canvas of Leadership” Cover Art Contest Rules & Guidelines

By submitting an entry to the 2025 Aspen Leadership Seminars “The Canvas of Leadership” Cover Art Contest, you accept the following Contest Rules & Guidelines.

No Purchase or payment is necessary to enter this Contest or to receive an award. This Contest is void where prohibited.

Eligibility and Submissions

1. The 2025 “The Canvas of Leadership” Cover Art Contest is sponsored by the Aspen Leadership Seminars department at the Aspen Institute.
2. The Contest is open to artists who:
 - Currently reside in the United States;
 - Will be 18 years old or older by their submission date, no later than the Contest close date of September 9, 2025; and
 - Are not ineligible as described below.

The following artists are **not eligible** to participate in this Contest:

- (1) Employees, officers, directors, and fellows (current or former) of the Aspen Institute (“Institute Persons”); and
 - (2) members of the immediate families (parents, spouses, children, siblings) or individuals residing in the household (whether related or not) of any Institute Persons.
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3. Aspen Leadership Seminars is looking for original art submissions to respond to and be inspired by the concepts:
 - **Fortify and undecieve ourselves**
 - **Intentional dialogue**
 - **Leading forward**
 - **Humanistic leadership**
 4. Examples of art submissions include, but are not limited to, images of artwork in the following media: painting, drawing, graphic design, and photography.
 5. To participate, you must electronically submit a high-resolution photo of your art submission using the 2025 “The Canvas of Leadership” Art Contest Entry Form, and complete the Entry Agreement, License and Release. Entries must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time on September 9, 2025

6. You may submit up to two (2) artworks/pieces for this Contest using two (2) separate Entry Forms, one for each submission.
7. You may submit up to three (3) images of your art submission for each Contest entry to show different angles of the piece.
8. By entering this Contest, you represent and warrant that each art submission is your original work, that your entry does not infringe the rights of any third party, and that you have all the rights necessary to submit the entry and to assign the rights in the entry. Artwork must be your own, original work and not a duplicate of any work found in books, magazines or other published works, including the internet. Non-original computer generated images, images generated using Artificial Intelligence (AI), and traced images will not be judged. If any element of a submitted artwork infringes on the rights of another person or entity, including the use of logos, the entry will be disqualified.
9. Your art submission must not have been exhibited or displayed previously.
10. By entering this Contest, you agree that if your submission receives a grand prize or finalist award, the Aspen Institute will possess the right to display, reproduce, or use the submitted artwork for non-commercial purposes at any time in the future in any media, including online, without your prior approval, additional compensation, or notification ("License"). Formally, this means that you grant the Aspen Institute a license to use, copy, change, publish, publicly perform, distribute, or exhibit your submitted artwork. This License is irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, transferable, and non-exclusive (with the right to sublicense) for a period of five (5) years.
11. By entering this Contest, you further agree that the Aspen Institute has the right, but not the obligation to use your name in connection with this Contest and any award, including promotion of the Contest
12. The grand prize or finalist award art submissions may be displayed in a virtual gallery on the Aspen Institute website; and may also be used and or displayed at Aspen Institute Leadership Seminars in materials such as programs, bookmarks, book covers, and printed posters.

Selection

- Judges will select up to five (5) finalist winners. The Aspen Institute reserves the right to choose fewer than five (5) Finalists if, in its sole discretion, an insufficient number of qualified entries are received.
- Judges will additionally select one (1) grand prize winner.
- Judges will use the following criteria in selection of winners:
 - Creativity and originality
 - Alignment with the Contest's themes
 - Emotional and conceptual impact and aesthetic merit
 - Application of the piece to the Aspen Executive Seminar book cover

- Judges will come from a variety of professional backgrounds within the Aspen Institute and all share a passion for leadership.
- Judging will be done in two phases:
 - In Phase 1, judges will asynchronously score the submissions according to the criteria listed above without judges knowledge of name, background of artist etc.
 - In Phase 2, the judges meet to discuss all top pieces and finalize the winning pieces.
- The winners will be notified in October 2025.

The Prizes

The Aspen Institute will award up to (1) Grand Prize of \$5,000 USD and up to (5) Finalist winners of \$1,000 USD each. Please note that you will be responsible for payment of any taxes that may arise under applicable law.