



# WHAT IS LOVE?

## A Contest:

Visual Arts

Literary Arts

Performance Arts

Graphic Arts

**NYSCADV**  
NEW YORK STATE COALITION  
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## CALLING ALL CREATIVES!

**Artists ~ Dancers ~ Writers ~ Singers ~ Poets ~ Graphic Designers ~ Performers**

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month! Help the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV) raise awareness by participating in the What is Love Contest!

**Who:** The contest is open to anyone in New York State ages 12-20 years old.

**What:** Participants can submit a piece of artwork that expresses their idea of “What is Love.” Entries must be in digital format and must be original works created by the contestant. Entries are accepted for the 4 categories below.

- 1) Visual arts (painting, sculpture, drawing, mixed media/collage)
- 2) Literary Arts (short story/essay, poetry)
- 3) Graphic Arts (paint, draw, design in a digital medium including memes)
- 4) Performance Art (Video entries including performed skits, dance, musical performance or compositions)

**Where:** Participants’ homes or at the location of your choosing. Please practice recommended social distancing and COVID-19 safety guidelines if gathering in a group to create/film your entry.

**When:** You are encouraged to create and register your entry anytime through the submission deadline of February 15 at 9pm. Contest voting will take place February 18-25 on NYSCADV’s Facebook page, and a Grand Prize Winner will be selected by a panel of experts, including representatives from Queery, New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA), and NYSCADV. Winners will be announced on February 26.

**Why:** Not only is this a fun way to express creativity and share your artistic talents, but participating in the contest helps raise awareness of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Prizes will be awarded to top entries! Winners will receive Visa gift cards, and one grand prize winner will have their artwork highlighted in various NYSCADV materials and awareness campaigns. The project mentor of the grand prize winner will also receive a prize.

**How:** Create your original entry for the contest, submit your entry, and share it with your network to get votes and help raise awareness! It’s fun and easy!

## Contest Guidelines

1. Get creative! Any number of formats can be entered into the contest. Entries must be submitted in digital file format in one of the categories below:

Visual arts (painting, sculpture, drawing, mixed media/collage)

Literary Arts (short story/essay, poetry)

Graphic Arts (paint, draw, design in a digital medium including memes)

Performance Art (Video entries including performed skits, dance, musical performance or compositions).

2. Photos should be in high-resolution and in the following formats:

Visual & Graphic Arts: .JPEG, .PNG

Literary Arts: Word/Google Doc, or PDF

Performance Arts: MP4

3. Participants can submit no more than 1 entry per category.

4. Submissions must be original and created by the artist submitting the entry.

5. Each entry should have a name/title.

6. Entries should focus on the theme, "What is Love." Priority will be given to positive messaging. We ask that submissions be aligned with NYSCADV's core values, mission and vision and submissions should not depict violence, vulgarity, or partisan/political messaging.

7. Have fun! Thank you for sharing your talents and helping to raise awareness during Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month!

To help you get started, here are some tips:

- Participants can use imagery of a time they felt loved in their chosen medium.
- Love in your art does not have to be reflective of romantic love. We encourage participants to consider feelings of love between family members, friends, neighbors, and community members to draw their inspiration from.
- Focus on positive messaging; the theme of the contest is focusing on what love is (not what love is not).

Ready to enter? For more contest details and to register, visit the NYSCADV website: [www.nyscadv.org](http://www.nyscadv.org).