

# ***2014 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest***

The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) annually sponsors a national poster contest to help raise awareness about child safety. The purpose of the contest is to exhibit America's effort to bring missing children home safely, while highlighting the importance of preemptive education programs. The poster contest and the educational activities that accompany are designed to assist with this mission by keeping the issue in the public eye. More importantly, the contest provides teachers with tools to educate students and parents about safety and initiate conversations about prevention. Student involvement in the poster contest promotes peer education, while captivating students to explore and understand the theme "*Bring Our Missing Children Home.*"

In 2014, DOJ hopes to have **every** state, territory and the District of Columbia join together to educate children, teachers, parents and communities on methods that will keep children safe. Please support this important initiative by participating in the contest.

## **Facts**

- The Missing Children's Clearinghouse, or other organization(s) designated by the clearinghouse, will develop and coordinate the state competition.
- Posters **must** be submitted to the state poster contest manager for local judging; posters mailed directly to the national office will **not** be accepted.
- **One** winning entry from each state should be sent to the Department of Justice for the national judging and selection process.
- The national winner along with their teacher and parents will travel to Washington, D.C., to receive an award and participate in the Missing Children's Day ceremony.
- The theme for the poster contest is "**Bring Our Missing Children Home.**"
- Only **fifth grade** students are eligible to participate in the contest.

## **Important Dates to Remember**

### ***September 1, 2013***

- Suggested date for the contest kick-off.
- Teachers are encouraged to incorporate the poster contest into their lesson plans.

### ***January 13, 2014***

- *Suggested deadline for state contests.*
- *Please contact your state poster contest manager for more details about the deadline.*

### **February 28, 2014**

- State winner poster must be received by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Child Protection division.

### ***April 2014***

- The national winner will be selected and notified.

### ***May 25, 2014***

- The National Missing Children's Day ceremony will take place on or around this date.



## 2014 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Fact Sheet for Educators

### 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 students' 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.

### Competition Procedures

- **Retrieve contest information** on: <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 his/her 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.

### 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 winner will travel to Washington, D.C., for the 2014 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 2015 to present the award to the 2015 poster contest winner.
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. **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.
  - b. Please contact your state contest manager for details.
3. **February 28<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:mc.day@fvtc.edu). Packet information can be found at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/>.

# RELEASE AND CONSENT

I hereby grant permission to use and reproduce the picture of my child, \_\_\_\_\_, and use my name in Missouri State Highway Patrol related publications, news features, blogs, or other advertisements relating to the 2012 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest. I also grant permission for my child to participate in any interviews with the Missouri State Highway Patrol, or the 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**