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, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist, either written legibly or typed.

Competition Procedures


- **Contact your state poster contest manager.** You may find this information online at: [http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/](http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/).

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. You may find this information online at: [http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/](http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/).

**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 at the U.S. Department of Justice on or around May 25, 2013. 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 2013 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 2014 to present the award to the 2014 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. **August 2012 – Contest Kick-Off**
   a. Begin discussing safety issues with students.
   b. Provide poster contest information to fifth grade students.

2. **January 1, 2013– March 1, 2013**
   a. Suggested conclusion date for local, regional and state competitions.
   b. Please contact your state contest manager for details.

3. **April 2013**
   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/](http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/).