



Christmas Artwork Contest Entry Form

Announcing the 2025-2026 Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) National Christmas Artwork Contest!

Twenty-four winners will be selected in this national competition, which includes two grand-prize winners. All winners receive a commemorative plaque. **Grand-prize winners will have their artwork selected as the official Christmas card of the Pontifical Mission Societies. Each winner will also receive a \$250 award, and a matching contribution will be made in their name to the Missionary Childhood Association.** Winners are celebrated each December at The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washinton, DC., where the artwork is on display during the season of Advent. National contest winners will be notified in spring of 2026 and announced to Catholic media in fall of 2026.

To Enter:

- Mail entries to your (Arch)Diocesan Office of The Missionary Childhood Association [your local mission office]. To look up the address of your (Arch)Diocesan Mission Office, please visit pontificalmissions.org/where-we-are/diocesan-offices
- **Submit virtually at pontificalmissions.org/mcacontest before January 31st.**
- All entries submitted through the mail must be accompanied by a completed entry form. The form should be attached to the artwork with tape or glue stick. Please do not staple the form to the artwork.
- Please note, artwork cannot be returned. Artwork that does not conform to the guidelines will be disqualified. Please, no vertical designs.

2022-2023 Grand Prize Winners



www.pontificalmissions.org





Entry Form (Please print or type)

Student Name: _____

CHECK ONE: ☐ Boy ☐ Girl

CHECK ONE: ☐ Catholic School ☐ Parish RE/CCD ☐ Home School

School or RE/CCD Grade:

Grade: _____

Name of Principal, RE Director or Teacher:

School or Parish Name and Address:

School or Parish Phone Number:

(Arch)Diocese: _____

Student's Home Address (as of September 2025):

Parent / Guardian Name:

Student's Daytime Telephone Number:

E-mail address: _____



Contest is open to young Catholics in grades K- 8. Entries must be postmarked or received by your local mission office or via our online webform no later than January 31, 2026. For questions on where to mail your artwork e-mail contact@pontificalmissions.org

Each mailed entry (drawing) **MUST** be accompanied by an official entry form or submitted online. **DO NOT GLUE OR STAPLE ENTRY FORM TO ARTWORK. DON'T FOLD ARTWORK! PLEASE WRITE THE STUDENT'S FIRST AND LAST NAME ON THE ARTWORK IN LEAD PENCIL SHOULD THE ENTRY FORM BECOME DETACHED.**

• All entries become the property of the MCA national office, which reserves the right to depict all or part of the selected illustrations. It is not possible for the national office to offer any compensation for entries or to return them.

ARTWORK SPECIFICATIONS

- Artwork must be on an 8.5" x 11" sheet of **WHITE** paper — no construction or lined paper. White card stock is okay (Digital copies are permitted)
- The illustration must be depicted **HORIZONTALLY**.
- Students must illustrate one of the subjects listed under the heading "Subjects."
- Acceptable media includes crayons, pastels, markers or watercolor paints. **PLEASE —NO LEAD OR COLOR PENCILS.**
- Artwork must be the child's own. Tracings and direct copies of other art cannot be considered. Students selected as finalists will be asked to validate the originality of their artwork.

SUBJECTS

- The Nativity (a manger scene, Jesus, Mary, Joseph, animals)
- Three Wise Men (presentation of gifts or following the star)
- Shepherds (with sheep, in fields, seeing the angel, or visiting the manger)
- Mother and Child (Mary with her infant son)
- Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem
- newborn Jesus in manger
- The Angel Gabriel

HELPFUL HINTS

- Use a lot of eye-catching color. Bolder colors reproduce best. Lightly colored artwork will not show up well if reduced.
-
- Be careful to erase or cover pencil outlines.
-
- Do not include text or lettering on the drawing.
-
- Fill up most of the page, being careful not to let the main parts of the drawing get too close to the edges of the paper.
-
- Make sure facial features on people and animals are bold (e.g. nose, eyes, lips, etc.) so they will reproduce well.

Please note: Due to the volume of entries received, we are unable to personally acknowledge entries