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**RVC** Royal  
Veterinary  
College  
University of London

 Royal Society of  
**Biology**



# **BioArtAttack (2D)**

**(Formerly the Nancy Rothwell Award)**

# Key information

An art competition for children's drawings or paintings of animals, plants and fungi. The competition is also open to children's natural specimen drawings, these will be judged in a new separate category.

- Prizes will be available for drawings or paintings of animals, plants and fungi, and separately for children's natural specimen drawings.
- Age groups: **7-11**, **12-14** and **15-18**
- Winners will be invited to an experience day event at the Royal Veterinary College where they will receive a guided tour.
- [More information is available online.](#)

# Learning Objectives

## You will:

- Learn why drawings are important for science
- Know how vets use drawings
- Draw a real object yourself!
- Find out about Royal Veterinary College

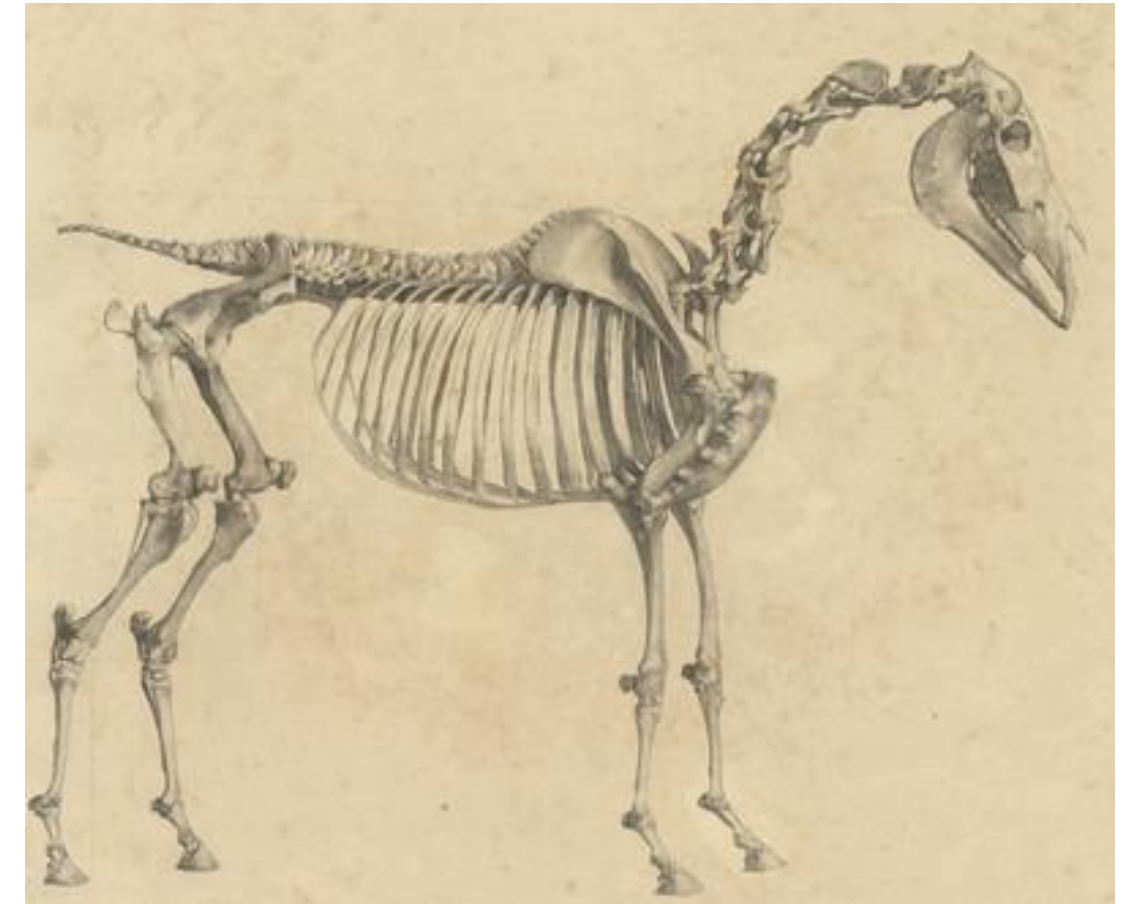
# Introduction

- What is the Royal Veterinary College?
- Click the image and follow the link to see a film introduction to RVC's Camden Campus.
- Look out for the museum!



