

MI Community Workshop

A Toolkit for Local Leaders to get ready for the

YOUTH ART COMPETITION

Help your young talent show up. A healthy community invites young people to be contributors.




Creativity is a powerful point of entry. Art gives young people a way to say things that they may not have words for yet.

Art invites them to observe their community more closely & ask:

What do I love about where I live?

What makes this place unique?

What memories, landmarks, traditions, or people feel important to capture?



Determine place and time

Find a public space that has tables and chairs that can be used to create art. Consider a local business, the public library, or even city hall!


Choose a date and time that is accessible to children and parents. We recommend at least two hours of time for this event.

Secure supplies

Gather art supplies including white paper and drawing materials. These could be colored pencils, crayons, and markers. Before your event, set up the art supplies on a table in the front of the room.



Fun Tip



When the event is over, you can place these art supplies along with a copy of the competition flyer somewhere in the community such as City Hall or in spaces where children are often waiting with parents.

Have a computer available to assist kids and their parents with the application process. If possible, look into making a scanner available to allow for the best quality images to be uploaded during the workshop.

Plan what to talk about

Be prepared to talk about some of your community assets such as unique landmarks, interesting buildings, parks, geographical features, etc.

When kids finish their artwork, help them scan or take a high quality picture of it and submit it to the competition with parent or guardian permission.

Submit Here:



Have fun & celebrate your community



Most importantly, be sure to have fun engaging with your local families to do something creative and productive!

Remember that public voting will be **May 12 - May 26, 2026**. This is the perfect time to rally together and support the artists in your community so they can receive the **Community Pride Award!**

