*(Sample Letter introducing Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest-updated November 2023)*

(**GFWC-Name of Club**)

(*Current Date*)

(*Name of School)*

*Address*

*City*

Dear (*Art Teacher/Principal*),

GFWC-WI (General Federation of Women’s Clubs) has sponsored the Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest for 7th & 8th grade students in Wisconsin communities since 1927. The purpose of this memorial contest is to encourage student-artists, promote art in our community, and honor the memory of Wisconsin’s great sculptor. The (*Name of Club*) is conducting this contest with judges who will award 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and Honorable Mention with certificates and ribbons. Students submitting artwork will receive a Participation Certificate as a reminder that their artwork was exhibited in this historic art contest. The artwork will be displayed at (*place*) from (*dates the artwork will be exhibited*). The judging will take place before the exhibit is open to the public.

Students may submit one entry in each of the **two** categories:

* **2-D** - painting & drawing, mounted on stiff backing not to exceed 22” x 28.”
* **3-D** – sculpture, not to exceed 22” x 24”.

The art must be entirely the student’s own work, done with teacher supervision.

There are two Classes with an equal number of awards:

* Class A – schools with a certified art instructor
* Class B – schools without a certified art instructor; a classroom teacher or a volunteer may teach art.

Attached is a Contest Rules & Guidelines, a biography of Helen Farnsworth Mears to share with your students, Entry Form, Permission & Contact Form, and an Art Inventory Form. For your convenience, **all these forms** can be found at **https://www.gfwc-wi.org/csp-arts-culture.**

If you have any questions regarding any aspect of this contest, please contact the contest chairman/co-chairman. We look forward to your students’ participation in this historic art contest.

 Sincerely,

 (*Name*)

 Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest, chairman