

AMERICA - 250 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Essay & Art Competition

To honor the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding, the Broward College America 250 Advisory Committee invites all BC students to participate in the America 250 Art and Essay Contests. Students are encouraged to submit an original piece of artwork or an essay responding to the contest prompts by Friday, April 3rd.

Winners will be honored at a special Student Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, April 15, 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the South Campus Amphitheater. Student submissions or excerpts may be honored on special displays around the college. We will award prizes for First, Second, and Third Place in three categories.

CATEGORIES:

- **Essay/Creative Nonfiction (1000 words maximum)**
- **Poetry and Short Fiction (1000 words maximum)**
- **Visual Art (painting, drawing, ceramics, photography, and photos of artwork may be submitted if the artwork cannot be submitted directly for the first-round review).**

WRITING PROMPTS



1. "What Does Freedom Mean?"

Explore how the idea of freedom has evolved from the era of the American Revolution to today. Is freedom primarily political, personal, economic, artistic, spiritual, or something else entirely? What does it mean to you, now?

2. "America at 250: A Letter to the Future."

Compose a piece addressed to Americans living 50 years from now. What inheritance (moral, cultural, environmental, political, personal) are we passing forward? What responsibilities accompany independence in the twenty-first century? You can just ground your work in history, but let imagination guide your vision.

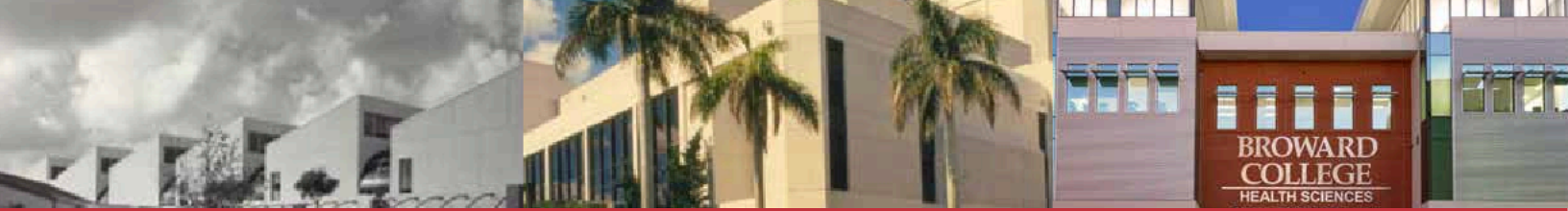
3. "Voices Across Time: A Dialogue with 1776."

Imagine a conversation between someone living in 2026 and a figure from the era of the American Revolution. The exchange might include a soldier, a revolutionary, an enslaved person, a Native inhabitant, a loyalist, or even a child. Create a dialogue across centuries that explores how the meaning of "freedom" has evolved. What would surprise them about modern America? What would disappoint them? What remains recognizable?



BROWARD COLLEGE®





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Art Prompts

1. "What Does Freedom Mean?"

Create a visual artwork that interprets how the concept of freedom has transformed over the last 250 years. Artists might explore political freedom, personal liberation, cultural expression, spiritual autonomy, economic opportunity, or the contradictions embedded in America's history.

2. "America at 250: A Letter to the Future."

Design an artwork that serves as a symbolic "message" to Americans living in 2076. Your piece may reflect the cultural, environmental, moral, or political legacy we are creating today and the responsibilities future generations will inherit.

3. "Voices Across Time: A Dialogue with 1776."

Imagine a visual conversation between the world of 1776 and the world of 2026. Your artwork might depict contrasting perspectives, parallel experiences, or a meeting between historical and contemporary figures. The focus is on the evolving meaning of freedom and the unexpected connections across centuries.

ELIGIBLE ART FORMS

- **Painting (any medium)**
- **Drawing**
- **Photography (digital or film)**
- **Ceramics**
- **Sculpture**
- **Mixed media**
- **Digital illustration or digital art**

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is prohibited.
- Students must be currently enrolled at Broward College.
- Artwork must be original and created specifically for this contest.
- Digital submissions must include a high-quality photo of the finished work for first-round review.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO APRIL 3RD

For more information:

Contact Jessica Minter
jminter@broward.edu or 954-201-8722

PRIZES

- 1st** \$100 Amazon Wishlist
- 2nd** \$75 Amazon Wishlist
- 3rd** \$50 Amazon Wishlist

