



2011-12 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Fact Sheet: Texas

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.
3. The theme must be depicted visually in one or a combination of media, such as acrylics, watercolor, pencil, charcoal, magic marker, spray paint, crayon, pastels and the like. 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. An application form can be found here: http://www.thetexascenter.org/PDFs/Poster_Contest_Application.pdf.

Judging Criteria

1. Complete contest rules must be followed for all levels of competition. Incomplete packages and incorrect sized posters **will not** be eligible for further consideration.
2. Artwork will be judged on:
 - a. Creativity
 - b. Reflection of the contest theme
 - c. Use of color and materials
 - d. Originality and handcraftsmanship
3. Written applications will be judged on:
 - a. Level of understanding of the subject expressed
 - b. Clarity
 - c. Grammar and syntax appropriate to the 5th grade level

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 Department of Justice.
- The Texas state winner, his/her parents, and his/her teacher will receive a framed copy of his/her artwork. A copy will also be displayed in Texas Center for the Missing's offices.
- The Texas State winner, his/her parents, and his/her teacher will be invited to serve as judges on the 2013 State Level National Missing Children's Poster Contest judging panel

At the national level:

- The single ***national*** winner, his/her parents, and his/her teacher will be brought to Washington, DC, to participate in the National Missing Children’s Day ceremony at the U.S. Department of Justice on or around May 23, 2012. Transportation and lodging will be provided. The national winner also will receive a national award certificate and a United States Savings Bond.

National Winning Poster

1. The national 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 national 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 national winner will travel to Washington, D.C., for the 2012 National Missing Children’s Day ceremony, when his/her poster will be presented as the national symbol for Missing Children’s Day, and will travel to Washington, D.C., again in 2013 to present the award to the 2013 poster contest winner.
4. Photos of the national 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. **August 2011 – Contest Kick-Off**
 - a. Begin discussing safety issues with students (suggested classroom curriculum and activities available upon request: support@tcftm.org)
 - b. Provide poster contest information to 5th grade students (sample flyer available upon request: support@tcftm.org)
2. **March 1, 2012 – Texas Poster Submission Deadline**
 - a. Deadline for Texas submissions to be received (all original artwork becomes the property of Texas Center for the Missing and will not be returned to students):

Texas Center for the Missing
Attn: Poster Contest
P.O. Box 420148
Houston, TX 77242-0148
3. **March 9, 2012 – Texas Poster Contest Judging (Date subject to change)**
4. **April 2012**
 - a. National winner notified.
 - 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 support@tcftm.org.