A Moment That Helped Shape America
POSTER CONTEST PROMPT AND RULES

Local students are invited to participate in this special Poster Contest sponsored by the Los Altos Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and Los Altos History Museum. Winning artworks will be displayed in a special Museum exhibition commemorating America's 250th anniversary and receive a cash prize.

PROMPT:

A Moment that Helped Shape America:
Create a poster about an important event or person since the Declaration of Independence in 1776 that made a difference in our country.

WHO MAY ENTER:

- Students in grades 3rd through 12th grade
- Students who live or attend school in Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, or unincorporated Los Altos or Los Altos Hills
- Divisions:
    - 3rd- 5th grade
    - 6th - 8th grade
    - 9th - 12th grade

WHAT TO ENTER:

- All entries must respond to the prompt.
- Entries must be an original art piece created by the entrant (including digitally-created art). Artificial Intelligence (AI)-generated art is not allowed.
- Each entrant may submit only one entry.
- Maximum size of the art piece will be 11 inches x 17 inches. It may be oriented as portrait or landscape.
- All entries must utilize one of the following media or any combination thereof:
    - Paint (acrylic, watercolor, oil, etc.)

    - Crayon
    - Markers
    - Pens
    - Pencils
    - Charcoal (with protective coating)
    - Pastels (with protective coating)
    - Paper
    - Mixed media or collage
- All entries may be in color or black and white.
- Entries must not be matted nor framed.
- Each entrant must submit the original art piece for judging.

DEADLINE AND HOW TO ENTER:

- All entries must be received by 4:00 pm on **May 15, 2026.**
- Each original art piece MUST be accompanied by an entry form and photo release form signed by the student's parent or guardian.
- Entrants should deliver or mail their posters to the Los Altos History Museum front desk (open Thursday through Sunday, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm) at 51 S. San Antonio Rd, Los Altos, CA 94022. No online submissions.
- NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED.
- Winning posters will be displayed in the Museum's special exhibition and those entrants may be invited to donate their artwork to the Museum's collections. All entrants will have the option to pick up their original artworks after judging is complete during preannounced hours.

JUDGING:

Posters will be judged on artistic expression; creativity, uniqueness, originality; interpretation of theme; use of language; and neatness. Contest winners will be notified in early June, and publicly announced at the exhibition Preview Night on June 17, 2026.

PRIZES:

- The first place winner in each division will receive a $100 cash prize and certificate from the Los Altos Chapter, DAR
- Winning entries for each contest division will be displayed at Los Altos History Museum as part of its exhibition commemorating America's 250th anniversary (running June 18 - November 8).

MORE INFORMATION:

Please see the website **https://www.losaltoshistory.org/PosterContestUS250** or email **losaltosdar@gmail.com**