

**Logo

Description automatically generatedA blue and red logo

Description automatically generated****ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**&**

CHARACTER COUNTS!

A person in a top hat and a hat with text

Description automatically generated

Announces a drawing, painting and poster contest celebrating

the Sixth Pillar of Character:

**CITIZENSHIP**

**Character Counts!** focuses on building character skills and shaping a positive culture in schools. Their Six Pillars of Character include **TRUSTWORTHINESS**, **RESPECT**, **RESPONSIBILITY**, **FAIRNESS**, **CARING**, and **CITIZENSHIP**.

**CITIZENSHIP** includes civic virtues and duties that prescribe how we should behave as part of a community.

A blue and white logo with a flag on top of a house

Description automatically generated**⭐** Volunteer

**⭐** Cooperate

**⭐** Be a good neighbor

**⭐**  Stay informed and vote

**⭐** Know and obey the laws

**⭐**  Make choices that protect the safety and rights of others

**⭐** Do your share to make your home and community better





A flag with a star

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a flag

Description automatically generatedCONTEST LEVEL ONE

STUDENTS IN GRADES K-8

Show your pride by creating a drawing, painting, or poster design that conveys the character trait of **CITIZENSHIP**. Express ideas, images, or words you associate with the United States or our home state of Arizona. Showcase your talents and get better at a skill you already have. Challenge yourself to learn something new! Prove to yourself that you can do things outside your comfort zone and boost your confidence.

**NEED SOME INSPIRATION?**

“America is **Hope**. It is **Compassion**. It is **Excellence**. It is **Valor**.” – Paul Tsongas

**IN 2023 WE CELEBRATE THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNCLE SAM**

A cartoon of a person pointing at the camera

Description automatically generated**Uncle Sam** (the initials of United States) has been a popular symbol of the U.S. government in American culture and a manifestation of patriotic emotion since the early 19th century.

Fireworks in the sky

Description automatically generated

A blue letter on a white background

Description automatically generatedTO CREATE AN ORIGINAL WORK OF ART CELEBRATING THE SIXTH PILLAR OF

CHARACTER EDUCATION

**CITIZENSHIP**





**IN 2003 WE ALSO CELEBRATED THE 285TH ANNIVERSARY OF MISS COLUMBIA**

A person holding a torch

Description automatically generatedA statue of liberty with colorful paint splashes

Description automatically generated**A person in a patriotic dress

Description automatically generatedColumbia**, also known as **Miss Columbia**,(named after the explorer Christopher Columbus) represents the United States as a nation. The association has given rise to the names of many American places, objects, institutions, and companies, including the [District of Columbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington,_D.C.), Columbia University, and the Columbia River. Columbia’s most prominent display today is as part of the logo of the Hollywood film studio Columbia Pictures. The image of the Statue of Lady Liberty is seen as an aspect of Columbia.

A fireworks exploding in the sky

Description automatically generated



****

*A black and white seal

Description automatically generated***A flag with a star

Description automatically generatedNEED SOME ARIZONA INSPIRATION?**

*Come to this land of sunshine*

*To this land where life is young…*

*~ From Arizona Anthem*

*Your artwork may include one or more of Arizona’s iconic symbols.*

**A close up of a blue and brown stone

Description automatically generated**

**State Amphibian: Arizona Tree Frog**

**State Anthem:** **Arizona March Song**

**A close-up of a cactus

Description automatically generatedState Bird:** **Cactus Wren**

**State Butterfly:** **Two-tailed Swallowtail**

**State Colors: Blue and Gold**

**State Fish: Apache Trout**

A poster of a fish and map

Description automatically generated**State Flower: Saguaro Cactus Blossom**

**State Fossil: Petrified Wood**

**State Gemstone: Turquoise**

**State Mammal: Ringtail**

**State Metal: Copper**

**State Motto: Ditat Deus (God Enriches)**

A snake on a white background

Description automatically generated**State Neckwear: Bola Tie**

**State Nickname: Grand Canyon State**

**State Reptile: Arizona Ridge-Nosed Rattlesnake**

A bird sitting on a branch

Description automatically generatedA frog on a leaf

Description automatically generated**A butterfly on a flower

Description automatically generatedState Tree: Palo Verde**

All things Arizona can be found at <https://azgovernor.gov/governor/arizona-facts>

****

**

A close-up of a flag

Description automatically generatedA flag with a star

Description automatically generatedCONTEST LEVEL TWO

STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12

Create a poster that promotes a positive attitude, respect, and correct moral judgment for online conduct with the goal of enhancing online behavior that supports character values on social media, using the good **CITIZENSHIP** pillar.

The Internet offers students opportunities for entertainment, work, socialization, and active participation in society. However, it also exposes them to risks, including, privacy constraints, misinformation, identity theft, inappropriate content, online abuse, trolling, cyberbullying, and grooming. **CYBER-WISDOM**, an integral part of **DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP** education, has the potential to enable young people to safely navigate online risks and opportunities.

**What is DIGITAL CI****TIZENSHIP?**

**DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP** means the responsible use of technology by those using computers, the internet, and social media to communicate with society. It is the ability to navigate our digital environments in a way that is safe and responsible and engage in these spaces safely, actively, and respectfully.

**What does it mean to be a DIGITAL CITIZEN?**

Being a good digital citizen is about working to ensure you are contributing to the health and well-being of your communities. How are you contributing to a positive culture online?

A group of colorful rectangular objects

Description automatically generatedSTOP CYBERBULLYING

Nearly 42% of kids have been bullied online and almost one in four have had it happen more than once.

PROTECT FREE SPEECH

The First Amendment protects freedom of speech and the press. The United States ranked 45th on the World Press Freedom Index in 2023.

