



# OJJDP

Office of Juvenile Justice and  
Delinquency Prevention

# National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

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!

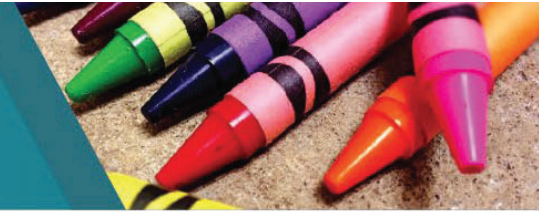
Ver. 10/20/2022

**NCJTC**

National Criminal Justice Training Center  
of Fox Valley Technical College

(855) 866-2582 | [info@ncjtc.org](mailto:info@ncjtc.org) | [ncjtc.org](http://ncjtc.org) | [facebook.com/ncjtc](https://www.facebook.com/ncjtc)





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# 41<sup>st</sup> Annual 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 **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 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 41<sup>st</sup> Annual National Missing Children's Day Ceremony on **May 22, 2024**.
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 Department of Justice, 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.

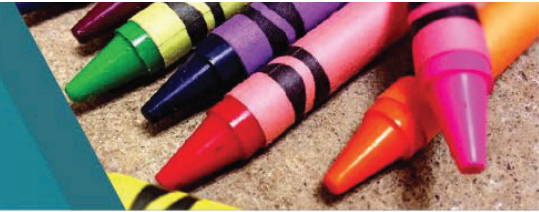


- c. Will be presented as the national symbol for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Missing Children's Day Ceremony and associated activities.
- d. Photos of the winner and his/her poster will be available through U.S. DOJ and may be posted wherever contest information is available.

### **Contest Timeline**

1. November 2023
  - a. Poster contest begins
2. February 2024
  - a. Submission deadline at the state level. *Please contact your State Contest Manager to obtain the deadline for your state.*
3. April 2024
  - a. National winner will be notified.
  - b. Travel arrangements are initiated for attendance at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual National Missing Children's Day ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Questions?** Contact the State Contest Manager in your state.



## Poster Contest Application

Thank you for participating in the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual 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: \_\_\_\_\_

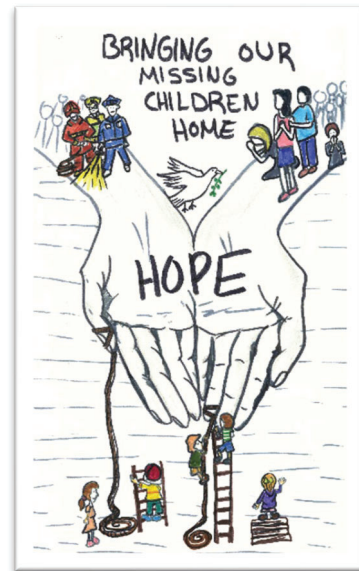
Educator's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Salutation (circle one): Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Salutation (circle one): Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.



40th Annual Missing Children's  
Day  
Poster Contest Winner



**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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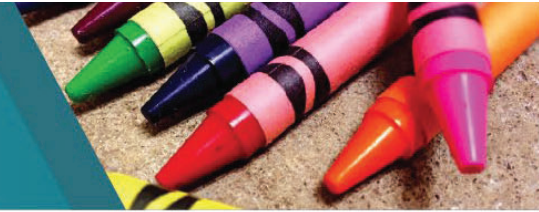
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# Parent/Guardian Release and Consent Form

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 41<sup>st</sup> Annual 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address





## State Contest Manager Contact List

Alabama .....	10	Montana .....	11
Alaska .....	10	Nebraska .....	12
Arizona .....	10	Nevada .....	12
Arkansas .....	10	New Hampshire .....	12
California .....	10	New Jersey .....	12
Colorado .....	10	New Mexico .....	12
Connecticut .....	10	New York .....	12
Delaware .....	10	North Carolina .....	12
District of Columbia .....	10	North Dakota .....	12
Florida .....	10	Ohio .....	12
Georgia .....	10	Oklahoma .....	12
Hawaii .....	10	Oregon .....	12
Idaho .....	10	Pennsylvania .....	12
Illinois .....	11	Puerto Rico .....	12
Indiana .....	11	Rhode Island .....	13
Iowa .....	11	South Carolina .....	13
Kansas .....	11	South Dakota .....	13
Kentucky .....	11	Tennessee .....	13
Louisiana .....	11	Texas .....	13
Maine .....	11	Utah .....	13
Maryland .....	11	Vermont .....	13
Massachusetts .....	11	Virginia .....	13
Michigan .....	11	Washington .....	13
Minnesota .....	11	West Virginia .....	13
Mississippi .....	11	Wisconsin .....	13
Missouri .....	11	Wyoming .....	13



