

Grading Rubric for the Avian Species Art Contest

Each artwork will be evaluated based on four categories, with a total possible score of 100 points:

1. Avian Species Accuracy and Detail (25 points)

- **21–25 points:** The bird is depicted with exceptional anatomical accuracy and realistic features, showing careful research and attention to scientific details, including correct proportions, plumage, beak, feet, and posture.
 - **16–20 points:** The depiction is mostly accurate with minor anatomical or behavioral inaccuracies that do not significantly detract from the representation of the bird.
 - **0–15 points:** Significant inaccuracies, unrealistic features, or lack of detail, showing limited effort in portraying the bird correctly.
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2. Art Skills (25 points)

- **21–25 points:** Mastery of the chosen medium, demonstrating excellent technique with careful attention to the texture, pattern, and layering of feathers, as well as clean, polished execution.
 - **16–20 points:** Good technique with visible effort, showing recognizable feather textures and patterns, though some areas could use refinement or more consistency.
 - **0–15 points:** Basic or limited skill level, with minimal or inconsistent feather texture, patterns, or overall technical execution.
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3. Depiction of Avian Habitat (25 points)

(Note: Birds may be depicted in flight, and a sky background is optional. If included, details such as clouds and color gradients will be considered in scoring. When illustrating a bird in an empty sky, make it large enough to stand out, but keep the

overall composition harmonious. **Well-composed entries will not be penalized for a lack of background.**)

- **21–25 points:** The artwork shows a well-researched and realistic habitat for the bird, with accurate depiction of trees, wetlands, lakes, skies, or other natural features appropriate for the species.
- **16–20 points:** The habitat is mostly accurate with minor inconsistencies, but still effectively supports the overall representation of the bird.
- **0–15 points:** The habitat is poorly depicted, unrealistic, or inconsistent with the bird's natural environment.

4. Creativity (25 points)

- **21–25 points:** Highly creative, with unique and imaginative elements that make the artwork stand out.
- **16–20 points:** Good creativity, with thoughtful and engaging ideas that enhance the piece.
- **0–15 points:** Limited creativity, relying on standard concepts or lacking originality and personal expression.

Awards Criteria for the Avian Species Art Contest

Based on the final score, participants will receive the following awards:

- **Gold Award: 85 and above**
Exceptional artwork that demonstrates outstanding accuracy, skill, creativity, and attention to detail.
- **Silver Award: 75–84**
High-quality artwork showing strong effort, good technical skill, and thoughtful execution across all categories.
- **Honorable Mention: 60–74**
Artwork that displays commendable effort and creativity, with room for further development in some areas.