CYBER WISDOM

Cyber-wisdom can be defined as doing the right thing at the right time when online, particularly when no one is watching. It requires that adolescents possess intellectual character values.

****

****

A flag with a star

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a flag

Description automatically generated2023 CHARACTER ED CONTEST

GENERAL RULES

**ESSENTIAL DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

**ELIGIBILITY**

All Arizona K-8 and 9-12 students, including public, charter, private, and homeschoolers, are warmly welcomed to join this inspiring opportunity. Only one entry per student will be accepted.

**ORIGINALITY**

Get creative! All entries must be entirely original, showcasing your unique artistic talents. Entries must not infringe upon the trademark, copyright, moral rights, intellectual property rights, or rights of privacy of any entity or person.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Your privacy matters to us. The contact information collected will solely be used for the purpose of contacting contestant winners by the Arizona Department of Education and will not be shared with anyone else.

**OWNERSHIP**

Once submitted, all entries will become the property of the Arizona Department of Education. We reserve the right to modify any entry or slogan for reproduction purposes and display the artwork in the Arizona Department of Education building or post it on our social media.

**ART SPECIFICATIONS**

**PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS RULES**

Scan or take a photo of your artwork. Jpeg, pdf, or pptx file image should be at least 300 dpi.

**TRADITIONAL POSTER RULES**

* Poster entries must provide a positive message about Character Education and focus on the Sixth Pillars of Character **CITIZENSHIP**.
* Use plain printer paper.
* Must be the student’s original work and be age and grade appropriate.
* No signatures; no names in front of posters.
* No syndicated, copyrighted, or clipart images.
* No computer-aided or copy-machine poster entries.
* No profanity; no sexually explicit content.



****

* Use clear lettering, high contrast, and bright colors on plain copy paper.
* Scan or take a photo of your artwork.
* The submitted jpeg image of the poster should be at least 300 dpi.

**DIGITAL POSTER RULES**

* Poster entries must provide a positive message about Character Education and focus on the Sixth Pillars of Character **CITIZENSHIP**.
* Use Adobe Illustrator or a similar vector-based program only.
* Vector graphic only; no raster images.
* Use regular plain printer paper layout in a digital program.
* Must be the student’s original work and be age and grade appropriate.
* No signatures; no names in front of posters.
* No syndicated, copyrighted, or clipart images.
* No profanity; no sexually explicit content.
* Use good lettering, high contrast, and bright colors in a vector program.
* The submitted jpeg image of the poster should be at least 300 dpi.

A flag with a star

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a flag

Description automatically generated2023 CHARACTER ED CONTEST

SUBMISSION

For this contest, **we require teachers to be the first reviewers** and select up to two of the best paintings, drawings, or posters.

Please email the artwork *as an attachment to**CharterContest@azed.gov.*

Include the following in your email:

**⭐** Art title (this should correspond to the name of the attachment)

**⭐** Student’s name and grade level

**⭐** Contact information of a person submitting the artwork

**⭐** District or organization name/school name

**⭐**  Permission to publish the student’s name and photo of the artwork

Answers the following:

* Does your school implement “The Six Pillars” program? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO
* If yes, do you have Gold or Platinum membership? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

**CONTEST DEADLINE**

Entries will be accepted through **December 31, 2023**.

****

****

A flag with a star

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a flag

Description automatically generated2023 CHARACTER ED CONTEST

JUDGING

THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONTEST IS TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO EXPLORE AND ADDRESS THE ISSUES, THOUGHTS, AND FEELINGS RELATED TO THE SIXTH PILLAR OF CHARACTER EDUCATION**CITIZENSHIP.**

**INSTRUCTION FOR TEACHERS**

In this contest, we require teachers to be the first reviewers and select up to two of the best paintings, drawings, or posters. The artwork will be judged on the following criteria:

* **QUALITY**

On a scale from 1 to 10 does the student's artwork contain properties of aesthetic proficiency?

* **CO****NSITENCY**

On a scale from 1-10 does the student’s content of the work align with the character trait of **CITIZENSHIP**?

* **EMOTIONAL IMPACT**

A blue sheet of paper with black text

Description automatically generatedOn a scale from 1-10 does the student's work elicit an emotional response with respect to the character trait of **CITIZENSHIP**?

The Arizona Department of Education will use same rubric to score all submitted winning artwork.

****

****

A flag with a star

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a flag

Description automatically generated2023 CHARACTER ED CONTEST

WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CONTEST WINNERS: JANUARY 2024**

First, second, and third places will be awarded in both contest levels, Grades K-8 and 9-12. Additionally, 20 outstanding artwork pieces in each contest level will receive the judges’ honorable mention.

The **2023 Character Education Contest** winners will be notified by email sent to teachers who submitted their artwork. The names of all winners will also be listed on our website <https://www.azed.gov/character-education>.

A flag with a star

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a flag

Description automatically generated2023 CHARACTER ED CONTEST

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

**STUDENT AND TEACHER RECOGNITION**

The winners of the **2023 Character Education Contest**, their teachers, and parents, will be invited to participate in the Character Education Celebration event at the **2024 ESSA Conference** at the Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel on January 17-18, 2024.

To acknowledge students’ accomplishments, the names of all students whose artwork was submitted for consideration will be posted on the Arizona Department of Education website <https://www.azed.gov/character-education>.

Students’ information will be displayed as follows:

First Name and Last Name

Grade Level

Teacher’s Name

School Name

The winners will be featured on our social media platforms and winning posters will be proudly displayed in the virtual “Character Hall of Fame” in our online gallery section at <https://www.azed.gov/character-education>.

If you have any questions, please contact CharterContest@azed.gov.

****