GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

TRIBAL EDUCATION

ART CONTEST

ESSAY CONTEST

ANNUAL FAIR AND RODEO
MUL-CHU-THA

March 13, 2026

CALLING ALL STUDENTS!

The Tribal Education Department invites Gila River Indian Community youth (grades 4-12) to enter the Tribal Education Art and Essay Contest!

Theme:

"How Does Art Celebrate Cultural Traditions?"

(Think of your culture, language, environment, resources, family, education, technology etc.)

Important Dates & Times:

Entries are due no later than 5 PM, Wednesday, March 4, 2026. Following judging, notification to finalists will take place on or before March 11th. All winners will be announced during Community Day celebrations on March 13, 2026.

Winner Categories:

Each contest will have winners in the following grade levels.

- 4th - 5th: 1st Prize, 2nd Prize & 3rd Prize
- 6th - 8th : 1st Prize, 2nd Prize & 3rd Prize
- 9th - 12th: 1st Prize, 2nd Prize & 3rd Prize

NO LATE ENTRIES!

Contest Guidelines:

ART CONTEST:

Creatively illustrate "How Does Art Celebrate Cultural Traditions?"

• The minimum size for all entries is (8 1/2x11). Maximum size and medium (traditional or digital) are left to the artist's discretion, however we suggest the proportions should not exceed (26x26x4), and weigh less than 15 lbs. Dimensional works such as ceramics, wood, clay, and others must be contained and secure (no loose pieces) and fall within a similar size and weight range. Photography will not be accepted. Pieces must be labeled with name and contact information. Artworks not meeting these guidelines will disqualify entry.

• An conventional Art Rubric will be used to judge art entries

ESSAY CONTEST:

Creatively express "How Does Art Celebrate Cultural Traditions?" Essays are required to be no less than:

• 200 words for 4th-5th grades
• 300 words for 6th-8th grades
• 400 words for 9th-12th grades
• Essays must be your own original work
• Essays must relate to the theme
• All essays must be double spaced, typed, using 12 point, Times New Roman (font)

• SIX-TRAITS rubric will be used to judge essay entries

All entries must be submitted to the Tribal Education Department By 5:00 PM on Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Main office: 7050 E Allison Rd, Chandler, AZ
IMPORTANT! Each submission must include an entry form and photo/audio/video release form.

NO LATE ENTRIES!

Contact the Tribal Education Department for more information at 520-562-3662 • www.gricted.com

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Entry Form

Deadline: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 by 5:00 PM
NO LATE ENTRIES!

Name: _____

School/Grade: _____

District/Home District: _____

Title of Art Piece/Essay: _____

_____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

_____

Parent Phone Number: _____

School Contact Phone Number: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Parent Signature: _____

By submitting this form, I/we understand that all winning entries may be displayed by the Tribal Education Department without further consent, compensation, or approval.

* Must attach PHOTO/AUDIO/VIDEO RELEASE

PHOTO/AUDIO/VIDEO RELEASE

I, _____ for _____
(Parent Name)   (Student Name)

Grant permission to the Tribal Education Department to utilize the photograph, video image, still video image, audio recording, essay and/or artwork for the Mul-Chu-Tha Art and Essay contest.

As agreed, with the Tribal Education Department, these materials will be used for the sole purpose of Mul-Chu-Tha Art and Essay Contest without payment or remuneration for any appearances, use or displays.

I, _____, understand entries may be displayed at
(Parent Name)
the Mul-Chu-Tha Fairgrounds, Tribal and Executive office and may not be returned to myself or my student.

I, _____, understand that the Tribal Education
(Parent Name)
Department may use these materials in different media, including, but not limited to, billboards, television, radio, internet, newspapers, magazines, newsletters, and produced presentations.

Proper acknowledgment will be given to _____ should said
Student Name
material be used by the Gila River Indian Community.

_____   _____
Signature   Date

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For Tribal Education Department Office Use Only

Received by:_____   _____
(Name)   (Date)