# Science drawings

- You are about to look at ANATOMY drawings.
- What does **anatomy** mean?
- This is by a famous artist called George Stubbs (1724- 1806).
- Bonus activity: look up some of his other work...



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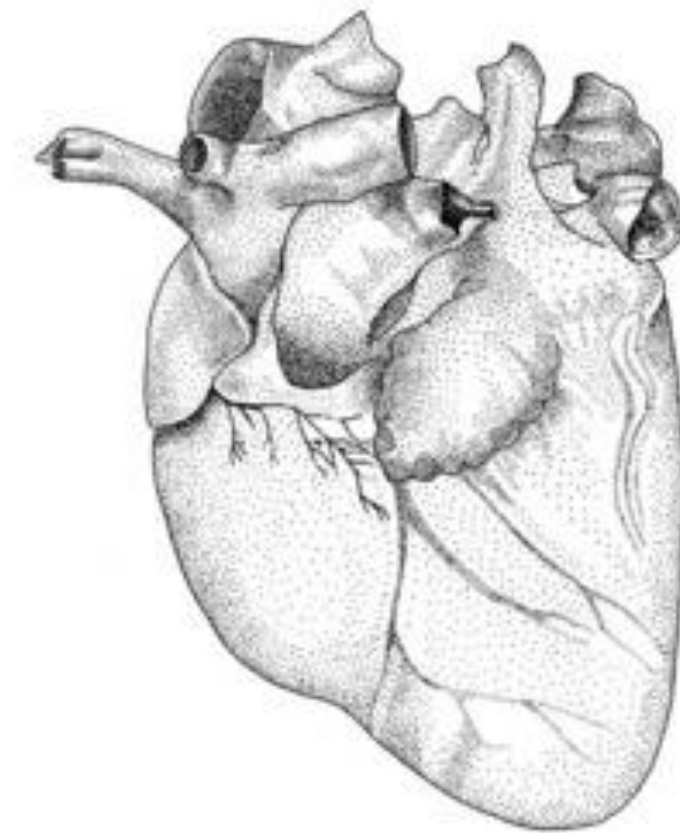
# Specimens

- A specimen means a preserved natural object
- Although they are often parts of animals or plants which have died of natural causes, they have been kept so that we can learn from them.
- Sometimes people collect natural objects such as shells or fossils.
- **Have you ever collected any natural objects?**
- **Have you ever been to any museums with a collection of specimens?**



# Anatomy

- Anatomy isn't just about drawing bones.
- What is this organ?
- Which animal do you think it is from?

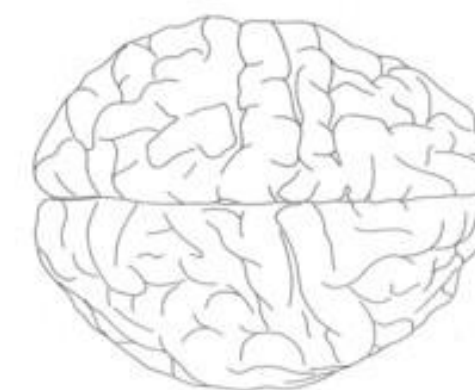
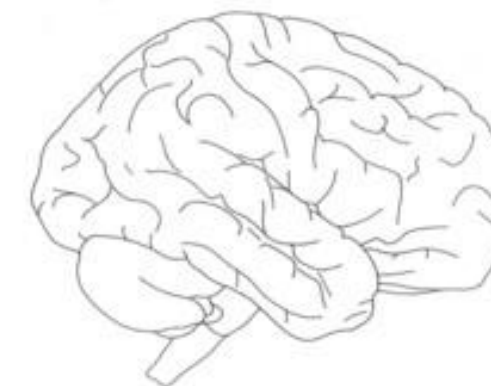


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Why has the anatomist used shading on this drawing?

# History of anatomy

- Look up 'The anatomy of the horse in the 15<sup>th</sup> century'
- What do you notice?
- The Ancient Egyptians and Greeks even studied anatomy!
- Look up Galen and Vesalius if you are really keen to find out more about the history.



People have drawn specimens to understand them better for many years.

**True or false? The famous scientist and artist Leonardo Da Vinci studied anatomy. Find out!**

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# Vet students and anatomy

- Studying the parts of the body helps vets know how to put animals back together if they have been injured!
- **Activity:** draw a dog. You could use a whiteboard for this. Draw where you think the ribs, heart and skull are in the body.



The museum in the Royal Veterinary College in Camden, where students learn from real specimens, by drawing them, working out what each part is... and learning it!

# Animal anatomy

- Were you right?
- Which organs are the same as humans?
- What is different?

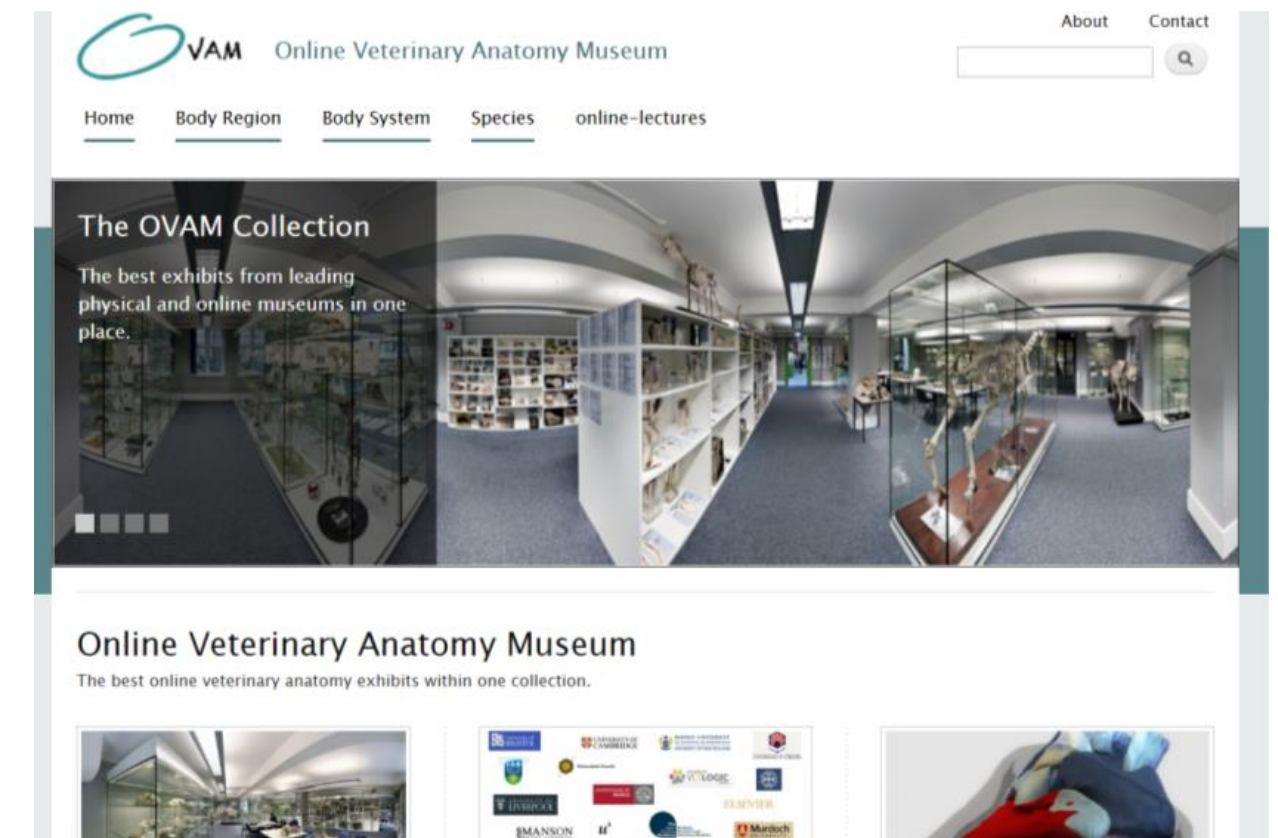


The heart drawing you saw earlier is from a dog!

Drawing an object rather than taking a quick photo means you have to really think about it!

