



# 2012 Virginia 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.
3. The theme must be depicted visually in one or a combination of mediums, 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 (attached to the back of the poster), 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 for all levels of competition. Incomplete packages, late entries or incorrect sized posters **will not** be eligible for further consideration.
2. Artwork will be judged on:
  - a. Creativity
  - b. Originality and handcraftsmanship
  - c. Reflection of the contest theme
  - d. Use of color and materials
3. Written applications will be judged on:
  - a. Level of understanding of the subject
  - b. Clarity
  - c. Grammar and syntax appropriate to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level

## Competition Procedures

1. Virginia's Missing Children Clearinghouse will manage and coordinate the statewide judging and winner selection. For questions or comments, please contact Sergeant Ronald L. Grammer, Jr. with Virginia's Missing Children Clearinghouse at (804) 674-2026 or by e-mail at [Ronald.Grammer@vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:Ronald.Grammer@vsp.virginia.gov).
2. Establish a local process for selecting a school division winner. The process used to determine the winner of the local competition will be the responsibility of the local school division.

3. Following local judging, the school divisions shall follow the guidelines established by Virginia's Missing Children Clearinghouse for submitting a winning entry.
4. Guidelines for submissions:
  - One entry per school division
  - All submissions must be postmarked no later than **January 13, 2012**
  - Mail the winning posters to:
 

**Virginia State Police**  
**Virginia's Missing Children Clearinghouse**  
**Attn: Sergeant Ronald L. Grammer, Jr.**  
**P. O. Box 27472**  
**Richmond, VA 23261-7472**
  - If using UPS or other package delivery service send to:
 

**Virginia State Police**  
**Virginia's Missing Children Clearinghouse**  
**Attn: Sergeant Ronald L. Grammer, Jr.**  
**P. O. Box 27472**  
**Richmond, VA 23261-7472**
5. Following the statewide judging, the single Virginia winning poster will be delivered to the U. S. Department of Justice no later than **March 21, 2012**. Posters not selected will be returned to the student's school.
6. At the national level, judging will be conducted by representatives from the Child Protection Division of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the law enforcement community.
6. The national award winner will be notified by the Child Protection Division who will also notify the winner's school and the local media outlets.

## Awards

1. ***At the Local Level.*** A certificate of recognition has been prepared and is available for download from the following web site:  
<http://www.vsp.virginia.gov/MissingChildrenPosterContest.shtm>. Teachers should print the certificate from the Web site and present one to each participating student.
2. ***At the Local Level.*** School divisions will be responsible for **duplicating** and displaying the winning poster(s) in prominent sites deemed appropriate in the community, such as: police stations, public libraries, or school offices.
3. ***At the State Level.*** The top three winners will be recognized in an appropriate awards presentation on a date to be determined. Additionally, the single state winner, whose poster is selected to go to the national level of competition, will receive a national award certificate from the U. S. Department of Justice.
4. ***At the National Level.*** The single **national** winner, his/her teacher, and his/her parents will participate in the National Missing Children's Day ceremony at the U.S. Department of Justice to be held 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. No other awards will be provided by the Department of Justice.

## National 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 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 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. **January 13, 2012**
  - Postmark deadline for entries to be submitted for state competition
2. **March 21, 2012**
  - Deadline for state winner contest packages to be received by the Child Protection Division in Washington, DC
3. **April 2012**
  - National winner notified
  - Travel arrangements are initiated for attendance at National Missing Children Day ceremony

If you have any questions or need additional information, please send an e-mail to [Ronald.Grammer@vsp.virginia.gov](mailto:Ronald.Grammer@vsp.virginia.gov) or contact Sergeant Ronald L. Grammer, Jr. with Virginia's Missing Children Clearinghouse at (804) 674-2026. Information is also available on the Virginia State Police website: <http://www.vsp.virginia.gov/MissingChildrenPosterContest.shtm>.

To view the winning poster gallery, click on the following link to the Office of Juvenile Justice Programs (OJJDP) web site:

[http://www.ojjdp.gov/programs/postercontest/mcd\\_winners.html](http://www.ojjdp.gov/programs/postercontest/mcd_winners.html)