

SOME NOTES ON THE TECHNICAL STUFF FOR THE NEXT BARBARA PETCHENIK COMPETITIONS

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Requirements:

There are three websites with information/requirements on the contest,

- the main ICA webpage <http://www.icaci.org/en/competition.html>,
- the Canadian archive page <http://children.library.carleton.ca/index.htm>
- the webpage of the CCC <http://lazarus.elte.hu/ccc/bpc.htm>

I propose to write *one* text with information and requirements, and have these same text on all three websites. Layout of the website, colour and the choice of images is for the webmaster to decide, but the text must be identical (I haven't checked if this is the case now).

OR: even better, there is only one website with the rules & requirements (the official ICA website), and the other websites will link to that. I myself have access to the www.icaci.org website and can do the uploading.

On the website, the requirements must be clearly divided into:

- A: the content of the drawing
- B: the technical requirements
- C: how to submit

The text of the website should be aimed at the *teachers*, and not the "general" rules as present, which are more aimed to the board/member states/national coordinators. This information will (of course) stay on the main ICA website, just as the ICA Executive guidelines, but a bit more in the back.

A: the content of the drawing

* a recognizable connection between the form, shape, and use of cartographic elements which creatively address the Competition's theme.

* a recognizable image of all or a large portion of the world in which the shapes and relative locations of land masses and oceans are as correct as can reasonably be expected for the child's age and within the context of the "system of projection" used. Any number of "systems of projection" can be used to generate the coastlines and other base material (e.g., international boundaries and graticule). These can include tracing or copying an existing world map or using a computer program.

* appropriate cartographic elements such as symbols, colors, names and labels, etc., which helps to address the Competition's theme.

* clarity and legibility of the point, line and area symbols appropriate to the media of expression, whether on paper or other surfaces, whether drawn or made up of indigenous materials.

* expressive rendering and appropriate use of the perceptual dimensions of color, i.e., changes in value for quantitative distinctions and changes in hue for qualitative distinctions.

* overall aesthetic quality in such matters as balance and harmony among the image elements.

B: the technical requirements

1. Maximum size A3 (29.7 x 42 cm = 11-3/4 x 16-1/2 inch).
2. The surface have to be flat; pasted on objects may not be higher than 5 mm or 0.2 inch.
[1 and 2 are important for scanning the submissions].
3. On the backside of the submission the following information should be given:
 - title of the drawing in English or French and in the national language
 - name of the author
 - age of the author (eventually date of birth)
 - name and full address of the school (including e-mail address)

C: how to submit

- Contact the national coordinator about the national rules for submitting (give list). Several countries organize a national competition. The national coordinator will send in the submissions to the Barbara Petchenik Competition Co-ordinator.
- Submissions sent directly to the Barbara Petchenik Competition Coordinator by schools or parents, are NOT ACCEPTED.
- In case, your country has no national coordinator, contact the Barbara Petchenik Competition Coordinator before submitting.

Of course I will help with the website and the text for it, but we need a native English speaker to take care that it is correct English.

Since the webpage is meant for teachers and the children, only English is not sufficient. Maybe the commission can contact the various national representatives of the member states to have it translated into the national languages (I volunteer for the Dutch one). I think that the fact that submissions often do not meet the requirements is because the English text is not understand good enough (f.i. most of the submissions of the "Gulf States" were not according the theme of the competition).

National Coordinators

In the "back" of the website.

More or less as present, only that they have to sent the submissions to the Barbara Petchenik Competition Co-ordinator

Barbara Petchenik Competition Co-ordinator

A new function to be created and for which I volunteer - it is more or less what Ferjan and I did for the last three or four competitions.

His tasks are

- to receive all submissions
- to check if the submissions meet the requirements (maximum 5 per country, the technical requirements as described above etc.), and if not, contact the national coordinator to solve the problems.
- to make a database of all submissions with all necessary information
- to make photographs or scans or all submission
- to prepare a CD with the submissions arranged per country and per age-group after the model of the cd's prepared for the last competitions.
- to send all submissions to the conference venue.