



What to Expect Before, During, and After Your Adjudication

Prior to the Portfolio Adjudication and Upon Arrival

- **Can I expect the exact same adjudication regardless of what region site I attend?**

Each regional Portfolio Project uses the same process and principles. There may be procedural variations from site to site based on limiting factors such as available space, time, and volunteers; regional awards and recognition; notification of school district administrators and other details.

- **What if I am nervous before my adjudication?**

Speaking with adults you don't know is hard! It is normal and expected to be nervous. Our adjudicators are trained to ask questions and encourage participants to ease into the presentation. Focus on your work and process and your love of art! You've got this!

- **What do I do when I arrive on site?**

Plan to arrive about 15 minutes before your adjudication time. Upon arrival a volunteer will greet you and check you in. They will check that you have the required paperwork completed, (signed Artistic Integrity Statement, Components Inventory, and Learning Standards Inventory sheet) and help you find a comfortable space to wait until your time

- **How do I know when it's my turn for adjudication?**

You will sit in a waiting area until your adjudicator is ready for you. Your adjudicator or check-in person will call you when it's your turn, and bring you with your work to your adjudication location.

During the Portfolio Adjudication

- **What happens in the adjudication session?**

Your adjudication session is the time for you to present your portfolio to the adjudicator. If space permits, you may want to present your work in a way that allows you to talk about how you achieved the Standards across pieces, rather than one component at a time. You'll be able to ask and respond to questions and work with your adjudicator to reveal as much about the pieces as possible in the time allotted. The adjudicator is trained to ask questions that lead to the best possible outcome, but you can also take the lead on explaining how various components of your portfolio meet the Learning Standards.

- **Who are the adjudicators?**

Portfolio Project adjudicators are state and regionally trained judges. Usually, they are working or retired art teachers, artists, art students, and/or people who work in a related field. They volunteer their time to give you a positive experience in your portfolio adjudication.

- **Does the adjudicator run the adjudication?**

Adjudicators will allow you to lead the portfolio presentation and discussion if you desire, but are also

trained to ask focusing questions and guide the presentation whenever needed. The Portfolio Project is graded holistically by Standards (not one component at a time), so be prepared to discuss a Standard or Process (Creating, for example) across multiple works if asked to do so.

- **How long does the adjudication last?**

Adjudications have different time frames depending on which level portfolio you are presenting and time constraints of the site. There is a state recommendation for each level but regions may need to modify based on its scheduling needs. Your adjudicator will let you know how much time you are allotted and help you manage time so everything can be viewed. Your region coordinator can provide an exact time frame if asked.

- **What can I expect from the adjudicator during the adjudication?**

The adjudicator will prompt and question you to provide opportunities to show accomplishment of the criteria that will be scored. Some sample adjudicator questions can be found in the supporting documents for each level to help you prepare.

After the Portfolio Adjudication

- **What happens after the adjudication?**

Once your presentation has ended or your time is up, your adjudicator usually takes time to complete or finalize the scoring in private. In some cases they may ask you to leave your portfolio or specific items with them for a short time so they may refer to them as they do this. The adjudicator will also use the Learning Standards Inventory you filled out to help with this process. Adjudicators will make comments, provide feedback, and share additional thoughts on the scoring sheet in addition to marking a final score. The adjudicator or site coordinator will give you instructions on next steps.

- **What happens to the score sheet?**

The score sheet is documented for the regional and state level leadership and the original is given to the teacher to pass on to the student.

- **When will I know my score?**

In most cases, participants receive their portfolio back along with the scoring sheet, a certificate, and any other documents before they leave the adjudication site. In some cases the results are ready the next business day and will be sent to the teacher who registered you.

- **Am I awarded anything besides my score/level?**

A certificate noting the score and level achieved is typically provided. Students at the 8 grade level and beyond who achieve a distinguished level are eligible for a portfolio waiver and an invitation for entry to the New York State Summer School of the Arts program (NYSSSA). Some regions provide additional awards, swag, or recognition. Regional coordinators will relay this information to your teacher.

- **Are there any scholarships associated with the portfolio project?**

Juniors and seniors who achieve a distinguished level will also receive information about NYSATA's Jessica Bayer Scholarship, named after the original creator of the Portfolio Project. This scholarship is available in the senior year only to those who completed a Portfolio Project adjudication in grades 11 and/or 12 with a distinguished level rating. Scholarship applications are due at the end of May each year.

- **Does the work from my portfolio go anywhere beyond the adjudication?**

Some regions collect a piece of work or document one work for a regional student art exhibit. Additionally, NYSATA may use images of you and/or your work from the adjudication to promote and/or otherwise document the Portfolio Project.

- **What can I do if I disagree with my score?**

It is up to you and your teacher to decide how to use the information and comments on the score sheet to improve your work and process. There is no appeals process in place to challenge your score unless there is a numerical error. Your teacher is welcome and encouraged to reach out to the regional and/or statewide coordinator(s) to provide feedback on the adjudication process and help us make the experience as meaningful and positive as possible for students at all levels.