



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

January 9, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education
FROM: Thomas R. Bice *TRB*
State Superintendent of Education
RE: National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

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of Education

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Each year more than 1.3 million children are reported missing. Law enforcement, citizens, and even children have been instrumental in keeping children safe and returning them home to their families, community, and school. Every year the U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ) takes time to commemorate the valiant and unselfish acts of the many organizations and individuals who bring our missing children home. On May 25, National Missing Children's Day, we pause to focus our attention on children who have been recovered, as well as the children who are still missing.

Each year the DOJ sponsors a national poster contest and announces the winner at the annual National Missing Children's Day Ceremony in Washington, D. C. The winner of this national contest, along with his or her teacher, and parents are flown to Washington to participate in this special ceremony. I invite you to join us in our efforts to educate children across the country about safety issues by giving our **fifth-grade students** an opportunity to participate in this poster contest. The theme for the poster contest is "**Bring Our Missing Children Home.**"

We hope that your school system will join in this exciting and important national competition. A suggested timeline for school-level and system-level contests is enclosed. Please note that the deadline for each school system to submit system-level winners to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is **February 10, 2014**. The single winning poster for the state of Alabama will then be submitted to the DOJ for final judging. The state winner will be recognized at the March 13, 2014, Alabama State Board of Education meeting.

If you have any questions or need additional information about this national contest, please send an e-mail to mc.day2012@fvtc.edu or contact Dr. Carolyn E. Townsend by telephone at 334-353-1191 or via e-mail at ctownsend@alsde.edu. A complete packet of information can be found at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/poster-contest-resources/>. Thank you in advance for your support. Together we can insure the safety and security of children across the country.

TRB/CET/LM
Enclosure
cc: Fifth-Grade Teachers
FY14-2029



2014 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 (i.e. signs and symbols, people, abstract, industry, wildlife, etc.).
3. The theme must be depicted visually and can be created using acrylics, watercolor, pencils, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons, pastels, and etcetera. 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 incorrect 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, school districts, home schools, local governing bodies, PTAs, Boys & Girls Clubs and similar groups.
4. **After the statewide judging, submit the single winning poster to the Department of Justice.** Entries for the national competition must be received by the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention(OJJDP), Child Protection Division by **February 28th, 2014**, at the following address:

Ralph Foote
Secretary
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
U.S. Department of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531
FedEx Zip Code: 20001
202-616-3637

5. The state poster contest manager from each state is asked to identify and submit the number of schools participating in the statewide poster competition as well as the approximate number of students participating from these schools to the Department of Justice.
6. At the national level, judging will be conducted by representatives from the Child Protection Division of OJJDP, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, the National Endowment for the Arts and the law enforcement community.

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

At the national level:

- The single *national* winner, their teacher and parents will be brought to Washington, D.C., to participate in the National Missing Children's Day ceremony with the U.S. Department of Justice on or around **May 25, 2014**. Transportation and lodging will be provided. The national winner will also receive a national award certificate and a United States Savings Bond.

Contest Dates

1. **September 2013 – Contest Kick-Off**
 - a. Begin discussing safety issues with students.
 - b. Provide poster contest information to fifth grade students.
2. **January 13, 2014**
 - a. Suggested conclusion date for local, regional and state competitions.
3. **February 28, 2014**
 - a. Deadline for the state winning contest package to be received by OJJDP.
4. **April 2014**
 - 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 mc.day@fvtc.edu. Packet information can be found at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest> .



National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest 2014 Application

2013 Winning Entry



Student Name: _____
Age: _____
School Name: _____
School Address: _____

Teacher Email: _____
School Phone #: _____
Teacher's Name: _____
Room #: _____
Principal's Name: _____
Principal's Email: _____

Tell us about your poster and why you created it. (100 words or less):

"Biography" Tell us about yourself (100 words or less):

Poster Checklist*

Contest Requirements	Complete	Requires more Work
Size: 8 ½ x 14 inches		
Contains phrase “ Bring Our Missing Children Home”		
Artwork <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Original design ■ Does <u>NOT</u> contain digitally produced images, collages, cut-outs or stamping 		
Picture Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not to exceed 100 words ■ Complete sentences ■ Clearly written or typed ■ Language appropriate for 5th grader 		
Student Biography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not to exceed 100 words ■ Complete sentences ■ Clearly written or typed ■ Language appropriate for 5th grader 		
Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>ALL</u> contact information provided ■ Application glued or taped to back of poster 		

*Be sure to use the check list to make sure your poster is complete and meets ALL of the guidelines



Calling all 5th Graders!!



Want to Win a FREE trip to Washington, DC?

Participate in the Department of Justice's Missing Children's Day Poster Contest!

**You Could Be a National Winner!!!
Winners receive a trip to Washington, DC for
the National Missing Children's Day Ceremony,
a certificate, and an US Savings Bond.**

Talk to your parents! Talk to your teachers! Create your own design!

What: Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

Who: 5th graders!

How: Create a poster to demonstrate the theme "Bring our Missing Children Home"

Contest Rules:

1. The finished poster must measure 8 ½ x 14 inches.
2. The phrase "Bring Our Missing Children Home" must appear somewhere on the poster.
3. Posters must be handcrafted. Digitally produced artwork, collages, and stamping are not eligible.
4. The theme should be depicted visually in one or a combination of mediums, such as: acrylics, watercolor, pencil, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons, pastels, etc.
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.
6. Posters must be submitted to your state contest manager for local judging.

Find out how to contact your state manager by visiting <http://www.ojdp.gov/programs/postercontest/>.

