

## 2026 DONATE LIFE MONTH

# Student Art Contest

In celebration of Donate Life Month in April 2026, Donate Life New York State (NYS) proudly again invites elementary, middle, and high school students attending public and private schools in New York State to share their donation and transplantation perspective through art! Their artwork can help inspire others to increase organ, eye, and tissue donation in New York State and ensure a life-changing transplant for every New Yorker in need. This April's Donate Life Month theme is "Leave a Legacy."

The contest opens 12:01 a.m. EST Monday, Jan. 5, 2026 and runs through Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026. Mailed entries must be postmarked by Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026 and mailed to **Donate Life New York State, Attn: Student Art Contest, 185 Jordan Road, Troy, NY, 12180.**

#### Entries must be submitted by a teacher or parent and include:

- Student's Full Name
- Mailing Address
- Grade Level
- Phone Number
- Age
- Email

#### Contest Categories (4):

- **Elementary:** 4th - 5th grades
- **Middle school:** 6th - 8th grades
- **High school:** 9th - 10th & 11th - 12th grades

#### Rules & Guidelines for Eligibility:

- Artwork dimensions should be **8.5 x 11 inches** (portrait or landscape orientations)
- Each student may submit **one** entry only.
- Artwork must be original (enhanced stock imagery will not qualify).
- The use of AI-generated art is not allowed. All entries must be the result of human artistic effort.
- Paint, pencil, marker, ink, charcoal, pastels, collage or graphic design and original digital creations.
- No submission with copyrighted material including logos, brand names, licensed or trademarked characters, images or names will be allowed.
- Students may use the Donate Life NYS logo for this artwork only. To ensure they are using the correct logo, visit <https://donatelifenys.org/student-art-contest> to download the correct logo to use.
- Entries containing messaging should be direct and simple with legible artwork that is easy to interpret.
- Entries must not include a green ribbon.



Submissions will be judged by Donate Life NYS' Donation Advisory Council based on creativity, visual impact, artistic merit, and originality. Artwork submissions will hang throughout the corridor adjacent to the Legislative Office Building's "Well" in Albany during Donate Life Month. Winners and their families will be notified by **Friday, March 20, 2026**. Each student art contest winner will receive a \$100 gift card and be recognized as part of a news conference to be held **Tuesday, March 31, 2026** in Albany. Donate Life NYS will mail the gift cards to those winners unable to attend the news conference.

