The National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest is a nationwide contest designed to promote awareness among teachers, parents/guardians and children and engage them in discussions about safety.

Important information about this contest, including the application and consent and release form, can be found within this packet.

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, we thank you for participating in this contest and look forward to seeing your creativity shine through your artwork!

Questions about the poster contest? Contact the State Contest Manager in your state!
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2019 National Missing Children’s Day
Poster Contest Fact Sheet

Contest Rules

1. Applicants must be in the fifth grade.

2. Artwork should reflect the theme “Bringing Our Missing Children Home”. This phrase must appear somewhere on the poster.

3. The theme may be depicted in the student’s artwork through one or a combination of illustrations (e.g., signs and symbols, people, abstract, industry, wildlife) and can be created using media such as acrylics, watercolor, pencils, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons, and pastels. Digitally produced images, collages, cut-outs, and stamping will not be eligible for consideration.

4. The finished poster must measure $8\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ inches.

5. The poster must be submitted with a completed application, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist, either typed or written legibly.

Judging Criteria

1. Complete contest rules must be followed at all levels of the competition. Incomplete packages and incorrectly sized posters will not be eligible for judging.

2. Artwork will be judged on:
   a. Creativity
   b. Reflection of the contest theme
   c. Originality in design

3. Written applications will be judged on:
   a. Comprehension of the theme
   b. Clarity
   c. Grammar and syntax appropriate to the fifth grade level
Competition Procedures

1. Contact your State Contest Manager to confirm your participation in the contest and to obtain the submission deadline for your state.

2. Submit your poster, completed application and signed consent and release form to your State Contest Manager by your state’s submission deadline.

Awards

State Level

1. Each state winner whose poster is selected to go to the national judging competition, will receive a national award certificate from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

State managers are responsible for facilitating all statewide events, activities, and awards for participating children.

National Level

1. The national winner, his/her teacher (or designee from selected school) and parents/guardians (typically two people), and the state manager will be invited to Washington, D.C., to participate in the U.S. DOJ’s National Missing Children’s Day ceremony on May 22, 2019.

2. Transportation and lodging will be provided.

3. The national winner will also receive a national award certificate and a professional print of their poster.

Winning Poster

The national winning poster:

a. Becomes the property of U.S. DOJ and will be displayed at the DOJ, congressional offices, and other locations as determined by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Any applicable copyrights will be held by those offices.

b. May be used in publications, exhibits, displays and on websites, as determined by OJJDP and U.S. DOJ.
c. Will be presented as the national symbol for the 2020 Missing Children’s Day ceremony and associated activities.

d. Photos of the winner and his/her poster will be available through U.S. DOJ and may be posted wherever contest information is available.

Contest Timeline
1. September 2018
   a. Poster contest begins

2. February 2019
   a. Submission deadline. Please contact your State Contest Manager to obtain the deadline for your state.

3. April 2019
   a. National winner will be notified.
   b. Travel arrangements are initiated for attendance at the 2019 National Missing Children’s Day ceremony.

Questions? Contact the State Contest Manager in your state.
Poster Contest Application

Thank you for participating in the 2019 National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest! Please be sure to complete this application and ask your parent/guardian to complete the consent and release form before submitting your poster to your State Contest Manager. Posters that are submitted without an application and consent and release form included will not be considered for the contest.

Name: ______________________________________
Age: _________________________________________
School:_______________________________________
School Phone: _________________________________
School Address: _______________________________
City: ________________________________________
State: _______________________________________
Zip Code: _________________________________
Educator’s Name: _____________________________
Educator’s Email: _____________________________
Salutation (circle one): Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.
Principal’s Name: _____________________________
Principal’s Email: _____________________________
Salutation (circle one): Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.

2018 Poster Contest Winner
Eden H.
Clinton Township, Michigan
Please tell us about your poster and why you created it: (100 words or less)

________________________________________________________________________________

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Artist’s Biography. Tell us a little bit about yourself! (100 words or less)

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Parent/Guardian Release and Consent Form

I hereby grant permission to use and reproduce the picture of my child, _____________________, and use my child’s name in U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention related publications, news features, blogs, or other advertisements relating to the 2019 National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest. I also grant permission for my child to participate in any interviews with media relating to this event. I understand that any written statements may be edited or used, in whole or in part, or adapted with other materials, and I hereby waive all rights of privacy, compensation, control, or royalties that I may have.

I have read this document before signing below and warrant that I fully understand its contents.

____________________________________  __________________________________
Name of Parent/Guardian (please print)  Signature

____________________________________
Address

____________________________________
City, State, Zip

____________________________________
Email Address

____________________________________  __________________________  __________________________
Name of Parent/Guardian (please print)  Phone Number  Date
# State Contest Manager Contact List

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</tbody>
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Missing Children’s Day Discussion Guide

Below is a guide intended for a facilitator (i.e. teacher, parent) to reference as a discussion starter with students. We hope this discussion will make the subject less scary, and provide students with an understanding of the poster contest topic to help generate ideas for their artwork.

What is Missing Children’s Day?

- An annual ceremony to recognize the amazing people who helped to protect children.
- These people include law enforcement officers, social workers, prosecutors and everyday people (i.e. teachers, moms, dads, brothers, sisters, neighbors).
- The theme is “Bringing Our Missing Children Home”.
  - There are people in this world that do bad things and break the law.
  - This is why we have police and judges.
  - Sometimes these people do bad things to kids, like take them away from their families.
  - Police can help by searching and helping to return these children to their home.

Questions for Students

- Have you or anyone you love ever been lost before?
- How did you feel?
- Did anyone help you or your loved one home?
- Who found you or your loved one?
- How do you think your family felt?

Provide Guidance for Students

- When you draw your art, think about:
  - How you felt when you were lost.
  - Who helped you?
  - How your family felt when you were lost?
Attention 5th Graders

We welcome your participation in the U.S. Department of Justice’s National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest. You, your parents/guardians, and teacher could win a trip to Washington, D.C.!

Contest Rules

Students must create a poster that demonstrates the theme “Bringing Our Missing Children Home”.

1. The finished poster must be 8 ½ x 14 inches.
3. Posters must be created by hand. Posters with printed images, collages, and stamping are not eligible.
4. Posters should be original in design. Be creative! Use acrylics, watercolor, pencil, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons, pastels, etc.
5. To view previous artwork, visit the Featured Resources section on https://www.ncjtc.fvtc.edu/mcd
6. The poster must be submitted with a completed application, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist.

Posters must be submitted to your State Contest Manager for local judging by the submission deadline.

2018 Winner: Eden Hoffmann
Clinton Twp, MI

“Several elements are shown on my poster. The main focus are the figures in the middle. This symbolizes a family that has found their missing child. The heart behind them shows the bond between the family. Numerous children, not only in our country but throughout the world, go missing. I made the colors on the words intersect to express hope, joy, and love. I wanted the word “MISSING” to stand out so it would catch people’s attention. The beam of light surrounding the world portrays law enforcement and volunteers working to find missing children.”

Contact the National Poster Contest Manager at gilkinso@fvtc.edu to find out how to contact your state manager.