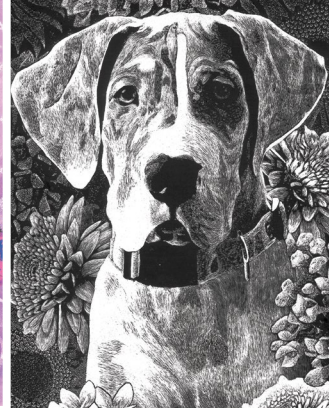


Cooperative CALENDAR of STUDENT ART CONTEST



INDIANA
CONNECTION

IEC
INDIANA ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVES

ART CONTEST RULES

This is the complete set of rules for this year's Cooperative Calendar of Student Art Contest. The winning art from each grade division will be used to illustrate the Cooperative Calendar of Student Art for 2026.

WHO CAN ENTER

Indiana public, private, or home-schooled students in kindergarten through 12th grade during the 2024-25 school year.

- Students do not have to be consumers of a rural electric cooperative (REMC/REC).
- Artwork can be submitted by teachers, youth leaders or others as a group or class project, or by individual students or their parent(s) or guardian(s).
- Students may enter as often as they wish.

HOW THE CONTEST WILL BE JUDGED

Artwork will be judged on artistic merit, originality, creativity, how well the assigned month is depicted, and suitability for a wall calendar. Artwork can be landscapes, portraits, still lifes, etc., as long as the monthly theme is somehow portrayed. A panel of judges will select winners in spring of 2025.

HOW THE CONTEST WORKS

Match the grade the student is in during the current (2024-25) school year to the corresponding month. Students should draw or paint a picture to illustrate their assigned month.

1st grade - January	5th grade - May	9th grade - September
2nd grade - February	6th grade - June	10th grade - October
3rd grade - March	7th grade - July	11th grade - November
4th grade - April	8th grade - August	12th grade - December

Kindergarten students will create the cover art. There is no theme for the cover: any subject, season, event, etc., is acceptable.

RULES FOR ORIGINALITY

Students and teachers/parents/guardians are responsible for entering only ORIGINAL WORKS of art totally produced by the participating students.

- Artwork MAY NOT be copied from other sources without substantial creative changes; this includes other paintings and photographs — unless the photo was composed and/or taken by the student or family member with the student's direction.
- Every element of the artwork (design, lines, marks, paint, color, shapes, shading, highlights, etc.) must be the work of the student whose name appears on the back of the artwork and be done by that student's hand.

- No tracing of other works is allowed, including sketches by teachers, parents, etc.
- This contest highlights traditional artistic skills. No photographs or artwork created or altered with a computer will be judged for inclusion in the calendar.
- Artwork deemed to be too similar to a copied source or plagiarized will be disqualified. If plagiarism is discovered after awards are made and/or the calendar printed, Indiana Connection reserves the right to request the award money be returned. The student also may be disqualified from future contests, and the artwork and student's name will be removed from our website gallery of past winners.

HOW ARTWORK SHOULD BE SUBMITTED

Drawings should be no larger than 11x14 inches and no smaller than 8x10 inches. (Paintings on canvas can be larger.) Drawings on white or light-colored paper will reproduce best. Do not use ruled notebook paper.

- The artwork can be most any medium as long as the art is relatively flat. Charcoal and pastel drawings should be sprayed with a fixative. Do not use glitter, sand, liquids, or other elements that can flake off or otherwise damage the works of other students. No photographic process, digitally-created or digitally-manipulated art, metallic or fluorescent paints may be used in the finished, submitted art entry.
- Artwork in the horizontal or "landscape" position best fits the wall calendar's format.
- The artwork should be stand-alone artwork; do not include the name of the month, days of the week or calendar dates into the art itself.
- Submit the original artwork. Judges will not consider photocopies.
- Do not mount, mat or frame artwork.
- Do not fold or crease artwork.
- Please do not submit artwork from previous years.

HOW ARTWORK/ARTIST SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED

One of following two methods **MUST** be used to identify the art and artist depending where the artwork was created or how submitted. Please use the most appropriate method.

Entries from Home or a Small Group (Method A)

On the back of each entry, in the lower right hand corner, legibly print: student's first and last name, age, grade, school, names of parents or guardians, complete home address with city and ZIP, and phone number with area code. Also, please title the work,

Please turn to page 2 for additional information.

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briefly note how it connects to the month if the connection is not obvious and include any other info judges might find useful.

In addition to information on the back of each entry, each entry must include a copy of the entry form (A) for the 2026 calendar available from Indiana Connection or downloaded from [IndianaConnection.org](https://indianaconnection.org). The form must be signed by each student-artist and parent/guardian (if the student is under 18 years old) acknowledging the student has adhered to the rules of originality and each submission is original according to the guidelines above.

Entries from a Large Group, Classroom, or School (Method B)

If including all the above information is impractical because of the number of entries or is a violation of school policy, a large group of simultaneous entries from a single source should include on the back of each entry, in the lower right hand corner, the student's first and last name, grade and a complete contact phone number. Please make sure all information is included and legible, and group submissions are sorted by grade. Try to have the students title their works, briefly note the connection to the assigned month if it is not obvious, and include any other info or description of the work that judges might find helpful.

In addition to information on the back of each entry, each package of entries must include a copy of the entry form (B) for the 2026 calendar available from Indiana Connection or downloaded from [IndianaConnection.org](https://indianaconnection.org). The form must be signed by the art instructor/classroom teacher acknowledging that the students have adhered to the rules of originality and each submission is original according to the guidelines above.

PRIZES

A first place "Artist of the Month" will be selected for each grade, K-12, and will receive \$200.

- Additional artists will be selected for honorable mention awards and will receive \$75.
- An "Artist of the Year" also will be selected from among the first place winners for the "Best of Show" and will receive an additional \$100.
- Artists who win either their grade division or honorable mention awards will receive 10 complimentary copies of the 2026 calendar.

NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS

Only first place and honorable mention winners will be notified by phone. Results will be published in a 2025 issue of Indiana Connection, at [IndianaConnection.org](https://indianaconnection.org) and in the 2026 calendar.

PRESENTATION OF ARTWORKS/ARTISTS

The artworks and artists may be presented to the public in the following ways.

- First place winners from all grades will illustrate the designated month (or cover) of the 2026 Cooperative Calendar of Student Art, a wall calendar produced by Indiana Connection and distributed by participating Indiana electric cooperatives and other organizations around the state.

- The name, hometown and school of each winning student will be printed in the calendar, along with the student's photograph. (Student photos will be requested after the contest is judged.)
- Additional pieces of art, chosen at large from all grades, will be chosen as honorable mentions and will be printed in the calendar.
- The "Artist of the Year" will be featured in Indiana Connection, Indiana's electric co-op publication, after the winners are selected in the spring of 2025.
- Names of the winners and winning artwork may also be featured in Indiana Connection.
- Names of the winners and winning artwork may also be featured in news releases distributed to media outlets.
- Any artwork entered in the contest also may be selected for publications or materials printed by Indiana Electric Cooperatives to further publicize the art contest and calendar or displayed or presented with Indiana Connection's discretion.

RIGHTS

All artwork and reproduction rights become the property of Indiana Connection. This means we can print your artwork in the calendar, cooperative publications, website and promotional materials and distribute artwork to the media for promotional purposes. We will respect the integrity of the artwork and will not allow the outside commercial use of entered artwork without permission of the artist (and parent(s)/guardian(s)).

RETURNS

Artwork selected to appear in the calendar will be returned to the artists after the calendar is printed in the fall of 2025. Indiana Connection may retain winning artwork for display at exhibitions and galleries through December 2025.

All other entries will not be returned unless requested and full prepaid postage and proper packaging is included when submitted. We will strive to have these submissions returned by late May 2025.

DEADLINE

Artwork must be at the Indianapolis office of Indiana Connection by 3 p.m., Friday, Feb. 28, 2025. Mailing address: 11805 Pennsylvania Street, Carmel, Indiana 46032. (Please do not drop off artwork at your local electric cooperative office unless the local REMC/REC has announced it is accepting entries at its location or the local office has agreed to special arrangements.)

FOR MORE DETAILS

Please contact Karlee Gable, 317.408.7903 or kgable@indianaec.org.

A full set of rules and instructions is also available at [IndianaConnection.org](https://indianaconnection.org).

2026 *Cooperative* CALENDAR of STUDENT ART

INDIANA
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ENTRY FORM (A)

Please use this form if the artwork was created at home or within a small group.

To ensure that each entry in the calendar art contest (to be judged in the spring of 2025) is the original work of the student artist whose name appears on the back of each work, Indiana Connection requires that this form be signed by each student and, if the student is under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian/teacher/supervising adult. **This form must be included with the artwork submitted for the contest. Artwork submissions must include all contact information to qualify for the contest.**

ARTIST INFORMATION

STUDENT'S NAME AGE GRADE
MAILING ADDRESS
CITY ZIP TELEPHONE NUMBER

AGREEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

Students and teachers/parents/guardians are responsible for entering only original works of art entirely produced by the above named student that have been submitted with this form. *(Please see contest rules to read guidelines on originality.)*

I, , the above named student, hereby acknowledge and attest the artwork entered in the Cooperative Calendar of Student Art Contest submitted with this form is my sole, original creation and the artwork follows the contest's rules on originality and has not been copied from any previously published photo or artwork.

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE
PARENT/GUARDIAN/TEACHER'S SIGNATURE *(if student is under 18 years old)*
RELATION TO STUDENT EMAIL ADDRESS

Please check box if you receive your electricity from an electric cooperative (REMC/REC). This is for informational purposes only and has no bearing on the contest judging.

2026 *Cooperative* CALENDAR of STUDENT ART

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ENTRY FORM (B)

Please use this form if the art entries are from a large single group such as a classroom.

To ensure that each entry in the calendar art contest (to be judged in the spring of 2025) is the original work of the student artist whose name appears on the back of each work, Indiana Connection requires that this form be signed by the supervising art instructor(s)/classroom teacher(s). **This form must be included with the artwork submitted for the contest. Artwork submissions must include all contact information to qualify for the contest.**

SCHOOL/GROUP INFORMATION

SCHOOL/GROUP NAME GRADE(S)
MAILING ADDRESS
CITY ZIP TELEPHONE NUMBER

AGREEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

Students and teachers/parents/guardians are responsible for entering only original works of art entirely produced by the above named student that have been submitted with this form. *(Please see contest rules to read guidelines on originality.)*

I, , the undersigned adult, hereby acknowledge and attest that I have supervised the student artwork submitted with this form for the Cooperative Calendar of Student Art Contest and the submissions follow the contest's rules on originality and have not been copied from any previously published photo or artwork.

SIGNATURE
TITLE EMAIL ADDRESS CELL/DIRECT LINE