



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS  
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN  
FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

# CREATING ON THE MARGINS

A cross-discipline art contest for grades 7 - 12

**CONTEST PACKET  
FOR YOUNG ARTISTS  
2020-2021**

Contest Theme:

**“Rebuilding Together  
at the Margins”**



# CONTENTS

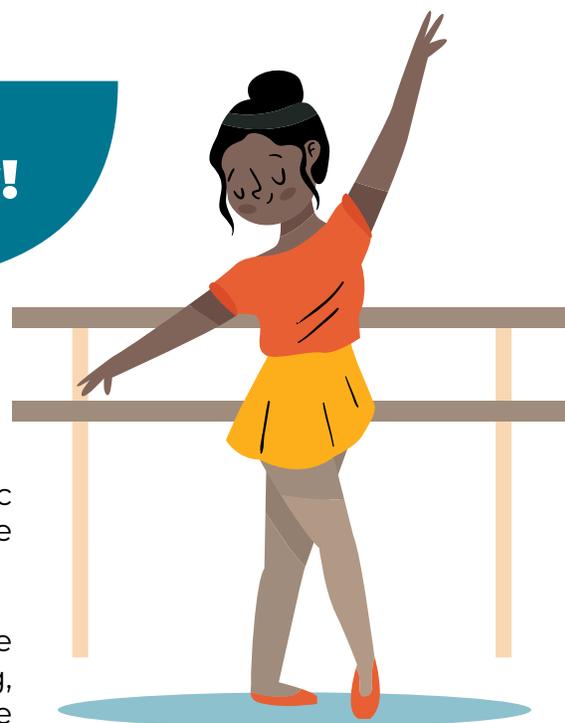
REBUILDING TOGETHER  
AT THE MARGINS

2020 - 2021

- Prayer
- Backgrounder with stories of hope
- Reflect and share
- Creative Work instructions
- Entry form

Any Young Person  
(grades 7-12) from a  
School or Parish  
can Participate

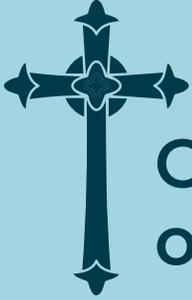
It's Easy!



- 1** **Read** the prayer.
- 2** **Learn** more about how the COVID-19 pandemic revealed many disparities by reading the Backgrounder.
- 3** **Encounter** the Stories of Hope to understand the challenges the communities are confronting, and how the Catholic Church is responding to the pandemic.
- 4** **Create** a piece of art that reflects this year theme "Rebuilding Together at the Margins."
- 5** **Respond** to the reflection questions.
- 6** **Submit** entries to your local contest.

 @PovertyUSA

 @PovertyUSA\_CCHD



## Covid-19 Prayer of **Solidarity**

*For all who have contracted coronavirus,  
We pray for care and healing.*

*For those who are particularly vulnerable,  
We pray for safety and protection.*

*For all who experience fear or anxiety,  
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.*

*For affected families who are facing difficult decisions  
between food on the table or public safety,  
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.*

*For those who do not have adequate health insurance,  
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.*

*For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration  
status, we pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.*

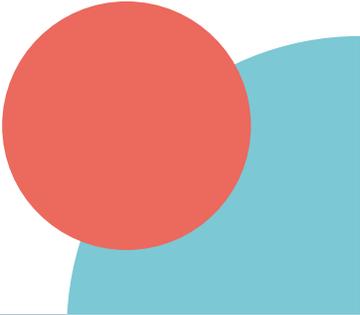
*For our brothers and sisters around the world,  
We pray for shared solidarity.*

*For public officials and decisionmakers,  
We pray for wisdom and guidance.*

*Father, during this time may your Church be  
a sign of hope, comfort and love to all.*

*Grant peace.  
Grant comfort.  
Grant healing.  
Be with us, Lord.*

*Amen.*



# Backgrounder

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed many disparities. For example: not all communities have equal access to healthcare, quality education, internet, workers' rights and benefits, and affordable housing. Lower-income communities, blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans were much harder hit by the pandemic than others. Families already living on the edge were pushed into poverty and for those already in poverty, it became even more difficult to get by. Watch the Web of Poverty video at [PovertyUSA.org](https://PovertyUSA.org) and read the article links with each background issue below to learn more about some of the disparities that cause some to live on the margins.



The contest theme this year is “Rebuilding Together at the Margins.” As we seek to rebuild together after COVID-19, listening to the voices of those on the margins can lead to new models to overcome disparity. Community organizations that receive funding from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops ([USCCB](https://USCCB.org)) through [CCHD](https://CCHD.org) (the Catholic Campaign for Human Development) work on the margins to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Below, read about five issues and how CCHD-funded organizations are working to address them:

# STORIES OF HOPE

Addressing Disparities Revealed  
by **COVID-19**



## Issue #1

Workers in many sectors (such as the agricultural, food service, manufacturing and other sectors) often have little recourse when their rights are violated.

