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# YOUNG ARTISTS NEEDED

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## Elementary Teachers & Students Take Note!



*We need the participation of you and your students!*

Each year the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) produces a special western calendar based on a particular theme or topic. The calendar created will use the original artwork of elementary students. A prize will be awarded to each child whose artwork is selected.

The Oregon-California Trails Association is dedicated to the study, preservation, interpretation, appreciation and enjoyment of the western pioneer trails. This is one of its educational projects. The project integrates American history and art. We hope that teachers will see the value of this, incorporate it into their class work and encourage their students to participate. Hopefully, it will also increase their students' interest in learning about the West, an important part of our history and that of other peoples who inhabited the area.

**Calendar** – It will run from January-December 2021.

### **Theme** for the artwork – **Dangers & Hazards Encountered Along the Trails**

As the emigrants moved westward, they encountered many things. Some were wondrous and enjoyable while others were normal and uneventful. However, some could be prove to be harmful and even life threatening. These dangers and hazards could impact an individual or even a whole company. They had to be overcome if the emigrants were to reach their “promised land.” Some of these problems were caused by humans, such as accidents, disease and attacks; others by geographic and environmental conditions; and still others by encounters with wild creatures. The task is to identify these things and then to depict them in the artwork. The trails were found in all parts of the West, including the Great Plains, the river valleys, the Great Basin, the mountains, the Southwest and the Pacific coastal areas. We hope that students will enjoy their research as they learn about the various conditions emigrants faced and dealt with as they traveled west along the trails.

**Prizes** – Each student whose artwork is selected will receive a copy of the calendar and a check for \$50.00. The school which the student(s) attends will also receive one calendar. Additional copies of the calendar will also be available for purchase. Prizes will be mailed no later than September, 2020.

**Specifications** – The artwork **must** be an original drawing/painting – not a photo or computer generated art. It **must** be on an 8 ½” x 11” paper. Landscape presentation is preferred, but not mandatory. Twelve to fourteen drawings will be selected. One selection will be made for each month and two others may be used for the cover and the back.

– **Two types** of information **MUST** be on the back of the entry. The **first** relates to the drawing. It must identify the type of danger or hazard depicted. The **second** refers to the student. It **must** identify the student by providing **all** of the following: A) student's first and last name B) school's name C) teacher's name D) student's grade E) student's age F) school's address and G) school's phone number. This will enable OCTA to contact the selected students through their school. The artwork will not be returned.

**If you are a student** who wishes to enter the contest independently of your school's participation, please use your home information and your parent's name if they permit, but also include the name of your school or note if you are being home schooled. Please have a parent sign it on the back with the other information.

**Deadline** – The entries for artwork are due by April 15, 2020. Judging should be completed in June. The calendar should be available by August, 2020.

Visit our website at  
[www.octa-trails.org](http://www.octa-trails.org)

Entries will not be returned and must be sent to:  
OCTA-Calendar Project  
P.O. Box 1019  
Independence, MO 64051-0519

For questions/concerns call: OCTA headquarters @ (816)-252-2276 or William E. Hill @ (631)-585-2592