

ANNUAL CHICAGOLAND

Children's Stories & Art Exhibition

Inspiring stories. Sparkling imagination.
Creative expression. Stronger communities.



STORIES



LISTENING



IMAGINATION



ART



ANNUAL CHICAGOLAND CHILDREN'S STORIES & ART EXHIBITION

Theme 2026:

If Stories Could Come Alive

Organized by: 365 for Kids

Let's Build This Together

Every great community initiative begins with people who believe children deserve opportunities to imagine, create, and grow.

We invite libraries, schools, educational organizations, and community groups to help us bring this year's exhibition to families throughout Chicagoland.

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

The Annual Chicagoland Children's Stories & Art Exhibition is a free educational and cultural initiative created by 365 for Kids.

The exhibition encourages children and teens to explore reading, listening, imagination, and creativity by creating artwork inspired by stories.

Theme 2026: "If Stories Could Come Alive"

Participants create original artwork inspired by:

• Books • Fairy Tales • Legends • Myths • Folktales • Family Stories • Audio Stories

All accepted artworks will be included in the exhibition, the virtual gallery, and the official exhibition catalog.

WHY IT MATTERS

Stories help children develop imagination, creativity, empathy, and a lifelong love of learning.

The exhibition connects:

Reading → Listening → Imagination → Creativity → Art

while giving children a meaningful opportunity to share their work with the community.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Libraries, schools, and community organizations play an important role in helping children discover the joy of stories, learning, imagination, and creativity.

The Annual Chicagoland Children's Stories & Art Exhibition is designed as a community-centered educational initiative that brings together young artists, families, educators, and cultural organizations throughout the Chicagoland area.

We welcome partnerships with public libraries, schools, educational programs, youth organizations, cultural centers, and community groups that would like to help share this opportunity with local families.

Together, we can encourage more children to read, listen, imagine, create, and express themselves through art.

WHY BECOME A COMMUNITY PARTNER?

The Annual Chicagoland Children's Stories & Art Exhibition is a free educational and cultural initiative that encourages children and teens to connect stories, imagination, and artistic expression through art.

By becoming a Community Partner, your organization helps bring meaningful creative opportunities to local families while supporting literacy, creativity, and community engagement throughout the Chicagoland area.

HOW COMMUNITY PARTNERS CAN HELP

Supporting the exhibition requires very little time.

Partners may choose any of the following:

- ✓ Include the exhibition in a newsletter
- ✓ Share the flyer on social media
- ✓ Display the poster in your facility
- ✓ Add the exhibition to your website or events calendar
- ✓ Share information with families, students, or community members

Participation is completely free.

BENEFITS FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Support a free educational and cultural opportunity for children and teens
- Help promote reading, storytelling, imagination, creativity, and artistic expression
- Support literacy, creativity, and community engagement goals within your organization and community
- Receive recognition as an official Community Partner of the exhibition
- Be acknowledged on the exhibition website, in exhibition publications, and in the official exhibition catalog
- Receive a complimentary copy of the official exhibition catalog
- Share the exhibition and its outcomes with your community through your website, newsletters, social media, and programs
- Participate in a regional educational and cultural initiative that celebrates young artists across Chicagoland

READY TO JOIN US?

If you would like to help inspire children through stories, imagination, and art, we'd be delighted to welcome your organization as a **Community Partner**.

Visit the [exhibition website](#) to learn more about the initiative and download the **Community Partner resources**.

If you decide to support the exhibition, simply complete the **Community Partnership Form**.

This helps us stay in touch, provide updates, recognize your organization as an official Community Partner, and include it in the exhibition website, publications, and official exhibition catalog.

Thank you for helping inspire the next generation of young artists.

[Become a Community Partner](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission Deadline: November 15, 2026

Winners & Selection Results Announced: December 1, 2026

Official Exhibition Catalog Published: December 1, 2026

Virtual Exhibition Opens: December 10, 2026

[Learn more on our website](#)



Let's Build This Together



365 for Kids

• *Stories* • *Learning* • *Creativity* • *Every Day*

365forkids.com