

Join the  
**Children's Mapping  
Competition**







Announcing the 2025 Barbara  
Petchenik Children's Map Competition  
to celebrate the creativity,  
imagination, artistry, and wisdom of  
child mapmakers!

# Children's Map Competitions



Every two years, six finalists from each member country of the International Cartographic Association (ICA) are selected through their national children's map competitions to participate in the international Barbara Petchenik Children's Map Competition. This competition is held during the biennial International Cartographic Conference (ICC), which will next take place in Vancouver, Canada, in 2025.

In the United States, the U.S. Children's Map Competition is judged by members of the U.S. National Committee (USNC) for the ICA before the ICC. From the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each age category, six finalists are selected and submitted to the ICC for inclusion in the international Petchenik competition.



# Barbara Bartz Petchenik



Barbara Bartz Petchenik believed in the power of maps to convey a "larger, meaningful reality."



The competition named in her honor aims to inspire children to creatively represent the world, enhance their understanding of cartography, and foster greater awareness of their environment.





# Important Info



Open to students in the US  
up to 15 years old as of January 1, 2025

Extended to March 14, 2025  
All competition entries must be received by ~~March 7, 2025~~

# Age Categories



- Under 6 Years Old
- 6-8 Years Old
- 9-12 Years Old
- 13 through 15 Years Old

Children can work in a team with up to three others in the same age category to produce a single entry.



# Rules

- Illustrate the theme using pictures, drawings, words, objects, or other graphical elements
- Include a map of all or large portion of the world with recognizable continents, age-appropriate features, and/or representations
- Submit original hard copy map—no digital files will be accepted
- Scan or photograph the finished illustrationSubmitted entries will not be returned
- Maximum size is 11 x 17 inches
- Please use a tracking number for entries!



# Judging

- Portray a recognizable message
- Display cartographic content (symbols, colors, names, etc.)\*
- Strive for overall quality (balance, harmony, use of color, legibility)
- Use a “system of projections” to depict coastlines, land masses, or boundaries
- Enter an original work
- Use traditional methods (i.e., color pencils, crayons, watercolor, 3D objects) or a computer program
- Use nonperishable and unbreakable materials (no glass, leaves of plants, etc.)



\*Note: Cartographic accuracy is not a primary concern, though the illustration should be recognizable as a map in combination with the artist's unique interpretation of the theme or story





This year's theme is...

MAPS

IN

EVERYDAY LIFE





Get complete rules and details on  
how to enter the competition:



[cartogis.org/awards/children/](https://cartogis.org/awards/children/)





# Contacts



U.S. Competition Coordinators:

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