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## Alabama

Dr. Carolyn Jones  
Alabama Department of Education  
334-694-4778  
[cjones@ALSDE.edu](mailto:cjones@ALSDE.edu)

## Alaska

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
603-534-2242  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Arizona

Maya Dominguez  
Arizona Dept. of Public Safety  
602-644-5855  
[mdominguez@azdps.gov](mailto:mdominguez@azdps.gov)

## Arkansas

Major Stacie Rhoades  
Arkansas Department of Public Safety  
501-618-8440  
[Stacie.Rhoades@asp.arkansas.gov](mailto:Stacie.Rhoades@asp.arkansas.gov)

## California

Ms. Megan Eschleman  
CA DOJ/Investigative Services Section,  
Missing and Unidentified Persons Section  
916-210-3090  
[Megan.eschleman@doj.ca.gov](mailto:Megan.eschleman@doj.ca.gov)

## Colorado

Ms. Melissa McGaw  
Colorado Bureau of Investigation  
303-239-4227  
[Melissa.McGaw@state.co.us](mailto:Melissa.McGaw@state.co.us)

## Connecticut

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
603-534-2242  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Delaware

Ms. Ashleigh Haines  
Delaware State Police,  
State Bureau of Identification  
302-672-5331  
[ashleigh.haines@delaware.gov](mailto:ashleigh.haines@delaware.gov)

## District of Columbia

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
603-534-2242  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Florida

Mehgen Peoples  
Florida Department of Law Enforcement  
850-410-8863  
850-739-9223  
[Mehgenpeoples@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:Mehgenpeoples@fdle.state.fl.us)

## Georgia

Ms. Natalie Ammons  
Georgia Bureau of Investigations  
678-438-5606  
[Natalie.Ammons@gbi.ga.gov](mailto:Natalie.Ammons@gbi.ga.gov)

## Hawaii

Ms. Amanda Leonard  
Department of the Attorney General  
808-587-4113  
[amanda.j.leonard@hawaii.gov](mailto:amanda.j.leonard@hawaii.gov)

## Idaho

Ms. Tanea Parmenter  
Idaho State Police,  
Bureau of Criminal Identification  
208- 884-7137  
[tanea.parmenter@isp.idaho.gov](mailto:tanea.parmenter@isp.idaho.gov)



## Illinois

Mr. Craig Burge  
Illinois State Police  
217-785-4341  
[Craig.Burge@Illinois.gov](mailto:Craig.Burge@Illinois.gov)

## Indiana

Sgt. Seth Tumey  
Indiana State Police  
317-951-3882  
[stumey@isp.in.gov](mailto:stumey@isp.in.gov)

## Iowa

Ms. Medina Rahmanovic  
Iowa Department of Public Safety/Division of  
Criminal Investigation  
515-725-6036  
[rahmanov@dps.state.ia.us](mailto:rahmanov@dps.state.ia.us)

## Kansas

Ms. Heidi Lynch  
Kansas Bureau of Investigation  
785-368-6455  
[heidi.lynch@kbi.state.ks.us](mailto:heidi.lynch@kbi.state.ks.us)

## Kentucky

Caitlyn Cole  
Kentucky State Police  
502-782-9769  
[Caitlyn.Cole@ky.gov](mailto:Caitlyn.Cole@ky.gov)

## Louisiana

Sgt. Michelle King  
LA Clearinghouse for Missing & Exploited  
225-358-5325  
[michelle.king@la.gov](mailto:michelle.king@la.gov)

## Maine

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
603-534-2242  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Maryland

