



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WEA Member Benefits and WEA Member Benefits Foundation Open 2026
Statewide Student Art Contest**

(MADISON, Wis.) – WEA Member Benefits and the WEA Member Benefits Foundation are inviting Wisconsin public school students to participate in their 11th annual Student Art Contest, a statewide initiative encouraging students to explore the theme “Belonging” through original artwork.

The 2026 contest theme reflects research from the Wisconsin Office of Children’s Mental Health showing that connection and belonging play an important role in student well-being. The contest allows students to express identity, connection and hope through art.

“When we asked public school district employees and educators what keeps them up at night, they resoundingly said student mental health,” said Steve Goldberg, Executive Director of the WEA Member Benefits Foundation. “Art gives students a voice. It helps them express emotions, share their stories, and reminds them—and all of us—that they matter and that they belong.”

The contest is open to Wisconsin public school students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Students may submit one original piece of artwork reflecting the theme of belonging. Up to 10 finalists will each receive a \$500 prize, and one finalist will receive the \$1,500 “Best in Class” award, named in memory of Loeymae Lange.

The contest honors Lange, a beloved Wisconsin art teacher who taught for 30 years and inspired generations of young artists.

Submissions will be accepted from April 1 through May 1. Finalists will be announced in May, and selected artwork will be displayed at WEA Member Benefits in Madison. Student artists will also be recognized this summer during the Foundation’s annual golf outing fundraiser.

To learn more, including contest rules, eligibility and submission details, visit:

<https://www.weabenefits.com/studentartcontest/>

About WEA Member Benefits

For more than 50 years, WEA Member Benefits has helped Wisconsin public school employees and their families achieve financial goals by offering personal insurance, retirement planning, and investment programs. As a trust that reinvests in its members rather than shareholders, Member Benefits prioritizes service, value, and long-term financial well-being. More information is available at weabenefits.com.

About the WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc.

The WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity supporting public education through grants and charitable donations to public educators, public schools, and the communities they serve. More information is available at weafoundation.org.