

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE

TO: Principals
Art Teachers

FROM: Liz Martin

RE: Cinco de Mayo Art Contest
Entries due by Wednesday, April 11, 2007



Enclosed please find a copy of the specifics of the Cinco de Mayo Art Contest which will be held in conjunction with the city Cinco de Mayo Celebration to be held on Saturday, May 5, 2007. The contest theme is “Celebrating Hispanic Heritage”. Please note that it is open to all students in grades K-12. Participation is optional; however, it has always been the district’s position to encourage participation to the fullest extent possible.

If possible, we suggest that you coordinate this project with your art teacher to ensure quality entries. This would increase the student awareness of proper art entry form. Entries may be sent through school mail to Seguin Elementary at 1450 N.E. 4th Street. Grand Prairie, TX. 75052 or may be delivered by school staff between 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. by Wednesday, April 11, 2007. **You are encouraged to put the art entries in a large portfolio that will be sent to your campus that has the school name and contact person so that judges could unpack the entries, then repacked and is returned by school mail. Some art teachers have done this in the past and it has been very convenient.**

The contest winners will be announced through E-mail so that principals may notify the students. Instructions will be given regarding distribution of prizes at that time. Art will be on display at the GPISD Education Center during the month of May 2007 at 2602 S. Beltline Road. Families and friends are welcome to view the art between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

We would like to keep the winning entry as a permanent collection at the Education Center. We will ask for the student/parent to sign a release for this to occur. Please do not enter any art pieces that the student is not willing to release.

For more information visit our website:

<http://www.gpsid.org/frontpage/cincodemayo/CincodemayoInformation.htm>

If you have any questions regarding these materials,
please call Liz Martin at 237-4014.
liz.martin@gpsid.org

Thank you for your cooperation.

Attachments: Rules Sheet, Reproducible Entry Forms, and Significance of Cinco De Mayo

**CINCO DE MAYO COMMITTEE
2007 ART CONTEST RULES**



The Cinco de Mayo Art Contest is co-sponsored by H.A.C.E., Grand Prairie I.S.D. and Grand Prairie Arts Council

2007 CONTEST THEME: “Celebrating Hispanic Heritage”

DEADLINE: Entries must be submitted by Wednesday, April 11, 2007.
Seguin Elementary School
1450 S.E. 4th Street Grand Prairie, TX. 75052

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE: All Students in the K-12th grades who attend Grand Prairie Schools.

CONTEST RULES:

- All students must address the theme, “Celebrating Hispanic Heritage”
- One entry per student.
- The entries must be hand drawings using pen, pencil, crayon, paint charcoal, watercolor, tempera, pastels, or any combination of these.
- Entry may be collage as long as glued pieces do not prohibit stacking of other pieces on top of it.
- **The student’s description (25 words or less) of the artwork should be written on the ¼ sheet entry form at the end of this document.**
- **The entry form should be placed on the back at the top right hand corner of the artwork.**
- **The student’s name should not appear on the front of the artwork.**
- Entries 11 1/2 - by 18 inches are preferred. Entries on colored construction paper are acceptable. Please do not submit entries on manila paper unless they are artistically outstanding.
- High school entries may be larger than dimensions listed, matboard frames are permitted.

| PRIZES AT EACH GRADE LEVEL DIVISION: | | DIVISION GRADE LEVELS: |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| First Place: | \$100.00 Cash | Kindergarten – 1st |
| Second Place: | \$ 50.00 Cash | 2 nd -3 rd |
| Third Place: | \$ 25.00 Cash | 4 th -5 th |
| Fourth Place: | \$ 25.00 Cash | 6 th -8 th |
| | | 9 th - 12 th |

Third and Fourth Place prizes sponsored by Grand Prairie Arts Council
Prizewinners will be contacted through the teacher for prize distribution information.

Winning artwork will be posted on the GPISD internet site.
<http://www.gpisd.org/frontpage/cincodemayo/CincodeMayoInformation.htm>

EL CINCO DE MAYO

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE IT IN THE UNITED STATES?

By Samuel Saenz

A Mexican army of teenagers defeated a powerful French army at Puebla, Mexico on May 5, 1862, and in doing so, helped preserve the Union (United States) during the American Civil War. How could this be if the battle took place in Mexico and the American Civil War was in the United States? If you want to know, read on.

After being a Spanish colony for over 300 years, Mexico became independent in 1821. For the next forty years, it experienced many internal revolts, was invaded by foreign countries (primarily the United States) resulting in the loss of a third of its territory, all of which went to the United States. Today, that territory has names like: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. Due to the Texas Revolution of 1836, in which Mexico lost part of Texas, compounded with the events above, Mexico's distrust of the United States made relationship between the countries very difficult.

However, something coincidental happened in 1861. Abraham Lincoln became the president of the United States where he was confronted with a civil war while in Mexico, Benito Juarez also became president, where his civil war had just ended, and his country was bankrupt. Mr. Juarez decided to stop payments on foreign debts, and asked some countries for more time. France, under the leadership of Napoleon III decided to get involved in the American Civil War on the side of the South. Mr. Lincoln's navy, however, blockaded the South in the Gulf of Mexico. To reach the war zone in the United States, Napoleon III had to find another passage so Mexico became the alternate route. Napoleon III refused to honor Mexico's request for more time and used the money issue as an excuse to invade it with military power and to eventually proceed to the United States.

Here is where the Mexican Army helped preserve the Union. On its way to Mexico City, on May 5, 1862, a French Army was met at Puebla by a Mexican Army, which soundly defeated it. The victory united Juarez's forces against France. Although France was stronger and managed to control Mexico until 1867, the Mexican Army kept them busy all the American Civil War-years, and it was never able to get involved in that conflict on the side of the South. During this time, the decisive battles of the American Civil War were fought, and the North won, thus reuniting the United States. The relationship between Mexico and the United States began to improve, especially after the United States sent troops to Mexico after the Civil War, to help defeat the French.

The Battle of Puebla changed the course of our history, and through the years it has signified cooperation, patriotism, and a shared sense of pride between the two countries. A fellow Texan and native of Goliad, Texas, General Ignacio Zaragoza, was the leader and hero of this historical event. Incidentally, The Monroe Doctrine was defended at Puebla for the first time since President James Monroe wrote it in 1823.

Every year, some folks inquire as to why a Mexican holiday such as EL CINCO DE MAYO celebrated and commemorated in our country. You decide.

Cinco de Mayo Art Contest
2007
Student Art
Release Form



I grant permission for my piece of artwork to become property of the Grand Prairie Independent School District. I understand that it will be displayed, as the district deems appropriate.

Date: _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ (for minors)

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