# Online Veterinary Anatomy Museum

- The Online Veterinary Anatomy Museum is an open access resource to let you look at virtual specimens.
- Explore the museum highlights by clicking the image
- Hear more about the project:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I4CjRLq6E1E>



# Animation

- Animators sometimes use knowledge of anatomy when making cartoons or inventing new creatures.
- The horse skeleton in the Royal Veterinary College shows Foxhunter, an Olympic prize winning showjumper in the 1950s.
- It was used as the basis for a creature in Harry Potter. Can you guess which one?

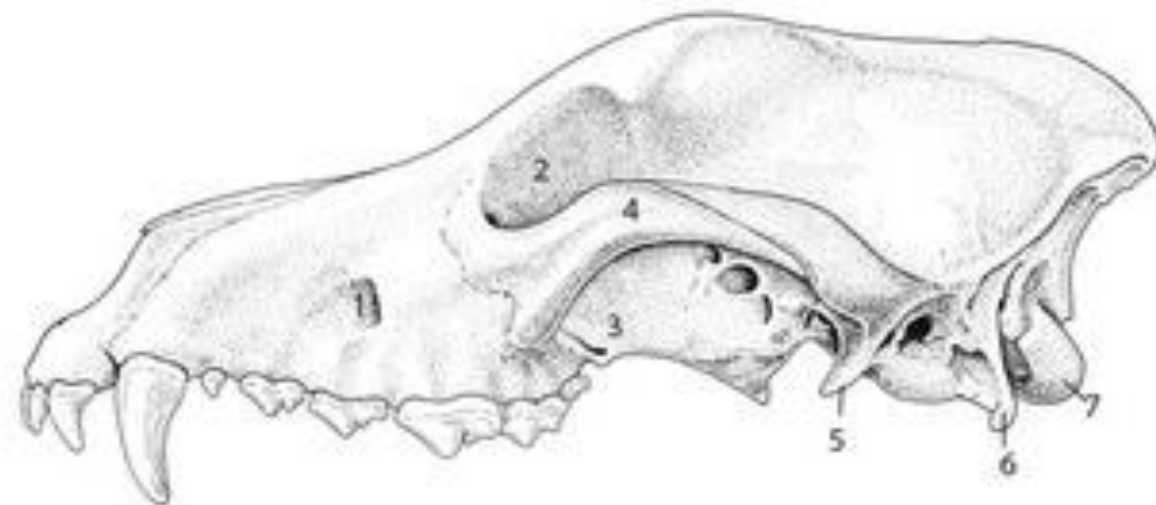




In artistic drawings, it is ok to have many lines, when you are sketching, to try to get a sense of emotion or movement for example.

Remember scientific drawing is all about accuracy and careful observation. It is great if it can also look beautiful too! However, the communication purpose is most important

Skull: lateral view



Figure

1. Infraorbital foramen
2. Orbit
3. Pterygopalatine fossa
4. Zygomatic arch
5. Retroarticular process
6. Paracondylar process
7. Occipital condyle

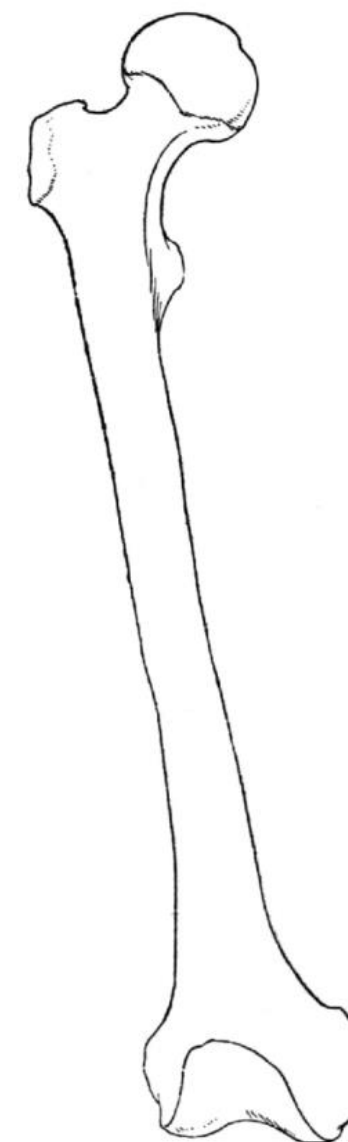
Anatomy illustrations are for teaching students or vets for example. They are very precise.

