

Atlanta Botanical Garden Art Throwdown

October 1, 2016

10-1PM

The format of this Throwdown will be very similar to last year. Schools are to create teams for as many of the competitions as possible. Schools do not have to compete in all the competitions to participate in the event.

Points will be awarded for the top five entries in every event (See below). At the end of the day, the team with the most points wins.

We will convene in the activity hall at 10AM. Teams should arrive at the park no later than 9:30 to allow for walking time to the hall and team organization. All events will commence simultaneously at 10:30 and occur during a 90 minute window. All participants will reconvene in the activity hall for exhibition, documentation, and judging by 12 noon.

Judging results at 12:30 with awards given out as they are announced.

Closing comments

Departure by 1:00PM

We are working on creating an Instagram page for this event to document and collect a history of the day.

Events

Chihuly Response sculpture

One team of up to four sculptors per school

Internationally recognized glass artist Dale Chihuly has numerous installations around the park. Teams are to use their own materials to create their own "Chihuly" on the campus. Teams will study Chihuly's work and take necessary considerations to create a temporary sculptural installation using balloons, plastic sheet, objects, or other materials that are not messy or toxic. No painting will be allowed on site. After creation, documentation, and judging, the sculpture must be removed leaving no trace at the site.

Water Painting

2 individually competing artists per school

The Children's Garden has been completely renovated. One of the new features is a black slate wall that can be painted with water in the mode of traditional Sumi ink painting. The competition is intended to challenge students to "paint" in this mode. Each effort disappears with the evaporation of the water, therefore, contestants will need to practice to attain desirable results as quickly as possible. Contestants

will be able to practice before the competition to get the feel of this ephemeral medium. The window of time will be two minutes per student. Time lapse documentation will record the efforts of each competitor. Numerous tutorials are on Youtube.

Vine Looping Video

Looping video: up to 3 collaborative contestants per team: up to 2 teams per school: teams will create a looping video in the gardens using cell phones and any app available. Sound may or may not be added to the video. The video must be short (6-7 seconds) and uploaded to Vine. Final cuts will be projected before the entire group at the closing.

Botanical Scientific illustration

Up to 2 participants per team: colored pencil (may be water soluble pencil), ink, graphite, watercolor: 90 minutes: Contestants will draw by chance from a bowl the name of an orchid from the orchid house. A map will show the location of the particular orchid. Artists will create an image that accurately documents the plant as it would in a botanical guide and will be judged by a professional scientific illustrator.

Haiku Poetry

Up to 10 entries per team from any member. Contestants will write a poem in the mode of Haiku. The poem need not have exactly 17 syllables but should be limited to two or three lines. Winning entries will express great poignancy, metaphoric power, and compelling imagery.

Digital Photo

Up to two collaborative teams of two photographers each per school. Students are to use their own equipment, SLRs or phones, using Photoshop or other image manipulation apps to create a compelling composite digital image of objects, sculpture, people, plants, architecture, and typography seen within the Gardens. Entries will be judged on mastery of color, composition, effective manipulation, and overall impact. Images will be judged in projection in the activity hall starting at 12 noon.

Scoring

In each event, points will be awarded to individuals with their scores contributing to the team total.

First Place= 10

Second Place= 7

Third Place= 5

Fourth Place = 3

Fifth Place= 1

Final judging placements will be binding and judges are not required or allowed to explain or defend their final decisions to anyone. Contestants, parents, and coaches are not to approach and/or question judges independently after their decision is rendered.

Press

Press releases and announcements are being sent to various publications and websites in the Atlanta community. Participating schools are asked to communicate their involvement to their systems and any community partners or organizations that they wish.

Each team should secure proper parental, school, and district release forms from their respective systems to allow for maximum potential coverage.

Admission

The Atlanta Botanical Garden is generously donating admission to the park for this event. Parking is handled by another company and cannot be donated. Be ready to pay \$2.00 per hour. Only listed team members and coaches will be admitted free of charge for this event. Other onlookers will be charged admission to the Garden and will have access to the full facility as would any other visitor.

Feedback/Debriefing

During and after the event we will be actively pursuing feedback regarding the event and how it should evolve to create a durable and impactful series of competitions. It is the intention of these competitions to keep the arts actively in the public eye while affording the students an elevated experience, solidifying and activating art programs in the schools, and creating a greater sense of consistency and collegiality between art programs across the region.

Documentation

All participants are encouraged to fully document the experience from start to finish. We can then upload participation images to the website www.artthrowdown.com and other advocacy.

Funding

Minimal funding should be necessary to create a viable team. At this early stage no discussion has been formalized regarding sponsorships or of creating a formalized "league" or "Conference". It is worth discussion to relate this effort to existing interscholastic organizations like Thespian, Robotics, CTE, GMEA, and others, to tailor our experience to best suit the individual needs of our programs and district initiatives. Schools are encouraged to pursue funding and sponsorships as they see fit.