

What Makes My Home Home art contest

Contest guide



Alberta

What Makes My Home Home art contest | Alberta Education and Childcare
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For more information, contact:
International Education Services
Main Floor, 44 Capital Boulevard 10044 – 108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 5E6
Phone: 780 422-3245, Email: ukrainiancontest@gov.ab.ca

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Contest overview

To commemorate the 135th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada, Alberta students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 enrolled in Ukrainian bilingual or Ukrainian language and culture programs, students with Ukrainian heritage and those interested in Ukraine are invited to participate in the What Makes My Home Home art contest.

Through original artwork, students are asked to reflect on the places, people, traditions, landscapes, communities and everyday experiences that make Alberta feel like home. Students may draw inspiration from Ukrainian-Canadian artists whose work depicts themes of identity, community, culture and connection to place.

Possible artists to explore:

- **William Kurelek**
 - <https://www.aci-iac.ca/art-books/william-kurelek/key-works/>
 - *A Prairie Boy's Winter* and *A Prairie Boy's Summer* illustrate everyday experiences on the prairies.
- **Peter Shostak**
 - <https://petershostak.com/biography/>
 - <https://petershostak.com/original-oil-paintings/>
- **Dmytro Stryjek**
 - <https://umcnational.ca/exhibition/dmytro-stryjek-drawn-from-memory-exhibition/>
- **Leo Mol**
 - <https://lochgallery.com/artist/leo-mol>
- **Larysa Sembaliuk Cheladyn**
 - <https://artbylarisa.com/>
- **Theodora Harasymiw**
 - <https://www.theodoraharasymiw.ca/>

Did you know?

- In 2026, Canada marks the 135th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement, celebrating the enduring contributions of Ukrainian-Canadians to Alberta and across the country.
- Alberta is home to one of Canada's largest Ukrainian-Canadian communities.
- Ukrainian bilingual and Ukrainian language and culture programs are offered throughout Alberta.
- International education promotes understanding of diverse cultures, histories and perspectives.

More information about international education in Alberta can be found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/international-education>.

Contest guidelines

Submission requirements

- **Theme:** Reflect on the places, people, traditions, landscapes, communities and everyday experiences that make Alberta feel like home
- **Artwork:** Create an **original** drawing or painting on 11" × 17" paper (A3, Tabloid, or Ledger format) that depicts an interpretation of the theme.

- **Inspiration and research:** Research Ukrainian-Canadian artists who capture the meaning of home and everyday experiences in their work. Students may draw inspiration from the subject matter or artistic techniques when creating their original artwork.
- **Description of artwork:** Write a brief description explaining how the artwork reflects the theme **What Makes My Home Home art contest** (see official entry form).

How will top selected student artwork be recognized?

- Top selected students will receive a prize package.
- Top selected artwork may be displayed at Ukrainian festivals, community events and exhibitions throughout Alberta.

Contest rules

Student eligibility

1. The **What Makes My Home Home art contest** ("the contest") is open to Alberta students in kindergarten to grade 12 enrolled in Ukrainian bilingual and Ukrainian language and culture programs, students with Ukrainian heritage and those interested in Ukraine.
2. To enter the contest, the student must submit an original piece of artwork, official entry form (with a brief description of their artwork) and copyright licence. These documents can be found as separate attachments.
3. For students under 18 years old, a parent or guardian must sign the official entry form and copyright licence.

The artwork requirements

4. The artwork must be the student's original artwork.
5. The artwork must feature the places, people, traditions, landscapes, communities and everyday experiences that make Alberta feel like home.
6. The artwork can be a drawing, painting or a combination thereof.
7. The artwork can be created digitally, by hand or a combination thereof.
8. The artwork must be 11"x17" (28 cm x 43 cm) in dimension. A3, Tabloid or Ledger paper is acceptable.
9. The artwork must be respectful and considerate of all individuals and groups. Entries with profanity, slang, stereotypes or any other forms of offensive texts or visuals will be disqualified.
10. The artwork must be accompanied by a brief description written by the student (see official entry form). The written component carries a weight of fifteen percent towards the overall evaluation.

