

Getting into Print Competition

Printing sources

- DIY
 - Canon iP8720 - up to 13"x19" prints; \$170 @ Amazon – 5 colors
 - Canon Pixma 100 – up to 13"x19" prints; \$335 @ Amazon – 8 colors
 - Epson Expression Photo HD XP-15000 - up to 13"x19" prints; \$300 – 6 colors
 - More ink colors means more tonal range
 - Cost of inks
 - Don't buy 3rd party inks

DIY Printing

- Paper surface – Satin (luster), matte, glossy, metallic
- Often get the best results from using paper of the same brand as the printer- Epson, Canon, etc.
- Third party papers can also be good
 - Red River Paper – 100 8x10” or 8.5x11.5” - \$38
 - Download printer (ICC) profiles from paper manufacturer – not all devices can print the same range of colors. A printer profile is a translator so your printer knows how to print the right colors for a specific paper

Outside printing sources

- Local printers
 - Walgreens – 8x10" @ \$4
 - Costco – 8x12" @ \$1.79; 16x20" @ \$7
 - Sam's – 8x12" @ \$1.79; 16x20" @ \$7
 - Send a test print
 - If prints don't match what you see on your screen, download printer profile from company doing the printing

Print options

- Consider cropping image to a standard size – 5x7”, 8x10”, 11x14”, etc. It will be easier to find pre-made mats for these sizes
- A cutout (or “overlay”) mat on the front protects the print and adds to appearance
- You can buy pre-cut mat sets, with backboard – Dick Blick, Micheal’s, etc. - reusable
- A black mat looks better in the lightbox than white. A white mat can detract from the image
- Portfolio for carrying prints safely

Competition presentation rules

- Use required label – **In upper left hand corner**
 - Available on web site and on table on competition night
- **No exposed tape** on back of print
- No frame
- Small prints
 - Max print size – 8” x 12”
 - Max mat size – 12” x 16”
- Mono and Color prints
 - Max height – 20”
 - Max width – 30”

Mounting prints

- Self adhesive board – United Art & Education, Centerville – 3/16” thick, 32x40” \$9
 - Makes four 16x20” for \$2.25 ea. Or twelve 8x12” for \$0.75 ea.



Mounting prints

- Buying your own matboard – Dick Blick – 32x40 matboard \$4.39; makes four 16”x20” mats
- Spray adhesives
- ATG tape
- 3M 568 Positionable Mounting Adhesive (PMA)
 - Available in 50’ rolls in three widths of 11”, 16” and 24.” Prices range from \$40 to \$80.
- Dry mounting – requires dry mount press, tack iron and dry mount tissue