

Maria Prymachenko Art Contest

Teacher's Guide



This publication is issued under the Open Government Licence – Alberta (<http://open.alberta.ca/licence>). Please note that the terms of this licence do not apply to any third-party materials included in this publication.

For more information, contact:
The Ukrainian Language Advisor
Alberta Education
International Education Services Branch Main Floor, 44 Capital Boulevard
10044 – 108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 5E6
Phone: 780 422-3245 Fax: 780 644-2284 Email: ukrainiancontest@gov.ab.ca

Maria Prymachenko Art Contest | Ministry of Education
© 2023 Government of Alberta | February 27, 2023

Maria Prymachenko Art Contest

What is International Education

In an increasingly interconnected world, international education is the sum of all programs and initiatives that promote an understanding of the differences and connections among the world's people. International education is an important part of preparing students to better interact with other cultures and to inspire them to be global citizens.

International education programs and activities offered in Alberta include second language programs involving Ukrainian language and culture. Alberta's Ukrainian bilingual schools and language and culture courses actively promote the awareness and importance of Ukrainian language and culture studies in the province. For more information on Ukrainian language and culture initiatives in Alberta, visit: education.alberta.ca/ukrainian.

Contest Background

Ukrainian Bilingual and Language and Culture Program students residing in Alberta are invited to participate in the Maria Prymachenko Art Contest by using naïve art techniques to illustrate Alberta.

Naïve art was popularized in the 20th century. This art form produced a uniquely identifiable style and created a whole universe of strange creatures, beasts, birds and flowers. Characteristics of the naïve style include: the size of objects decreasing proportionate to its distance, childlike simplicity to the images and geometrically erroneous images. To learn more about naïve art, please visit: artsandculture.google.com/story/HAXB8yxnsRUtJA

Maria Prymachenko (1909-1997) is one of the most recognizable Ukrainian naïve artists. Her work features bright, harmonious, and balanced colouring works, a variety of composition solutions, rich ornamentation — plant and geometric and plot variety. She inspired both Picasso and Chagall with her artistic works, and now, in the context of the war in her homeland, these same works have become a global symbol of peace. This art contest will encourage students to celebrate the contributions of Prymachenko and her impact on Ukrainian culture and national identity.

Additional Resources

- Art Net News, "Ukrainian Artist Maria Prymachenko's Fantastical Visions Have Captivated the World": news.artnet.com/art-world/maria-prymachenko-3-things-2083134
- Wiki Art, "Maria Primachenko": <https://www.wikiart.org/en/maria-primachenko>
- HerArt Podcast, "Maria Prymachenko- the Ukrainian artist that made Picasso bow down": shemakesarttoo.medium.com/maria-prymachenko-the-ukrainian-artist-that-made-picasso-bow-down-d22ed7cbf02a
- Colossal, "Rich with Imaginative Detail, Maria Prymachenko's Colorful Folk Art Speaks to Life in Ukraine": <https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2022/03/maria-prymachenko-folk-art/>

Alberta's Program of Studies

The Prymachenko Art Contest supports various parts of Alberta's Programs of Study including:

- Fine Arts: Students will use art as a vehicle or medium for expressing their thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences in a meaningful way.
- Social Studies: Students will explore the interdependent nature of the world, broadening their global understanding and consciousness.
- Language Arts: Students will explore their thoughts and communicate their ideas, feelings, and experiences through written text in the description of their artwork.

Overview of Contest Criteria

- Artwork should illustrate the flora, fauna, wildlife, festivities or cultural events that represent Alberta. Students are to follow the naïve art techniques represented and introduced by Maria Prymachenko.
- Artwork must be 11"x17" (28 cm x 43 cm) in dimension.
- Artwork must be submitted by individual students only.
- Artwork must be accompanied by a completed Official Entry Form and Copyright License Form.
- Artwork can be original computer-generated art.
- Students may use varied art media, including paint and pastels. Artists may not use three-dimensional art supplies (wood, clay, thread, etc.)
- Artwork must be in colour; the background should be covered in full (no white space).
- Artwork must be accompanied by a short description (2-3 sentences). An emphasis will be placed on the description when choosing the winners of the contest. Please ensure your description ties to Maria Prymachenko and naïve art.
- All questions can be emailed to ukrainiancontest@gov.ab.ca.

How Will Top Selected Student Artwork Be Recognized

- Top selected students will receive a prize package.
- Top selected artwork may be displayed at the mobile Ukrainian Festival exhibition in Alberta and at the Consulate General of Ukraine in Edmonton.
- Top selected artwork may be presented as gifts to visiting foreign delegates by the Government of Alberta.
- Top selected artwork may be shown to partnering schools in Ukraine and/or included in Ukrainian cultural events throughout Alberta.

How Do Students Submit their Artwork

Mail, courier, or drop-off in person to:

The Ukrainian Language Advisor
Alberta Education
International Education Services Branch
Main Floor, 44 Capital Boulevard
10044 – 108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 5E6

Or submitted to the following email: ukrainiancontest@gov.ab.ca

The artwork attachment should be accompanied by:

- Official Entry Form
- Copyright License Form

These forms are located in the Student Entry Package. Please print out one package per student entrant.

Submission Deadline

The submission deadline is 4:30 p.m. MST on March 31, 2023. **Please note, all entries must be received by International Education Services by the contest deadline.**

Entries will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- General evaluation
- Compliance with the contest theme
- Clarity of message
- Compositions of colours
- Originality

Alberta Ukraine Relations

Due to its deep Ukrainian heritage, Alberta has had a long history of involvement with Ukraine. Ukrainian language and culture education has had a place in Alberta schools since 1902.

On December 2, 1991, Canada became the first western country to recognize Ukraine's independence. Since that time, Alberta and Canada have invested considerable effort and resources in building social, political, and economic reform in Ukraine. Alberta Education has signed two international agreements with Ukraine:

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, outlines potential collaborative programs of mutual interest including visiting teachers, student and educator mobility programs, and school partnerships.
- The Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Education and Science of Lviv Oblast State Administration outlines the position of the Ukrainian Special Language Advisor and the Ukrainian Special Project Officer – both posted to Alberta from Ukraine. These positions are unique to Alberta and are the only ones in the world.

Ukraine and Alberta's collaborative relationship has had many benefits including enhancing international education and improving the quality/extent of teaching of English and Canadian culture in Ukraine and Ukrainian language and culture in Alberta.

To learn more about Alberta's Ukrainian Language Advisor and Ukrainian language programming, please visit education.alberta.ca/Ukrainian.