



2016 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Guideline and Fact Sheet

Contest Rules

- Applicants **must** be in the fifth grade.
- 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 students' artwork through one illustration or a combination of illustrations (e.g., signs and symbols, people, abstract, industry, wildlife, etc.)
- 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.
- The finished poster **must** measure 8½ x 14 inches.
- 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.

Competition Procedures

- **Retrieve contest information** at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/poster-contest-resources/>.
- **Contact your state poster contest manager.** You may find this information online at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/state-contest-managers/>.

Awards

At the state level

- The single **state** winner will be selected by the state poster contest manager. Please contact your state poster contest manager for details about your state's selection process.

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, 2016**. 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 his/her poster. The winner and parents will be invited back to the next year's ceremony to present the award to the 2017 winner.

Winning Poster

1. The winning poster (original and copies) becomes the property of the Department of Justice and will be displayed at the Department of Justice, congressional offices, and other locations as determined by the Child Protection Division and the Department of Justice. Any applicable copyrights will be held by those offices.
2. The winning poster may be used in publications, exhibits, and displays, and on websites, as determined by the Child Protection Division and the Department of Justice.

3. The winning poster will be presented as the national symbol for the 2017 Missing Children's Day ceremony and associated activities.
4. Photos of the winner and his/her poster will be available through the Child Protection Division and the Department of Justice and will be posted wherever contest information is available.

Contest Dates

1. **October 2015 – Contest Kick-Off**
 - a. Begin discussing safety issues with students.
 - b. Provide poster contest information to fifth grade students.
2. **January 13, 2016**
 - a. Suggested conclusion date for local, regional, and state competitions.
 - b. Please contact your state contest manager for details.
3. **March 16, 2016**
 - a. Deadline for the state winning contest package to be received by OJJDP.
4. **April 2016**
 - a. National winner notified by OJJDP.
 - b. 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/>.