



CHRISTMAS IN ST. LOUIS 2017 COLORING AND ESSAY CONTEST

The 2017 Christmas in St. Louis Coloring and Essay contest is open to all children between the ages of 5 and 13 in the St. Louis Metropolitan area currently enrolled in Kindergarten through 8th Grades, including home schooled children.

The Christmas in St. Louis Foundation (CISL) in partnership with the **St. Louis Public Library** are inviting children in Kindergarten through 2nd Grade to submit their colored poster (unfinished poster found on websites), and children from 3rd through 8th Grades are encouraged to submit their original essay finishing "*On the first day of Christmas, St. Louis gave to me . . .*"

Three finalists (first, second and third place winners) will be chosen from each of the following groups:

Coloring Contest – Kindergarten through 2nd Grade **Essay Contest**–3rd and 4th Grades, 5th and 6th Grades, and 7th and 8th Grades

Coloring Page and Essay submissions must be received no later than November 10, 2017 at any of the 16 St. Louis Public Library locations or mailed to the Christmas in St. Louis Coloring and Essay Contest c/o St. Louis Public Library, 1415 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63103. All entries become the sole property of CISL.

Contest Rules

Children in Kindergarten through 2nd Grade are invited to submit their artwork using the coloring poster downloaded from the websites at christmasinstlouis.org or spl.org. Submissions must be original work of the child without adult assistance and must follow all the contest requirements to be eligible for judging. Only one entry per child allowed.

Taking a page from Ryan Nusbickel's book, children in 3rd through 8th Grades are invited to submit an essay finishing "*On the first day of Christmas, St. Louis gave to me . . .*" Essay submissions should be:

- Original unpublished work developed specifically for this contest of at least 100 but no more than 500 words
- Typed, printed or hand written on white, 8½ x 11 inch, paper
- Must follow all the contest requirements to be eligible for judging

Parents and finalists in all four categories need to agree to the following in order to be considered in the judging contest:

- All parents and children will be available for an award ceremony at the Ameren Missouri Festival of Lights Festival scheduled at Kiener Plaza on Saturday, November 18, 2017
- The four winners and their parent will be available for participation in the Ameren St Louis Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday, November 23, 2017, including a potential interview with broadcast partner, KMOV-TV, during the parade

Judging

Posters and Essays will be judged based on overall impact and creativity. Entries will not be considered for judging unless Release Form is securely attached to entry. Release form must be filled out in its entirety or it will not be considered. Decisions of the judges are final and all entries become the property of the Christmas in St. Louis Foundation.

Prizes

The four first place winners (one from each age group) will be named Junior Grand Marshals of the 2017 Ameren St. Louis Thanksgiving Day Parade and will participate, along with a parent or legal guardian, as special guests of the Parade.

In addition, the four first place winners will receive:

- Autographed copy of "The St. Louis 12 Days of Christmas" by Ryan Nusbickel
- Replica World Series ring
- Four tickets to the Mercy Holiday Celebration at the St. Louis Symphony
- Two Arch tram and two riverboat tickets

The four second place winners (one from each age group) will receive:

- Autographed copy of "The St. Louis 12 Days of Christmas" by Ryan Nusbickel
- \$25 pizza Gift Certificate
- Christmas in St. Louis logo apparel

The four third place winners (one from each age group) will receive:

- Autographed copy of "The St. Louis 12 Days of Christmas" by Ryan Nusbickel
- \$15 pizza Gift Certificate
- Sled and Christmas in St. Louis logo hat

Members of the Christmas in St. Louis Foundation, and their immediate family members, are not eligible to participate in this contest.



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RELEASE FORM

This form must be securely fastened to the back of each poster and essay submission and filled out in its entirety. Missing Release Forms are not the responsibility of Christmas in St. Louis Foundation (Foundation).

Student's Name _____

Student's Age _____

Student's Grade _____

School currently attending _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name _____

Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's telephone number _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's email address _____

I hereby certify that the attached poster or essay was created entirely by my child (named above), and is his or her unassisted work. I have read and understand the rules of the contest. I agree that my child's submission may be offered for public display or publication at some time during or after the contest, or used for any and all commercial purposes.

I understand that the Foundation reserves the right to alter the final entry or to reject all submissions. I also understand and agree that no entries will be returned.

In the event that this submission is chosen a winner, I further give permission to the Foundation to release my child's name, age, school, grade and hometown to the media and anyone else to which the Foundation may wish. In the event this submission is chosen as a winner, I understand there will be no further compensation other than that identified above.

