

A simple definition of plagiarism from the Merriam-Webster Dictionary is “to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own.” This concept can be applied to writing, art, and photography among other artistic mediums. Therefore, it applies to all submissions to Sister Cities International’s Young Artists Showcase, Young Authors Showcase, and the Instagram Challenge. While we realize that many works of art draw on inspiration from others, every submission will be thoroughly evaluated for originality. Submissions based on photographs or other two-dimensional art that was not created by the submitting artist must include express written consent for use from the original creator of the art on which the submission was based. Any submissions determined to have plagiarized the work of others will be rejected.

As a reference, below are high profile examples of alleged visual plagiarism that led to legal challenges in the U.S.



Left: Art Rogers, *Puppies*, 1985. Right: Jeff Koons, *String of Puppies*, 1988
Source: “Copyright In The Visual Arts.” *WordPress*. Dec 2011. Web. September 3, 2015.
<https://copyrightvisualarts.wordpress.com/2011/12/20/art-rogers-vs-jeff-koons/>



Left: Associated Press photo of Barack Obama by Mannie Garcia. Right: Poster by Shepard Fairey
Source: Kennedy, Randy. “Artist Sues The A.P. Over Obama Image.” *The New York Times*. 9 Feb 2009. Web. September 3, 2015 <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/10/arts/design/10fair.html?_r=0>.

Any questions about plagiarism and the Young Artists Showcase, Young Authors Showcase, or the Instagram Challenge can be directed to Ted Carroll, Membership Manager for Youth Programs, at tcarroll@sistercities.org.