You might choose to label your final piece by researching the name of each part

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# Your drawing

- Choose a real specimen (natural object) to draw
- What do you think it is from?
- Think carefully about which view you will draw- what do you want the viewer to understand about the specimen?



**Include:**

- Title
- Your first name
- Your school
- Your class

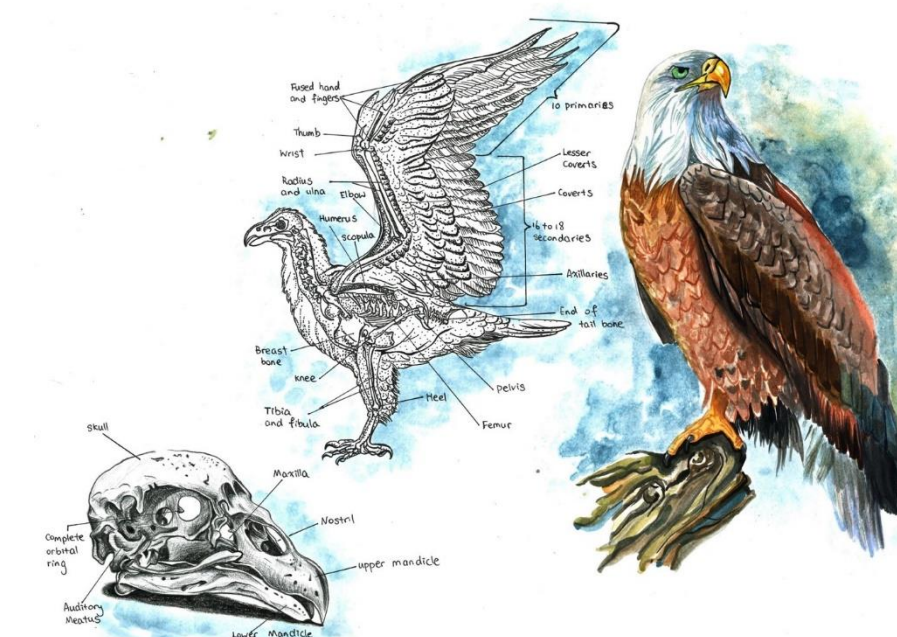
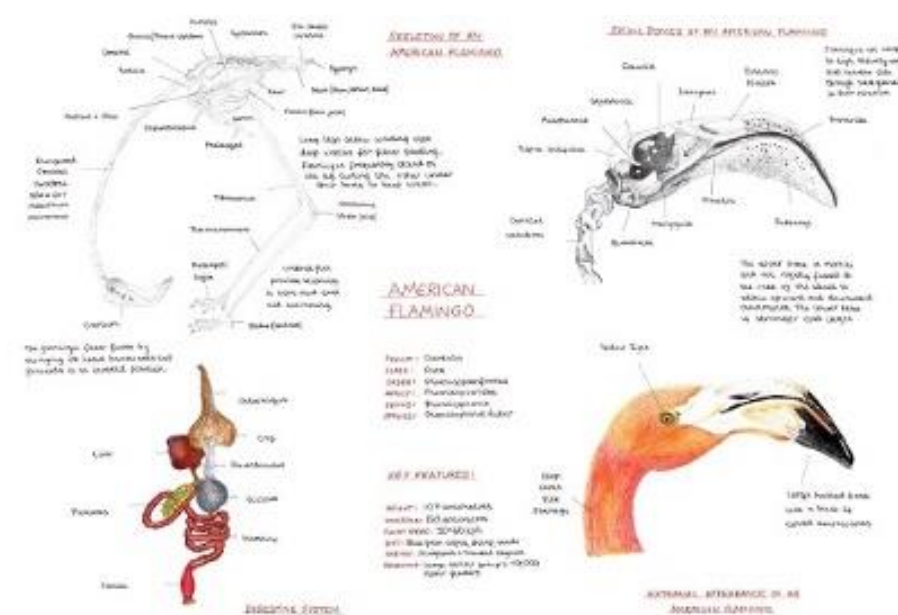
Handle the object if you can.

Which parts are rough?

Which parts are smooth? Why, what is their function?

