Young Authors Artwork Design
Guidelines 2022-2023

"Your Voice Matters: Celebrating EVERY Reader's Story"

As part of the NCRA Young Authors Project students may submit an original design for the cover of the winning entries publication. This artwork should encompass the overall theme of the project, suitable for the cover of the book. All young artists who would like to submit a cover or design must follow the NCRA Young Author Artwork Design Guidelines and complete the Entry Form provided to be eligible for state judging.

Guidelines for YA Artwork

- Must be drawn by hand or with computer tools -- no photographs, stock photos, or commercial graphics. Appropriate content only!
- Artwork/designs must be original ideas and clearly connect with the theme.
- All art is considered for publication in the Young Authors' Anthology, so it must be a 2D creation or able to be photographed clearly.
- **Art must be vertical top to bottom (portrait format).**
- Must be on blank, white 8½ x 11" piece of paper.
- Should clearly address the *overall theme*, not necessarily only the theme of the individual's writing if submitting a written entry.
- Must be original work -- no coping or tracing.
- Color, or black and white, may be used.
- Originality and creativity and theme are key components for judging.
- Any lettering and/or words should be neatly and clearly drawn/written.
- Use correct spelling if you have words in your drawing.
- Should not have the artist's name on design -- the artist will be recognized on the inside of the book.
- **Should have artist's name/grade/school written on the BACK of the picture in case the entry form becomes separated from the artwork.**
- Must be sponsored by an NCRA/MCRA member.
- The entry form must accompany the original artwork and must be securely paperclipped to the artwork.
- Send your original hardcopy to MCRA and keep a *copy* of the original at the local level.
- A digital copy must also be submitted to MCRA.

*** Any submission without a completed entry form will be **disqualified** from judging