**CCHD Response:** Low-wage workers and religious congregations who are part of **Arise Chicago**, an organization which receives funding from the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)**, worked to recover \$6.9 million in compensation that had been wrongly withheld from workers, many of them immigrants. They also won city and county ordinances to help prevent wage theft, and to ensure that workers were allowed to take paid sick days. Finally, they successfully advocated for a “Domestic Workers Bill of Rights” to guarantee fair and just treatment for persons who clean homes, work as nannies, or care for disabled and elderly persons.

## Issue #2

Decades of racism have resulted in disparities in opportunity that still exist today. Historical disadvantages are still reflected in the present-day through disparities in access to healthcare, housing, education, economic opportunity, and clean air and water, as well as in the criminal justice system.

**CCHD Response:** In Baltimore, MD., students involved with **United Workers** led a successful effort to prevent the nation’s largest trash burning incinerator from being built in their neighborhood. Communities of color are disproportionately affected by environmental contamination in the U.S. In Dallas, TX, **Dallas Area Interfaith (DAI)** has moved forward the public conversation about the relationships between communities of color and the police. DAI also led the effort to introduce parish IDs, which bring immigrants out of the shadows and lead to greater trust and collaboration between police and community members.

### Issue #3

Many communities do not have access to basic services such as healthcare or to grocery stores and healthy foods.

**CCHD Response:** In Philadelphia, PA., CCHD has supported the community-building work of **Urban Tree Connection**, which is transforming an entire neighborhood (three-quarter acre farm surrounded by 60 houses) from empty lots to productive gardens that provide meaningful jobs, where youth are employed to work the land and the harvest the bounty. In Minneapolis, MN, **Appetite for Change** brings together community members, organizations and businesses to advocate for food justice so that fresh, affordable and culturally significant foods can be available in all neighborhoods.

### Issue #4

Kids in many low-income communities have not had access to quality education. Educational disparities have been especially apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic, causing some children to fall even further behind.

**CCHD Response:** Members of **MICAH Memphis** are asking tough but important questions during COVID-19, such as “Who can easily continue their education with wifi and devices and who cannot?” MICAH’s Education Equity Task Force seeks to ensure that every child has access to the quality education they deserve. Even before COVID-19, this task force was already working to address issues around poorly maintained schools; disproportionate consequences for students of color; insufficient resources for school nurses, counselors, and social workers; inadequate support for teachers and classrooms; and other issues that negatively affect educational quality and attendance among Shelby County Schools.

### Issue #5

There is a severe shortage of affordable housing in our country, with 18.2 million households paying over 50% of their income on housing. This leaves little left over for other expenses such as food, childcare, or transportation—let alone saving for the future or responding to an emergency such as a lost job or surprise medical bill and makes many families vulnerable to falling into poverty.

**CCHD Response:** Recognizing the severe shortage of affordable housing in their area, **Faith and Action for Strength Together (FAST)**, a **CCHD-funded** organization in St. Petersburg, FL, put pressure on local elected officials and won a housing trust fund that has created 1,469 affordable housing units to date.

# Reflect and Share

## Bible

***“See, I am doing something new!” Isaiah 43:19***

If you could ask Jesus to change one problem in the world today, which problem would you pick?

## Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. The depth and richness of this tradition is illustrated in the Catechism:

1928. Society ensures social justice when it provides the conditions that allow associations or individuals to obtain what is their due, according to their nature and their vocation. Social justice is linked to the common good and the exercise of authority.

Visit [this page](#) to learn about the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching (CST).

- 1 Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- 2 Call to Family Community and Participation
- 3 Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- 4 Rights and Responsibilities
- 5 Solidarity
- 6 Care for God's Creation
- 7 The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

Reflect about the work of a CCHD community group that you learned about earlier. Which theme of CST did that group live out?

## From Pope Francis' Desk

"If we want to be true disciples of Jesus, we are called to become, united to Him, instruments of his merciful love, overcoming every kind of marginalization."

-Angelus Address, St. Peter's Square, February 15, 2015

# Create a Work of Art and **Submit it!**

Now that you have learned about the many disparities that the Covid-19 pandemic revealed and how the Church is responding, make a creative work exploring the theme “Rebuilding Together in the Margins.” Examples of creative works eligible for the contest include: paintings, poems, videos, photos, PowerPoint presentations, drawings, dramas, sculptures, stories, and songs.\*\*

Next fill out the official entry form on the following pages, including responding to the four short essay questions. Your contest entry will be assessed by both your essay responses and your creative work. Please note that the signature of a parent or guardian is required.

Then contact the contest coordinator in your diocese to submit your entry. This may be the diocesan CCHD representative or your diocesan contact for religious education, youth ministry, or Catholic education. Dioceses will select a winner for each age category and submit it to the national contest.

To find your **CCHD** diocesan director, visit [USCCB.org/CCHD](https://USCCB.org/CCHD) and click "**Diocesan Directors**" in the top right of the menu.

Please note that the contest’s national deadline is March 31, 2021 but the local deadlines will be earlier. So be sure to connect with your diocesan contact to find out details about the submission process for your local contest.