Ms. Ann Thacker  
Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services  
410-875-3428  
[ann.thacker@maryland.gov](mailto:ann.thacker@maryland.gov)

## Massachusetts

Ms. Dan Macura  
MA Children's Alliance  
[Maca@machildrensalliance.org](mailto:Maca@machildrensalliance.org)

## Michigan

Ms. Jolene Hardesty  
Michigan State Police, Missing Persons  
Coordination Unit  
517-582-1154  
[HardestyJ2@michigan.gov](mailto:HardestyJ2@michigan.gov)

## Minnesota

Ms. Jason Mielke  
Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension  
651-793-1118  
[Jason.mielke@state.mn.us](mailto:Jason.mielke@state.mn.us)

## Mississippi

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
603-534-2242  
[Mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:Mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Missouri

Ms. Connie Berhorst  
Missouri Department of Public Safety  
573-751-2771  
[connie.berhorst@dps.mo.gov](mailto:connie.berhorst@dps.mo.gov)

## Montana

Ms. Brian Frost  
Montana Department of Justice  
406-444-3352  
[Bfrost@mt.gov](mailto:Bfrost@mt.gov)



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Delinquency Prevention



## Nebraska

Ms. Jennifer Brehm  
Nebraska Attorney General  
402-471-9651  
[jennifer.brehm@nebraska.gov](mailto:jennifer.brehm@nebraska.gov)

## Nevada

Ms. Heather Doto  
Nevada Child Seekers  
702-458-7009  
[heather@nevadachildseekers.org](mailto:heather@nevadachildseekers.org)

## Nevada

Ms. Margarita Edwards  
Nevada Child Seekers  
702-458-7009  
760-534-6882  
[margarita@nevadachildseekers.org](mailto:margarita@nevadachildseekers.org)

## New Hampshire

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## New Jersey

Mr. J. Itri  
New Jersey State Police - Missing Persons Unit  
609-882-2000  
[joseph.itri@njssp.gov](mailto:joseph.itri@njssp.gov)

## New Mexico

Ms. Katherine Trujillo  
NM Attorney General's Office  
505-917-1016  
[ktrujillo@nmag.gov](mailto:ktrujillo@nmag.gov)

## New York

Ms. Cindy Neff  
NY State Division of Criminal Justice Services  
518-485-7594  
[cindy.neff@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:cindy.neff@dcjs.ny.gov)

## New York

Ms. Andrea Pavelock  
NY State Division of Criminal Justice Services  
[andrea.pavelock@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:andrea.pavelock@dcjs.ny.gov)

## North Carolina

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## North Dakota

Officer Caity Horne  
Bismarck City Police Department  
[chorne@bismarcknd.gov](mailto:chorne@bismarcknd.gov)

## Ohio

Ms. Chelsie Bassitt  
Bureau of Criminal Investigation,  
Missing Persons Unit  
740-845-2439  
[chelsie.bassitt@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](mailto:chelsie.bassitt@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov)

## Oklahoma

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Oregon

Ms. Julie Willard  
Oregon State Police  
503-934-0161  
[julie.willard@state.or.us](mailto:julie.willard@state.or.us)

## Pennsylvania

Laura DeMutis  
PA Internet Crimes Against Children  
610-891-8746  
[demutisl@co.delaware.pa.us](mailto:demutisl@co.delaware.pa.us)

## Puerto Rico

Alicia Denis  
USSS DHS  
[ALICIA.DENIS@ussd.dhs.gov](mailto:ALICIA.DENIS@ussd.dhs.gov)



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Delinquency Prevention



## Rhode Island

Jonathan Elliott  
Rhode Island State Police  
401-458-1173  
[Jonathan.Elliott@risp.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Elliott@risp.gov)

## South Carolina

Ms. Alexandra Schelble  
SC State Law Enforcement Division  
803-896-7962  
[Aschelble@sled.sc.gov](mailto:Aschelble@sled.sc.gov)

## South Dakota

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Tennessee

Alinda Smith  
FVTC/NCJTC  
[mc.day@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu)

## Texas

Ms. Melissa Turnquist  
Texas Center for the Missing  
713-986-3542  
[support@tcftm.org](mailto:support@tcftm.org)

