

THE ARGIVE HERAION FESTIVAL ART COMPETITION

History

The daughter of Cronus and Rhea, queen of the ancient Greek Gods and wife to the ruler of the Olympian Zeus, Hera was the all-mighty goddess of marriage, family, and childbirth. Being the archetypal wife, she was the patroness and protector of all women. In Hera's honor, a festival for women was held at her principle shrines in antiquity, namely at Argos - the oldest town in Greece and Europe – Olympia, and on the island of Samos. At Olympia, the Heraion Games (*Heraia*) were held every four years. Similarly, the Olympic Games were held in honor of Zeus.

The religious ceremonies of the ancient Heraion Games at Argos and Olympia involved both cultural and athletic elements, that is, choral dance and running races, as well as processions, sacrifices, and the presentation of the newly woven *peplos* for the cult statue of Hera. The festival itself was organized and supervised by the "College of Sixteen Women" who were considered by some scholars to be "peace-keepers" or "peace-makers." At Olympia, the ancient Heraion Games were the earliest official games for women held in the stadium and included only foot races for unmarried women on the shorter women's track (177m).

Unlike men who always competed in the nude ("heroic nudity"), thus revealing the ideal beauty of the strong male body and displaying uniformity of appearance beyond all ethnic and socioeconomic differences, women athletes wore short tunics which reached to their knees. The Heraion champions at Olympia won olive crowns, cow or ox meat from the animals sacrificed to Hera, and the right to set up statues of themselves inscribed with their names in the sacred *altis*, or to dedicate painted portraits of themselves hanging on the columns of the temple of Hera.

The Art Competition

In celebration of the historic revival of the Argive Heraion Games in 2019 sponsored by the Argos/Mycenae Municipality and with the support and creative direction of The Arete Fund, we invite your participation in an **art competition** inspired by the Heraion customs, beliefs and ideas. While the race is open to all, so too, do we invite the participation of artists whose dialogue with the past may impart to this festival those expressions that expand on the themes of *peace* and human *excellence* for the future.

The artwork that wins the First Prize will decorate the poster of the Heraion Games 2019 and will be displayed as a banner on the website of the Heraion Games and the Arete Fund. All competitors who participate in the Heraion Games Art Competition will be published on the website of the Arete Fund with a link to the Heraion Games website for an entire year, thus recognizing and promoting young or established artists. This is a unique opportunity to connect and integrate arts and sports in a beautiful ceremony honoring ancient traditions in our own modern world. All are welcomed to celebrate, compete, and connect! Please, join us today!

The Heraion Games 2019 Art Competition

Winners' artwork will decorate the posters of the Heraion Games.

Rules of Competition

- Undergraduate and graduate students of all ages and from all over the world minoring or majoring in the Fine Arts (BA/BFA, Post-Bac, MFA) are eligible to compete.
- Categories of the competition include painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, video (max. length of 2 minutes), and sculpture.
- There are no restrictions as to artistic style: all traditional, classical, or contemporary styles of art are accepted.
- The artwork that will win the First Prize will decorate the poster of the Heraion Games 2019 and will be displayed as a banner on the website of the Heraean Games and the Arete Fund.
- All competitors who participate in the Heraion Games Art Competition will be published on the website of the Arete Fund with a link to the Heraion Games website for an entire year, thus recognizing and promoting young or established artists.

Submission Deadline: 1 August, 2019

Submit photos of your work to:

Cynthia Maggidis - cynthiamagg@gmail.com

Personal Information

First Name: _____ Last Name _____

Local Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Greek Citizenship: Yes No
(please circle one)

If not a Greek citizen, please indicate Greek descent and explain:

Academic Information

School or University: _____

City: _____

Current Class Program and Class Year – please circle.

Bachelors BA/BFA MFA Post-Bac

Class Rank BA/BFA: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
(please circle one)

Class Rank MFA: First Year Second Year Third Year
(please circle one)

Year of (expected) Degree: _____

Artwork for Competition:

Please Select Medium:

** Please indicate below if your artwork is mixed media with a list of all materials involved.

Painting:
Egg Tempera
(please circle one)

Oil

Acrylic

Watercolor

Drawing:
(please circle one)

Charcoal

Pastel

Graphite

Ink

Printmaking:
Monotype
(please circle one)

Etching

Woodblock

Lithography

Photography:
(please circle one)

Digital

Holga (Film)

Sculpture:
Other: _____
(please circle one)

Clay

Plaster

Marble

Video (restricted to max. 2 minutes)

Mixed Media Artwork:

Please read and initial each of the following and sign the bottom:

1. _____ I have reviewed the eligibility and participation requirements.
2. _____ The artwork I submit
 - a. will be properly marked with artist's name, title, year, and signature
 - b. will be authentic and original (no plagiarism or copying allowed)
 - c. will follow the theme of the Heraean Games (but I can choose any style, traditional, classical, or contemporary).
3. _____ I will complete and submit my form and artwork by the deadline.
4. _____ I am aware that if I participate, my artwork will be posted and mentioned in the Arete Fund Website and the Heraean Games Website.
 - a. I understand and agree that my artwork will be posted for a full year on the website and kept record in a catalog for future applicants to see.
 - b. If the applicant does not want to be involved in the online publication, the applicant will send an email to the Arete Fund and politely decline this offer.
5. _____ I understand that only the first-place winner will be displayed on the Games poster.
6. _____ I understand that I need to be Greek by birth or descent, or have Greek Citizenship in order to be eligible for this competition. If no proof of Greek identity is given, the applicant will not be eligible to compete.
7. _____ I understand there is no application fee in this process. I, as applicant, am solely responsible for purchasing art materials for the artwork I will submit.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Contact Information:

Arete Fund Founders:

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Steve de Laet

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Further Contacts:

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