If you learn that your diocese is not participating in the contest, you can still participate. Contact the CCHD national office at [mmorales@usccb.org](mailto:mmorales@usccb.org). Be sure to describe details of any communication you have already had with the diocese.

\*\*NOTE: Anyone whose voice or image is recorded in an audiovisual submission must also submit a copy of the waiver form included in the following pages. Also, entries that feature ANY music, photos or videos created by another person MUST include proof of permission to use it. This includes but is not limited to: magazine pictures, songs, any person featured in ANY way in a video or picture, music or stock images from the internet.



# Essay Questions



Reflect on and answer the following essay questions. The typed answers will be submitted with your entry form and will be considered in the national judging process. Each answer should be between 4 to 6 sentences.



- 1 How did Covid-19 affect you, your family, friends, school, or parish?
- 2 Why does our faith call us to get involved with the community and work to address disparities revealed by COVID-19?
- 3 After you read the “Stories of Hope” what are some of the themes of Catholic Social Teaching that they are addressing? Could your parish or school help address these same issues in your community? Explain.
- 4 Describe how your creative work reflects upon this year’s theme, “Rebuilding Together at the Margins”?

 /PovertyUSA

 /EndPovertyUSA

**OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM**

(to be completed by the youth contestant(s). In other words, the entry form must be completed by a student, NOT an adult. Please write legibly.)

Name of contestant(s) completing entry form:

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Title of Work: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the medium of your work (e.g. painting, video, poem, etc.):

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Where did you present or share your work? \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle your grade category:            7-9th grade            10-12th grade

Through which institution are you submitting this work? \_\_\_\_ Parish or \_\_\_\_ School

**Reflect on and answer the following four essay questions. Type your answers and submit them with your entry form. They will be considered along with your artwork in the national judging process. Each answer should be between 4 to 6 sentences.**

- 1) How did Covid-19 affect you, your family, friends, school, or parish?
- 2) Why does our faith call us to get involved with the community and help address disparities revealed by COVID-19?
- 3) After you read the “Stories of Hope” What are some of the themes of Catholic Social Teaching that they are addressing? Could your parish or school help address these same issues in your community? Explain.
- 4) Describe how your creative work reflects upon this year’s theme, “Rebuilding Together at the Margins”?

**YOUTH CONTESTANT**

Name and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Number Street / Avenue / Place City State Zip Code  
\_\_\_\_\_Name of parish or school to which the entry is being submitted:  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Arch) Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade of the contestant: \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian cell phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\* If this is a team entry, please write the name of one youth representative for the team and attach a separate sheet of paper with a list of all team member's full name and in parentheses state the grade of each contestant. For example, "John Smith (7)" would indicate that John Smith is in seventh grade. Each team member also needs to complete the Agreement for Entry of Work, which can be found on the next page.

I, as the contestant, understand and have followed the contest guidelines.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Please initial) School or Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Contact Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution's Full name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Street / Avenue / Place City State Zip Code  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_



## Note about Use of Copyrighted Materials/Permissions

Please note that the contest rules indicate: “Each entry must be the original work of the student or team of students submitting the artwork. If the artist wishes to use material that is copyrighted by someone else (such as a song or web photo as part of a PowerPoint presentation or a cut-out picture from a magazine), he or she can only do so if written permission has been granted for its use. This written permission must be submitted with the entry.”

**Note about Clearance for Audio and Video Entries:** Please note that anyone whose voice or image is recorded in an audio-visual submission must also submit a copy of the waiver below. If they are under 18, their parent or guardian must complete it to provide consent and release.

## Agreement for Entry of Work

\_\_\_\_\_ (name of parent representing Contestant under 21 years old) (referred to in this agreement as "Contestant"), on behalf of my minor child, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of minor child and contestant), agrees (a) that by submitting \_\_\_\_\_ (name and description of art entry) (referred to in this Agreement as "Work") Contestant will abide by the Contest Guidelines attached to this Agreement and which Guidelines are incorporated in this Agreement, (b) that USCCB shall be the sole and exclusive owner of the Work and rights in the Work, including but not limited to the copyright, and that USCCB shall own or be licensed to use any materials and/or elements embodied in the Work which are not original to Contestant, (c) to indemnify and hold harmless USCCB from and against any and all claims, suits and costs which USCCB may incur arising from the Work and Contestant's preparation of the Work, and (d) that USCCB may assign, license or otherwise transfer its rights under this Agreement and that this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of USCCB's assigns, successors and licensees.

Contestant and USCCB have indicated their acceptance of this Agreement by signing below:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
CCHD Youth & Young Adult Coordinator  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please clearly write your name or team name as you'd like it to appear in any publicity or certificates, should you win:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Send Submission to:** Your diocesan contact (usually the diocesan CCHD representative, or the diocesan coordinator for youth ministry, religious education, or Catholic schools).

To find your CCHD diocesan director, visit [USCCB.org/CCHD](https://USCCB.org/CCHD) and click "**Diocesan Directors**" in the top right of the menu. Your CCHD representative can inform you who is coordinating the contest in your diocese, and can also inform you of your local deadline, which may be earlier than the national annual contest deadline of March 31.