## Utah

Ms. Michelle Busch-Upwall  
Utah Attorney General's Office  
801-281-1245  
[mbusch-upwall@agutah.gov](mailto:mbusch-upwall@agutah.gov)

## Vermont

Mr. Ron LaFond  
Vermont State Police  
802-760-9908  
[ronald.Lafond@vermont.gov](mailto:ronald.Lafond@vermont.gov)

## Virginia

Sergeant Connie Brooks  
Virginia State Police  
804-674-4660  
[connie.brooks@vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:connie.brooks@vsp.virginia.gov)

## Virginia

Sergeant Michael Debois  
Virginia State Police  
[michael.debois@vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:michael.debois@vsp.virginia.gov)

## Washington

Ms. Gabrielle Anderson  
Washington State Patrol  
360-704-2404  
[Gabrielle.Anderson@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:Gabrielle.Anderson@wsp.wa.gov)

## Washington

Ms. Carri Gordon  
Washington State Patrol  
[Carri.gordon@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:Carri.gordon@wsp.wa.gov)

## West Virginia

Ms. Cynthia Varner  
West Virginia State Police  
304-293-6400  
[cynthia.s.varner@wvsp.gov](mailto:cynthia.s.varner@wvsp.gov)

## Wisconsin

Matthew Lochowitz  
State of WI Dept. of Justice  
[lochowitzmr@doj.state.wi.us](mailto:lochowitzmr@doj.state.wi.us)

## Wyoming

Ms. Kaitlin Koskewlowski  
Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation  
307-777-6037  
[Kaitlin.Koskelowski@wyo.gov](mailto:Kaitlin.Koskelowski@wyo.gov)



# 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 help 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 return 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

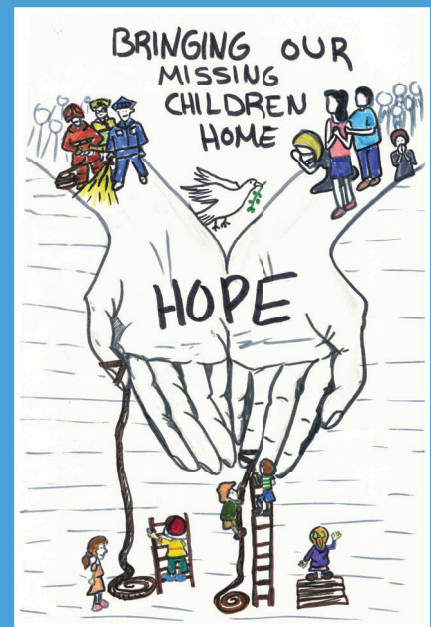
Students must create a poster that demonstrates the theme "Bringing Our Missing Children Home".

1. The finished poster must be 8 ½ x 14 inches.
2. The slogan "Bringing Our Missing Children Home" must appear somewhere on the poster.
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, and etc.

To view previous artwork, visit the Featured Resources section on: [ncjtc.org/mcd](https://ncjtc.org/mcd)

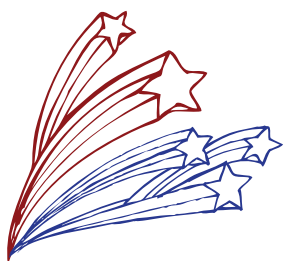
5. The poster must be submitted with a completed application, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist.

**Posters must be submitted to your state contest manager for local judging by the submissions deadline.**



"Hope is the theme I chose for my picture. The drawing shows two hands with the word hope. On the right hand you have victims families and on the left you have rescue teams. Both are walking towards hope searching for their children. With hope, it allowed them to never give up and are getting closer to finding them. On the bottom, it represents the children who have hope, which has motivated them to get back to their families. The bird between the hands is a symbol of hope. A sign and comfort to the families to keep going."

**Ayoub A. | New York  
2023 Poster Contest Winner**



Contact the National Poster Contest Manager  
Ali Smith at [Alinda.Smith3742@fvtc.edu](mailto:Alinda.Smith3742@fvtc.edu) to find out  
how to contact your state manager.