I understand that by entering this contest entries become the exclusive property of the Foundation, and may be used for any and all commercial purposes.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____

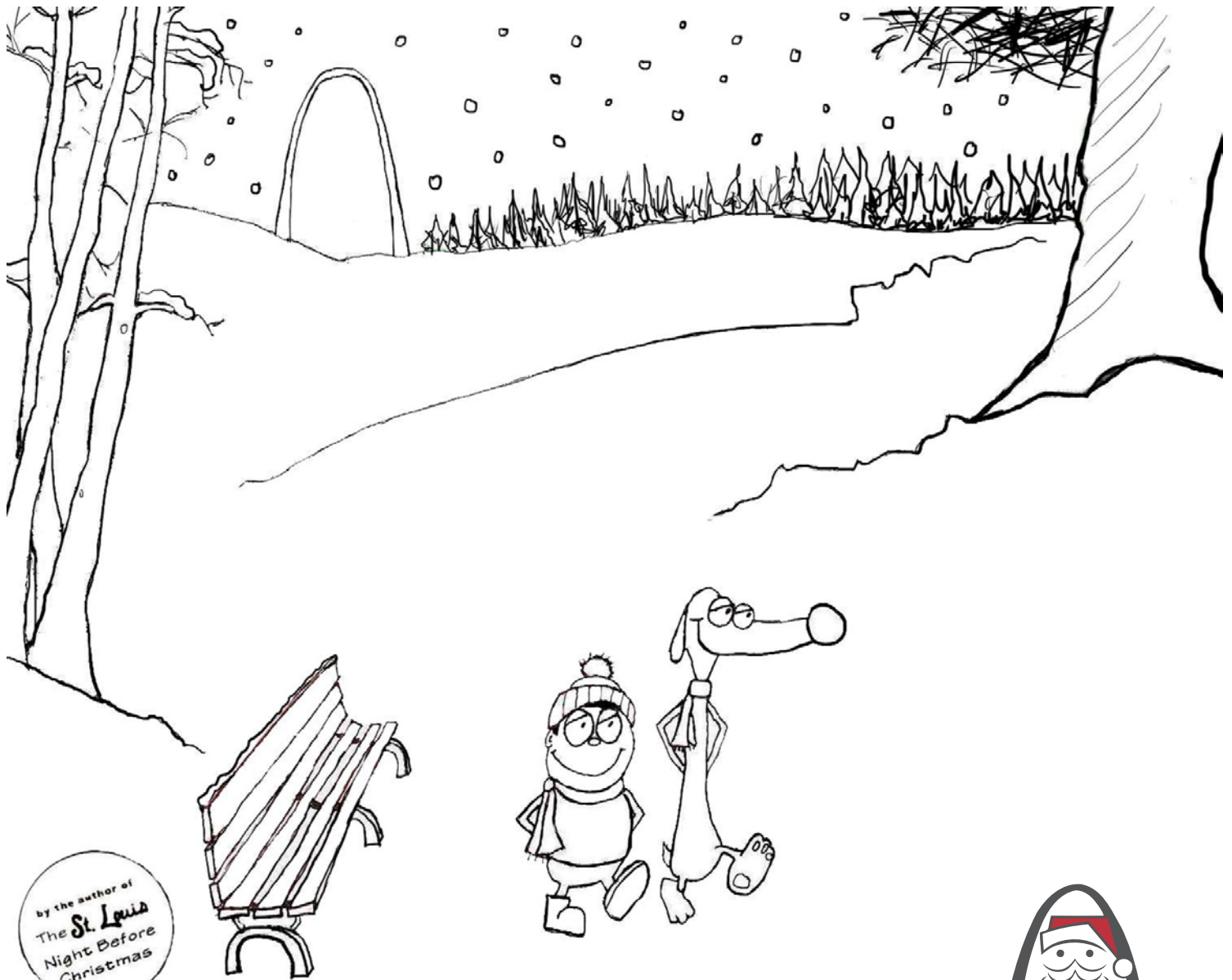
Print Name _____

Date _____

NAME OF ARTIST: _____



**Ameren Missouri
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
2017**



by the author of
*The St. Louis
Night Before
Christmas*

Ryan Nusbickel © 2017
www.nusbickelbooks.com



Christmas in St. Louis®
A special time in a special place™

CHRISTMASINSTLOUIS.ORG