



# Osher Map Library

Smith Center for Cartographic Education

## Mapmaking Contest!

Inviting all **Maine 4th, 5th, & 6th graders** to enter our Illustrated Mapmaking Contest for the chance to win \$1,000 (\$500 for you, \$500 for your class - homeschooled students welcomed)!

### How To Enter:

1. Create an original, illustrated map (a map with pictures).
2. Submit your map and completed Entry Release Form to the Osher Map Library postmarked by April 28, 2026
3. If you're one of 12 finalists selected invite your friends and family to vote for your map online!

### Important Dates:

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026** – mailed submissions must be postmarked by this date. Digital/drop-off submissions must arrive by **Friday, May 1**

**Monday, May 18**– 12 finalists announced; online vote begins.

**Monday, May 25** – Voting ends. Winners revealed by end of week.

### Important Things to Know:

- Your map must be flat (2 dimensional) and **no larger than 11 x 17 inches** (most construction paper is 12x18, too big to scan)
- The work should be unique, creative, and unassisted
- If you submit a map by mail, please make a photocopy if you would like to keep one as the maps will not be mailed back. You may also submit a high-quality photocopy and keep the original.
- If you submit a scan via email, the scan must be high quality and cropped appropriately. **No photographs please.**
- Your completed Entry Release Form should be attached to the back side of the map.

**More questions?** Contact Renee Keul at [renee.keul@maine.edu](mailto:renee.keul@maine.edu)

**Mail submissions to:** Osher Map Library & Smith Center for Cartographic Education (Attn: Mapmaking Contest)

P.O. Box 9301; Portland, ME 04104

### ENTRY RELEASE FORM

First Name of the Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_, Maine, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of your Illustrated Map Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this release you give Osher Map Library perpetual royalty free license to reproduce the works in order to promote the Osher Map Library with marketing materials such as, but not limited to, brochures, public information materials and exhibits. You also agree that all the works sent to the contest will NOT BE RETURNED to the artist.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Cut along dotted line and tape this portion to the back of the map

### Here's how the contest works:

**1. Preliminary Judging.** An independent panel of judges (educators, cartographers, artists) will review all eligible entries received and select up to 12 finalists.

**2. Notification of finalists.** By May 18, 2026, the selected finalists will be notified.

**3. Selection of Winning Illustrated Maps.** The finalists will be featured on Osher Map Library's Map Contest webpage, from May 18, 2026 - May 25, 2026. Through the judging panel and online community voting, winning illustrated maps will be selected. Limit one (1) vote per valid email address during the online voting period. Voting begins at 12:00 PM ET on May 18, 2026 and ends at 12:00 PM ET on May 25, 2026. The creators of the winning maps will be notified by May 29, 2026.

**4. Cash prizes to be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place, as well as "Best in Grade" prizes**

THE FINE PRINT • Entries that do not comply with the contest rules and submission requirements will be disqualified; Non-winning entrants will not be individually notified of the results; Only one Osher Map Library Map Drawing Contest entry per student per year will be accepted; It is the student's responsibility to inform the Osher Map Library of any change of address; The decisions of the Osher Map Library and the Judges are final. The Osher Map Library: • has the right to use the name and school of any Osher Map Library Map Drawing Contest contestant, without compensation, to administer and promote the Contest • retains ownership of all entries and may copy, modify, distribute and publicly display them • reserves the right to destroy entries after one year; will not insure entries it receives or be responsible for loss of or damage to the entries