How will you show this in your drawing?

# Inspiration



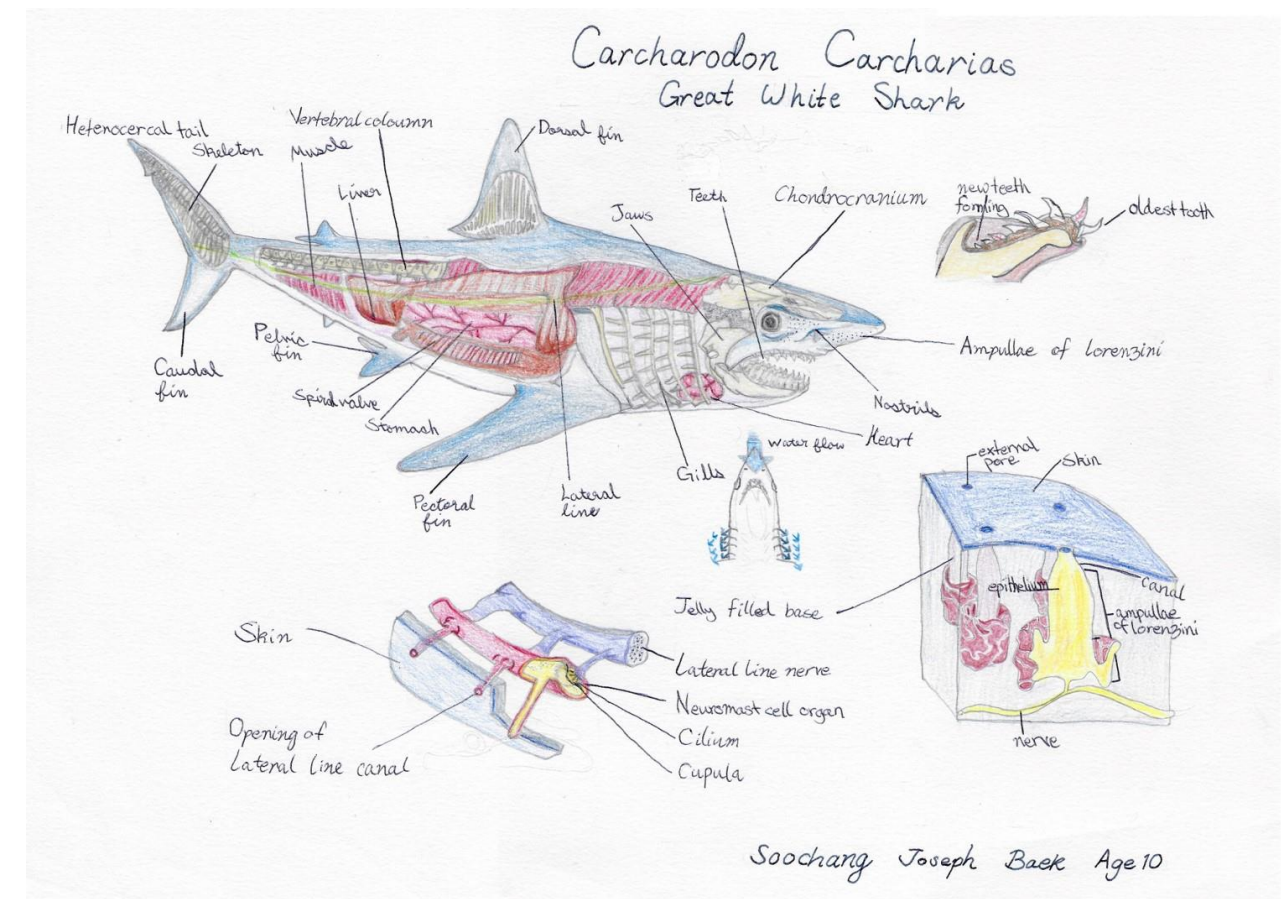
Take a look at [previously shortlisted and winning entries.](#)



# Final advice

- Practice some different styles and materials – you could use different coloured paper, chalks, pastels, watercolour or oil paints even!
- Visit a museum or borrow some natural objects and practice.
- Make some sketches and then a final piece. Good luck in this year's competition we look forward to seeing your artwork.

**Submit your artwork online.**



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