

# ***2011 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest***

Every year the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) sponsors a national poster contest and announces the winner at the annual National Missing Children's Day Ceremony in Washington, DC. The purpose of the contest is to demonstrate America's united effort to bring missing children home safely, while highlighting the importance of proactive education programs. The poster contest and the educational activities that accompany it are designed to assist with this mission by keeping the issue at the forefront of people's awareness.

More importantly, the poster contest provides teachers the tools to educate children and parents about safety and initiate conversations regarding prevention. Student involvement in the poster contest promotes peer education, while compelling students to explore the significance of the theme "Bring our Missing Children Home."

In 2011, DOJ hopes to have every state, territory, and the District of Columbia join together to educate children, teachers, parents, and communities on methods in keeping children safe. Please intensify your efforts in this noble cause by joining us in this important program.

## **Facts:**

- The Missing Children's Clearinghouse, or other organization(s) designated by the Clearinghouse, will develop and coordinate the process for a statewide competition. Posters **must** be submitted to the state level contest coordinator for local judging; those posters mailed directly to the national level 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 will travel to Washington, DC 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:**

### ***August 1, 2010***

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

### ***January 13, 2011:***

- *This is the suggested conclusion of state-level contests.*
- *Please contact your state manager for more details regarding the contest conclusion date.*

### ***April 2011:***

- The national winner will be selected and notified.

### ***May 25, 2011: National Missing Children's Day.***

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

Information about the National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest can be obtained by contacting Nadia Tunstall at 1-888-347-5610, 1-202-347-5610 or via email at [mc.day.2011@fvtc.edu](mailto:mc.day.2011@fvtc.edu). Additional information is available on the following website: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/programs/postercontest>.