

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS®

Date: SEPTEMBER 2025

TO: STATE REGENTS, LOCAL COURT REGENTS, AND TERRITORIAL COURT REGENTS

FROM: NANCY BAMBENEK, NATIONAL EDUCATION

CHAIRPERSON 2025-26 SUBJECT: NATIONAL

EDUCATION CONTEST

THEMES: The Least of These. Matthew 25:40 **OR** The Least of These: Lifting Others Up.

Each local court should make a very special effort to sponsor the EDUCATION CONTEST. The themes selected for the contest encourage lively imagination and freedom of thought when student talent and application go hand in hand. The contest enables students of our communities, schools, and CCD classes to compete and strive for awards while following certain fixed rules. The choice of the categories is:

ART ESSAY POETRY COMPUTER ART MUSIC
PHOTOGRAPHY

The local court determines the number of awards to be presented to the first three winning entries in each division, within each category. Plan a special event and invite parents, teachers, and principals. Take a picture of the presentation, write an article, and send to your diocesan paper and National Share Magazine. Ask a representative from your local paper to be present for the awards ceremony. Bring a few membership applications and invite new members into your court.

- All entries in all categories are to reflect the chosen theme. There may be an excellent Art entry, but if it does not identify with the theme, it will not be a winner.
- All entries are to be the original imagination of the participant. He/she should not look at a picture, statue, building, etc. and draw from what he/she sees. **A participant needs to create an original idea for the entry.**
- All rules apply to Local, State and National entries. Local, state, and national education chairs and all judges are not eligible to enter this CDA contest. Local and state officers may enter the contest IF they are not education chairs.
- The Local Court's name, number, city, and state, as well as the Local Court Education Chairperson's name and address should be on both the individual contest information sheet (art, essay, poetry, computer art, music, and photography) **and** on the "2025-26 Education Contest Entry Form " (Page 4) before contest information is distributed.
- All Local Courts under the jurisdiction of a State Court send first place winners to the State Education Chairperson, using the "State Court Education Contest Cover Sheet" (Page 5). **Ask your local court regent for the name of the State Education chairperson and insert that person's name on the bottom of the sheet. Only one first place**

winner per division, per category. Please do not send a first-place winner in each theme, as both will have to be disqualified. LOCAL COURTS: DO NOT SEND DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL EDUCATION CHAIRPERSON, AS ENTRIES WILL NOT BE RETURNED. If you have a State Regent, you have a State Court and a State Education chairperson, to whom the entries must be sent.

Local Courts NOT under the jurisdiction of a State Court (Territorial Courts): Send only first place winners to the National Education Chairperson. Please do not send a first-place winner