



# News 4 You

Keeping ROE 40 districts and staff informed

**DECEMBER 2023**

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Deadline January 5

For the Holiday Season, our office will be closed December 21 through January 3. Wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We are settled in our new location and ready to continue business.

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Carlinville, IL 62626  
217-854-4016



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## Upcoming ROE 40 Professional Development

Director of School Improvement  
Ryan Wamser, [rwamser@roe40.com](mailto:rwamser@roe40.com)

Mon **Dec 4**—Mindful Monday (Virtual)

Mon **Dec 4**—Implementing Trauma Informed Practices in Schools

Mon **Dec 4**—Racism in Schools

Thurs **Dec 7** - Keep Them on The Edge of Their Seats

Thurs **Dec 7** - Student Growth

Mon **Dec 18** - Mindful Monday

Tues **Dec 19** - Tech Roundtable

Wed **Jan 3** - Community Well-Being and Implementing Self-Care Practices

- Power of Positive Teams
- Improving Pedagogy
- Writer's Workshop
- Keep Them on The Edge of Their Seats

Thurs **Jan 11** – Before the Crisis: Implementing Best Practices in Student Behavioral Threat

Wed **Feb 21**— PEP Con 2024

TO REGISTER  
FOR CLASSES  
PLEASE VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE





**Illinois  
State Board of  
Education**



# News

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## **Illinois art contest invites students to let their imaginations run wild**

*Deadline is Jan. 5 to enter 'I Wonder ...' contest*

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – Wonder, curiosity, and questions are a part of growing up ... and they're the heart of the annual student art contest sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum and the Illinois State Board of Education.

Students have until Jan. 5 to submit entries on the theme of "I wonder ..." The contest asks children from kindergarten through high school to interpret the theme however they want in two-dimensional art, such as a drawing, painting or collage.

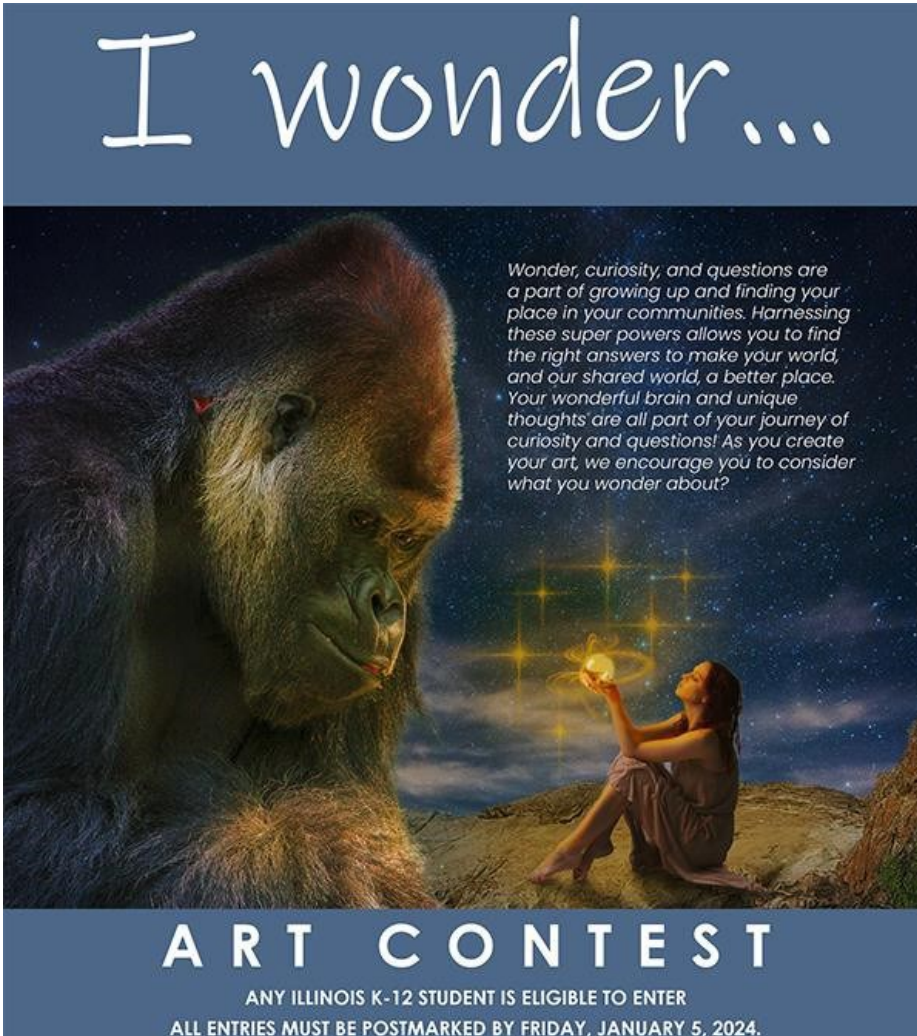
The contest has four age groups: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Each age group will have a winner and two runners-up. The winners will be announced March 11 to commemorate Arts Education Week.

All winners and runners-up will have their work displayed by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum through Aug. 15, and the artwork chosen as "best of show" will be used on a poster sent to schools to celebrate Arts Education Week, March 11-15, 2024. The winner will also be recognized at an ISBE Board meeting, and a framed copy will hang in the Board office.

"Saying 'I wonder ...' is the first step in changing the world. It leads to innovation in arenas from science and medicine to art and history," said Christina Shutt, executive director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. "We can't wait to see how the state's young artists tackle such a fun, thought-provoking theme."

Contest submissions may be up to 14 inches by 11 inches. They cannot feature copyrighted characters such as Batman. More details are available at [bit.ly/ALPLM-ArtContest](https://bit.ly/ALPLM-ArtContest). Entries do not have to be submitted via schools; youth groups, home-educated children or anyone else can participate. All that is required is that the artist is a student at any public, private, alternative, or home school in Illinois.

“We are proud to sponsor this annual student art contest to recognize the critical place of the arts in a well-rounded education,” said State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tony Sanders. “Every student deserves access to the arts. Learning and practicing the arts supports students in developing creativity, self-expression, and confidence. Illinois has incredibly talented artists at every age, and I look forward to seeing what our young people ‘wonder’ about through this year’s art contest theme.”



I wonder...

*Wonder, curiosity, and questions are a part of growing up and finding your place in your communities. Harnessing these super powers allows you to find the right answers to make your world, and our shared world, a better place. Your wonderful brain and unique thoughts are all part of your journey of curiosity and questions! As you create your art, we encourage you to consider what you wonder about?*

**ART CONTEST**

ANY ILLINOIS K-12 STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE TO ENTER  
ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024.

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum uses a combination of rigorous scholarship and high-tech showmanship to immerse visitors in Lincoln’s life and times. The

library holds an unparalleled collection of Lincoln books, documents, photographs, artifacts and art, as well as some 12 million items pertaining to all aspects of Illinois history.

For more information, visit [www.PresidentLincoln.illinois.gov](http://www.PresidentLincoln.illinois.gov). You can follow the ALPLM on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The mission of the Illinois State Board of Education is to provide leadership and resources to achieve excellence across all Illinois districts by engaging legislators, school administrators, teachers, students, parents, families and other stakeholders in formulating and advocating for policies that enhance education, empower districts and ensure equitable outcomes for all students. Its vision of Illinois is a state of whole, healthy children nested in whole, healthy systems supporting communities wherein all people are socially and economically secure.

Contact: Christopher  
Wills 217-558-8970  
[chris.wills@illinois.gov](mailto:chris.wills@illinois.gov)

# I wonder...

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FOR RULES AND INFORMATION VISIT:  
[bit.ly/ALPLM-ArtContest](http://bit.ly/ALPLM-ArtContest) OR [ISBE.net/artcontest](http://ISBE.net/artcontest)



The 42nd annual Illinois Arts Education Week is March 11-15, 2024. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) have collaborated to create more visibility for young Illinois artists and showcase their talent, as well as reinforcing the importance of the arts in the growth and development of our students.

**The theme for the 2024 contest is:  
I wonder...**

The contest includes four entry levels: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. A panel of judges will select a winner and two runners-up in each entry level. All winners and runners-up will have their original work displayed by the ALPLM from March 11, 2024 to August 15, 2024. The winning students in each entry level will have their work featured on a poster to celebrate Illinois Arts Education Week.

**Mail entries to:**

Arts Contest  
Student Care  
100 North First Street, E-222  
Springfield, IL 62777

*Please indicate number of entries sent with return address.*

**Questions**

**ALPLM**

Abigail Bussey  
Abigail.Bussey@illinois.gov  
217-685-9799

**ISBE**

Katrina Cunningham  
arts@isbe.net  
312-814-8872

**Contest Rules**

- Your work must reflect or interpret the theme "I wonder..." You are not required to incorporate the words of the theme into the work, just the concept.
- You must submit a brief written Artist's Statement with your entry that describes how the theme relates to your creation.
- Artwork must be no larger than 11" x 14" inches, two-dimensional, and flat (not folded). Folded entries will not be judged.
- Only Illinois students, in grades K-12 at a public, private, alternative, or home school, may enter the contest.
- All art must be your original work and not include copyrighted images.
- Do not use glitter; entries that use glitter will not be accepted for judging.
- If you choose to use chalk or pencil, please make sure your work is able to be reproduced and encase it in a sleeve to prevent smearing when mailed.
- If your artwork is abstract, please mark the TOP with an "X" on the back.
- A work that was submitted to the contest in previous years may not be resubmitted.
- There is no limit on the number of entries per school; however, each student may only submit one entry.
- You must submit a hard copy of your work to the address provided. This includes original artwork or a printed copy of a photograph or digitally created image.
- All entries must be postmarked no later than Thursday, January 5, 2024.

**Don't Forget...**

- Include a self-addressed envelope with the appropriate postage, if you want your original artwork to be returned.
- Fully complete and securely attach the Authorization Form on the back of your entry. If you are home schooled, please put "Home School" for your district and "N/A" for the principal.
- Artist's Statement must be attached to your entry or your work will be disqualified.

**2024 Authorization Form**

I hereby authorize the Illinois State Board of Education and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum to use the artwork of the student named below for the 2024 Art Contest. I also affirm that this artwork is original and NOT taken from another source, in part or in whole.

Student name (please print)		Student age	Student grade level
Parent/Guardian name (please print)		Parent/Guardian signature	
Phone	Date	Student signature	
Home address		City/State/Zip/County	
School & district or organization	School phone	Principal or organization representative	
Art teacher		Email of art teacher	