Selection of awards

11. Artwork that fulfills the rules will be reviewed by a panel of judges chosen by Alberta Education and Childcare to evaluate the artwork and selected winners.
12. The artwork will be evaluated in the following five grade categories:
 - Group 1: Kindergarten – Grade 1
 - Group 2: Grades 2 – 3
 - Group 3: Grades 4 – 6
 - Group 4: Grades 7 – 9
 - Group 5: Grades 10 – 12
13. The artwork will be evaluated using the following criteria:
 - aesthetic assessment;

- compliance with the contest theme;
 - clarity of message;
 - written description;
 - creativity; and
 - originality of the ideas.
14. One contest winner and two honourable mentions may be selected from each grade category and awarded a prize package. There are up to 15 prizes in total to be awarded. Approximate value of each prize is 50 dollars. The odds of winning a prize will depend on the number of contest entries received.
 15. Contest winners will be notified by telephone or email that their entry has won and informed of the procedure to follow to claim the applicable prize. If the student declines the prize or fails to respond to attempts to contact them within seven calendar days, the prize may be deemed to be forfeited, and the panel of judges may award the prize to another participating student.
 16. Alberta Education and Childcare may contact the contest winners to request a photograph of the student, for use in any Alberta Education and Childcare advertisement, publication or promotion for general news or other information purposes.

Submission details and deadline

17. Original artwork accompanied by a properly completed official entry form and copyright licence shall be considered a valid entry.
18. Individual students must submit entries. Group entries will not be accepted.
19. Only one contest submission is allowed per student. Multiple entries will not be accepted.
20. The artwork can be submitted digitally or in hard copy.
21. Artwork will not be returned to participants. Students should retain a copy of their artwork. Alberta Education and Childcare is not responsible for any artwork that is corrupted, damaged or did not transmit properly.
22. Entries, **including entries submitted by mail**, must be received by the International Education Services Branch by **11:59 PM, Friday, January 15, 2027**. No late entries will be accepted.

Other requirements and rules

23. No copyrighted materials may be used for the contest.
24. Upon submission, the artwork will become the property of Alberta Education and Childcare and all copyright in and to the artwork is transferred and assigned to the Government of Alberta, represented by the Minister of Alberta Education and Childcare.
25. Students or parents/legal guardians grant Alberta Education and Childcare the right to use, reproduce, reprint, distribute, perform and/or display the student's name and their artwork without compensation or notification to the student. It is required that the student and their parent/legal guardian sign the entry form and the copyright licence.
26. Winning artwork and/or copies of it may be displayed at events and activities held by Alberta Education and Childcare and copies or original artwork may be presented to visiting foreign delegations by the Government of Alberta.
27. The artwork or parts of the artwork may be used by Alberta Education and Childcare for any advertisement, publication, promotion or any other purposes.
28. If Alberta Education and Childcare does not receive sufficient quantity or quality of artwork, Alberta Education and Childcare reserves the right not to award any prizes.
29. Any false information provided within the context of the contest by any student concerning information provided in the official entry form, copyright licence or non-compliance with these rules and regulations may result in the immediate elimination of the student from the contest.
30. Alberta Education and Childcare reserves the right to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the contest for any reason without any prior notice to any student.

31. The contest shall be governed by and construed in accordance with these rules, the laws of the Province of Alberta and any applicable federal laws, including copyright law. These rules govern all aspects of the contest and are binding on all students and all other parties including a student's parents and legal guardians if the student is younger than 18 years of age.
32. If it is necessary to change the contest rules for any reason, including to comply with applicable law, the revised version will be posted online at education.alberta.ca/Ukrainian and contest winners will be notified before prizes are awarded.
33. By entering this contest, students agree to follow the contest guidelines and contest rules.

For more information about the contest, please contact International Education Services at:
ukrainiancontest@gov.ab.ca.

Submission checklist

A valid entry must include the following:

- ☐ original piece of artwork (11" x 17"),
- ☐ completed official entry form (with a brief description of the artwork), and
- ☐ completed copyright licence.

For hard-copy submissions, please send by mail, courier or drop-off in person to:

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

For digital submissions, please scan all items required for a valid entry and send to: ukrainiancontest@gov.ab.ca.

When emailing, please use the following naming convention in the subject line: What Makes My Home Home art contest/last name/first name. **Please attach all documents as PDFs.**

All entries (**including entries submitted by mail**) must be received by International Education Services by **11:59 PM Friday, January 15, 2027**. No late entries will be accepted.