



Armed Services YMCA of the USA

National Headquarters
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EMBARGO: Media may not announce this until 1 November 2011.

Armed Services YMCA announces guidelines for annual art contest.

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The Armed Services YMCA **Art Contest 2012** seeks young artists for its annual contest titled **“My Military Family”**.

Co-sponsored by GEICO Direct, the art contest promotes art among children of active duty or retired (with 20+ years of service) from the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard/Reserves families. Children in grades Kindergarten through sixth are eligible to enter. Winning artwork receives U.S. Savings Bonds. One \$500 first place and one \$100 second place bond will be awarded in each service category. Top six winners (one from each service will be highlighted on the Armed Services YMCA annual Military Family Month Poster.

Students are asked to **draw a picture of their military family**. All entries should be drawn on a **6 X 8**-inch template included with the entry form. Please note: This is different from past years. Entries with great use of color and patriotic theme have caught judges' attention in the past.

Entries should be **postmarked no later than February 17, 2012** to be eligible.

Send them to:
Armed Services YMCA
Attn: Art Contest
6359 Walker Lane, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22310

All entries should include the official entry form **completely** filled out and attached to the backside of each entry. The entry form can be found on the Armed Services YMCA website: www.asymca.org.

For any additional information not found on the website email the questions to tharper@asymca.org.

Since the Civil War, the Armed Services YMCA has consistently provided educational, recreational, social and spiritual programs to military members and their families. Celebrating 150 years, the Armed Services YMCA, an affiliate of the YMCA of the USA and headquartered in Alexandria, Va., has more than 80 program locations around the world.

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