

Children's Art Competition "Peaceful Towns" 2026

Application Guidelines

1. Summary

To further promote peace education in its member cities, Mayors for Peace holds an art competition on the theme of peace for children ages 6 to 15 in all member cities. The winning entry for the Mayors for Peace President's Award will be adopted as the design for Mayors for Peace clear document folders to be used on various occasions, including United Nations conferences, to promote awareness about the importance of peace education.

2. Participants and categories

Participants: Children ages 6 to 15 (as of November 1, 2026) who commute to or live in Mayors for Peace member cities.

Categories:

- I. Category 1 (ages 6 to 10)
- II. Category 2 (ages 11 to 15)

3. Theme

What Peace Means to Me

4. Artwork requirements

Artwork will have to meet all the following requirements to be eligible for screening. The winning entry for the Mayors for Peace President's Award will be printed on clear document folders. As such, around 1 cm of the artwork may be cropped out at the edges.

- (1) Use only white B4-sized (257 mm x 364 mm) or A3-sized (297 mm x 420 mm) paper.
- (2) Only drawings and paintings are allowed. Photo collages, digital art, etc. will not be accepted. There are no restrictions on the type of materials to be used.
- (3) Artwork must be drawn/painted on flat surfaces so that they may be scanned.
- (4) Artwork must not have been submitted to other competitions, except those hosted by member cities where selected artwork will be submitted to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat.
- (5) Artwork must be produced by an individual (collaborative work by several people will not be accepted).
- (6) Artwork must not infringe on the rights of a third party, such as copyrights (including animated characters), trademarks, or portrait rights.
- (7) Emblems for the Red Cross Society and other similar emblems are not allowed.
- (8) Only one submission per applicant will be allowed.

5. Application procedure

(1) For applicants:

Submit your artwork along with the completed application form to the city hall of the Mayors for Peace member city where you commute to or live. Do not submit your artwork directly to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat.

(2) For member cities:

1. Set an application deadline to allow sufficient time for the selection process.
2. Publicize the competition to schools and other organizations in the region.
3. Each member city may select up to 5 pieces of artwork (per category) that match the theme and meet the respective requirements for Category 1 (ages 6 to 10) and Category 2 (ages 11 to 15), and submit the entries to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat via Google Forms (<https://forms.gle/oGf9Wa2uZhQhkGNm6>).

*As with previous competitions, member cities may submit entries by email (mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp) if they are unable to do so via Google Forms.

Google Forms

*Fill out all fields in English.

*The password for Google Forms will be emailed to respective member cities. Please contact the Secretariat for any inquiries.

1. Required information

Fill in the city, country/region, name of contact person, e-mail address and phone number of the city.

2. Artwork scans

Artwork must be scanned at a resolution of 300 dpi or higher. Create a JPG file (under 10 MB) for each artwork and save it with the filename: submission number_applicant name, before uploading.

For example: 1-1_John Smith

*Refer to Google Forms for submission numbers.

3. Application form scans

Fill out the designated PDF form and save it with the filename: submission number_applicant name_Application Form, before uploading. Please note that handwritten entries will not be accepted.

For example: 1-1_John Smith_Application Form.pdf

*Refer to Google Forms for submission numbers.

4. Number of submissions

Enter the number of artworks to be submitted to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat as well as the total number of submissions the city received from participants.

Submission via email

*Fill out all fields in English.

1. Cover sheet

Fill out the designated PDF form. Please note that handwritten entries will not be accepted.

2. Artwork scans

Artwork must be scanned at a resolution of 300 dpi or higher. Create a JPG file for each artwork and save it with the filename: submission number_applicant name.jpg, before uploading.

For example: 1-1_John Smith.jpg

*Refer to Cover Sheet for submission numbers.

3. Application form scans

Fill out the designated JPG form or PDF form and save it with the filename: submission number_applicant name_Application Form. Please note that handwritten entries will not be accepted.

For example: 1-1_John Smith_Application Form.pdf

*Refer to Cover Sheet for submission numbers.

6. Schedule

- (1) Deadline for submission to the Secretariat: Saturday, October 31, 2026, at 5 pm.
- (2) Announcement of results: Scheduled for early December 2026 (to be announced on the Mayors for Peace website)
*Member cities from which winning entries are selected will be notified in advance.
- (3) Shipping of certificates and commemorative gifts, as well as the provision of honorable mention certification data: Scheduled for early January 2027.

7. Prizes

- (1) One First Prize, two Second Prize, and three Third Prize works will be selected for each category. In addition, special prizes may also be awarded to participants in either category.
- (2) The Mayors for Peace President's Award will be awarded to one of the two First Prize works.
- (3) Certificates and commemorative gifts will be sent to member cities whose works are selected as winners. In addition, the winner of the Mayors for Peace President's Award and their member city will each receive 20 clear document folders printed with the name, age, country/region, city of the artist, and the image of the submitted artwork.
- (4) We request that mayors or local representatives of the respective member cities where prize winners commute to or live present certificates and commemorative gifts to the winners if possible.
- (5) We will provide an honorable mention certificate in electronic format to all individuals whose artworks were submitted to the Secretariat via email. We kindly ask member cities to distribute this certificate to the respective participants.

8. Notes

- (1) The Mayors for Peace Secretariat shall own copyrights and usage rights to all submitted artwork. The Secretariat also owns the right to publicize, present, exhibit, print and distribute copies of submitted artwork without the artists' consent.

- (2) Member cities do not require permission from the Secretariat to hold an exhibition of accepted entries. However, member cities are requested to submit photographs and a summary in writing after the exhibition.
- (3) If a member city wishes to exhibit artwork submitted to other member cities (including winning entries), or use artwork for purposes other than exhibitions, they must obtain permission from the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in advance and include a credit line such as “Courtesy of Mayors for Peace” to credit the Secretariat for providing the artwork.
- (4) The names, ages, member cities, countries or regions, artwork, and peace messages of the prize winners will be posted on the Mayors for Peace website.
- (5) Member cities are requested to keep artwork until the results are announced.

9. Inquiries

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp