2017 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Fact Sheet for State Managers

Contest Rules

1. Applicants must be in the fifth grade.

2. Artwork should reflect the theme "Bring Our Missing Children Home." This phrase ***must*** appear somewhere on the poster. 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).

3. The theme must be depicted visually 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 8½ x 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 written legibly or typed.

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. Demonstrated comprehension of the theme.
    b. Clarity.
    c. Grammar and syntax appropriate to the fifth grade level.

Competition Procedures

1. ***Retrieve contest information*** on http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest.

2. ***Establish your local process for selecting a winner.*** The process used to determine the winner of local competitions will be the responsibility of the local entities.

3. ***Include local nonprofit organizations and other missing children groups in the local judging process.*** The competition may be conducted within schools (including home schools), school districts, local governing bodies, PTAs, Boys & Girls Clubs, and similar groups.

4. ***After the statewide judging, submit the <u>single</u> winning poster to the national poster contest manager.***

Entries for the national competition must be received by the Missing and Exploited Children's Program (MECP) on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency

Prevention (OJJDP), Youth Development, Prevention & Safety Division by **March 16, 2017** at the following address:

Nadia Tunstall
Project Coordinator
Fox Valley Technical College
2614 Chapel Lake Drive Suite A
Gambrills, MD 21054

5. Along with your winning entry, please identify and submit a list of schools and the number students who participated in the statewide poster competition to the Department of Justice.

Awards

At the state level

- The ***single*** 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.
- The state is responsible for all statewide events, activities, and awards for students participating in that state.

At the national level

- The single ***national*** winner, his/her teacher and parents, and the state contest manager will be brought to Washington, DC, to participate in the National Missing Children's Day ceremony with the U.S. Department of Justice on or around **May 25, 2017**. Transportation and lodging will be provided. The national winner will also receive a national award certificate, a United States Savings Bond, and a copy of their poster. The national winner and one parent will also be invited back to the next year's ceremony to present the award to the 2018 poster contest winner.

Contest Dates

1. **October 2016 – Contest Kick-Off**
   - Begin discussing safety issues with students.
   - Provide poster contest information to fifth grade students.

1. **January 13, 2017**
   - Suggested conclusion date for local, regional, and state competitions.

2. **March 16, 2017**
   - Deadline for the state winning contest package to be received for national judging.

3. **April 2017**
   - National winner notified.
   - Travel arrangements are initiated for attendance at the National Missing Children's Day ceremony.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please send an email to mc.day@fvtc.edu. Packet information can be found at http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest .