

# Berkeley Public Library 2026 Youth Art Contest

## Official Rules

The Berkeley Public Library celebrates its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. As part of our celebration year, we will be hosting an art contest for Berkeley youth, aged 1 to 12. The art contest will run from June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, with contest winners being identified at our 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration on July 11th.

The theme of this art contest is: STORIES: your favorite library book or story.

Artwork should be submitted on an official entry sheet, sized 8" x 8". The library will have official entry sheets available for pick up during regular hours through Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted drawings/paintings must be the child's original hand drawn/painted creation and may not be traced or copied from photographs or another artist's published works.

Computers or other mechanical devices **may not** be used in creating the drawing/painting. Computer generated art, photography or photographic art is not permitted.

Only artwork submitted with a fully completed entry sheet will be accepted. (An entry sheet is attached to this document and is available at the library during regular hours of business).

Limit one (1) entry per child. Once submitted, entries and artwork become the exclusive property of the Berkeley Public Library and will not be returned. By entering, contestants and their parents/guardians give their express permission to be contacted by The Berkeley Public Library by phone, mail or email. By entering this contest, contestants and their parent/guardians give express permission for the contestant's artwork, name, age, and photos of contestant to be featured in various print and online media, at the sole discretion of the Berkeley Public Library.

Children wishing to enter the Berkeley Public Library Art Contest should (i) live in Berkeley, IL; (ii) fully complete (or have an adult complete) the written portion of the Entry Sheet, (iii) have a parent or legal guardian sign the Entry Sheet, (iv) prepare an

original artwork drawing/painting, the requirements of which are described herein, and (v) submit in person the completed Entry Sheet at the Berkeley Public Library, 1637 N. Taft Avenue, Berkeley IL.

All artwork must be submitted with a fully completed entry sheet by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, June 30th 2026. Neither the Berkeley Public Library, nor any of its employees, volunteers, or representatives are responsible for lost, late, damaged, delayed, destroyed, misdirected, or incomplete entries/submissions.

Please DO NOT STAPLE OR FOLD the completed artwork. All submissions must be the sole, original work and exclusive property of the submitting child. Any artwork submitted may not have been entered in any other competitions or have won previous awards or competitions.

A panel of judges appointed by the Berkeley Public Library will judge the art contest. The art contest judges will choose up to 20 drawings/paintings to be featured along the Illinois Prairie Path, just west of Taft Avenue as part of the 'Art on the Path' project. Those children whose art work is chosen to be displayed will be notified and informed of the date the artwork display will be unveiled. All entries will be displayed in a special gallery showing inside the Berkeley Public Library on our 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Day – July 11<sup>th</sup> 2026, at which time the children whose artwork has been chosen to be displayed along the Illinois Prairie Path will be announced.

The decision of which artwork shall be displayed along the Prairie Path will be based on the sole discretion of the judges appointed by the Berkeley Public Library and their interpretation of the contest rules. All decisions made are final and binding in all respects.



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