

CONFLICT RESOLUTION DAY BOOKMARK ART CONTEST

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

- **Can a student enter more than one bookmark?**

Yes, a student may enter two bookmarks. However only one bookmark per student may win a prize.

- **What size must the bookmark art be in order to qualify to win a prize?**

Bookmark art must be 3x9 inches in order to qualify for a prize. A 3x9 inch bookmark template is available on the Dispute Resolution Center of Montgomery County (DRC-MC) website at www.resolution-center.org

- **Does the bookmark art submission have to be on the bookmark template provided on the DRC-MC website?**

No, as long as the bookmark art is 3x9 inches in size, students may draw their art on other types of art paper.

- **Can a student draw their bookmark art in black and white rather than in color?**

Yes, participants are still eligible to win the contest if their artwork submission is in black and white. However, black and white artwork typically does not stand out as well among the thousands of entries received each year.

- **Why do you need to have the student name, school name, grade level and contact information with each bookmark entry?**

The DRC-MC needs student and teacher names, grade, school and an email address in order to notify the winners of the contest. If this information is not included, or is not legible, the DRC-MC cannot contact the winner and the entry must be disqualified. The teacher's school email address, rather than the student's email address, can be provided for notification purposes.

- **How will my students know if they won the contest?**

A list of winners is published on the DRC-MC website at least one week before the Awards Ceremony. In 2024, the list of winners will be available on www.resolution-center.org by April 11, 2024.

- **Will the participant get their bookmark back after the contest?**

Due to the large number of entries, the DRC-MC cannot return the bookmarks. Instead, winning bookmarks are publically displayed for thirty days following the Awards Ceremony. The DRC-MC, in cooperation with local art groups, typically tries to turn all of the bookmark art entries into a permanent public art piece that the students, their families, teachers and residents of Montgomery County can enjoy for years to come.

- **How many winning bookmarks are printed and distributed to the public each year?**

Usually 4-6 bookmarks are chosen each year by the judges for reprinting and distribution to the public.

- **Will the winning bookmarks be displayed after the contest?**

The winning bookmark entries are displayed at the Montgomery County Memorial Library, Central, for thirty days following the Awards Ceremony. After that, the DRC-MC works with local arts organizations to create permanent art displays that are available to the public. For example, the bookmark artwork from 2017 is included in two permanent art pieces entitled (Book) marking Peace that are on display at The Woodlands Art Council Spotlight Gallery in the Woodlands Mall and at the DRC-MC office. Another piece, titled "Wings of Peace," created by the Leadership Montgomery County Class of 2022, is also available at the DRC-MC office.

- **Are students required to attend the Awards Ceremony if they win?**

No, attending the Awards Ceremony is encouraged but is not required.

- **How many bookmark entries does the DRC-MC receive each year?**

The number of entries varies each year. Last year the DRC-MC received over 2,000 entries per year from approximately 40 Montgomery County schools (private, public and home schools).

- **When do the winners receive their prize money?**

The DRC-MC, with the help of Judge Kathleen Hamilton, typically distribute prize money to the contest winners at the annual awards ceremony. However, if a student is unable to attend the Awards Ceremony and grants permission, a teacher or school official may collect the money on their behalf.

- **Can I email or fax my bookmark submission to the DRC-MC?**

No, emailed or faxed copies of bookmark art entries cannot be accepted. The DRC-MC only accepts original bookmark art entries received at its office at 301 N. Thompson Street, Suite 106, Conroe, Texas 77301 or at any branch of the Montgomery County Library System on or before 5:00 p.m. on the last day of the contest. In 2024, the contest deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 11, 2024.

- **Why should students/children enter?**

Students and teachers consistently tell us how much fun they have working with their contest entries and attending the Awards Ceremony. Additionally, this contest allows students to think about and develop a plan to use conflict resolution skills to resolve disputes peacefully and prevent bullying. Students not only develop a sense of pride in their artwork, they also develop creative solutions for very real and sensitive problems.

- **Who judges the bookmark art entries?**

Panels of volunteer judges from the art community, mediation community and legal community evaluate the artwork entries and determine the winning bookmarks. The judges do not know the student artist's name, school or school district until after they have selected all of the contest winners.

- **What qualities are the judges looking for in the bookmark entries?**

The bookmark art is judged based on creativity and message they convey.