



The Skillman Foundation Presents

YAKTIVITIES FOR HELPING KIDS

Thanksgiving Float & Balloon Contest Competition Gives Students a Chance to Promote Detroit

The Skillman Foundation's Float and Balloon Design Contest emphasizes the Foundation's work toward creating good schools and good neighborhoods in the City of Detroit.

The parade is an opportunity to raise the visibility and identify new champions to promote work in Skillman neighborhoods.

For the second year, the contest was opened to students in kindergarten through Grade 12 who attend school in Skillman-targeted neighborhoods.

The goal of the contest is to encourage students to participate in a rewards-based competition that is educational, fun and positively promotes Detroit.

The students were invited to submit a drawing with a focus and strong concentration on the Foundation's Good Schools and Good Neighborhoods program areas. There were more than 300 entries this year.

The contest gives children an opportunity to contribute to positive programs and build stronger communities in Detroit while supporting new and creative elements for America's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Their contributions showcase the exciting transformations taking place in Detroit.

The Parade Studio was filled with smiling and excited faces as the 17th Annual Skillman Foundation winning float and balloon designs



This year's Honorable Mention winners.

were unveiled. Two talented school girls were thrilled to see their artistic creations come alive for the first time!

Emirene Munoz, an eighth grader from Clippert Academy in Detroit, and Julissa Madrigal, a seventh grader from Earhart Middle School in Detroit, were this year's winning artists.

Munoz's drawing of "Elephante" inspired a vibrant balloon, and Madrigal's "Our Aquarium" was transformed into a captivating, life-size float.

Earning honorable mention in this year's contest were:

Float: Regina Aleman, an eighth grader from Clippert Academy; Atziry Ruiz, a fifth grader from Bennett Elementary; Mariah Shaw, a third grader from Harms School; and

Yajaira Carrillo, a fifth grader from Cesar Chavez Academy.

Balloon: Arlene Torres, a sixth grader from Academy of the Americas; Adam Yang, a fourth grader from Fleming Academy; Walter Richey, a seventh grader from Leland Community Affairs, Inc.; and Ande Villarreal, a fifth grader from Bennett Elementary.

Skillman leaders were excited at the level of participation in this year's contest, and at the quality of the entries.

"Let's congratulate all the original and very artistic winners, and all the students who entered this year's contest!" the Foundation declared.

"See you all on Thanksgiving Day!"

The Time and Route of Thanksgiving Parade

America's Thanksgiving Parade in Detroit is one of this country's largest and most spectacular parades. Established in 1924, it fills the city's Woodward Avenue with holiday magic.

This year's theme is "Legends and Lollipops."

When: The parade begins at 9:20 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27.

Where: The parade route runs along Woodward Avenue from Mack Avenue to Congress Avenue.



THINK ABOUT CREATIVITY

The creativity of students and their families can be seen in many ways. Students may be artistic or play instruments. Parents may make clothes or cook delicious meals. Aunts may sing or uncles plant gardens. The creativity of people can make communities beautiful, strong and more exciting places to live. With your family and friends, talk about the creative talents you and family members have. Then brainstorm ways you could use your creativity to make your community a stronger or more beautiful place. For added fun, think like students in the Thanksgiving Float and Balloon Contest and brainstorm ways you could use creativity to tell people about good things happening in Detroit or your neighborhood.

The Skillman
FOUNDATION



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