



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

HOLLY T. SHIKADA
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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**Hawai'i Attorney General Announces the Winner of the
Missing Children's Day Poster Contest**

HONOLULU - Attorney General Holly T. Shikada and the Department of the Attorney General's, Missing Child Center Hawaii ("MCCH"), and Hawaii Internet Crimes Against Children ("ICAC") Task Force are pleased to announce the winner of the 2022 Hawaii Missing Children's Day Poster Contest. The winner is Daphne Bagara, a 5th grader from Honolulu, Hawaii.

As the state winner, Daphne will receive a national award certificate from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and is entered to represent Hawai'i in the 39th Annual National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest, a nationwide contest held by the DOJ Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to promote awareness and engage students, parents/guardians and teachers in discussions about child safety.

"President Ronald Reagan proclaimed May 25, 1983, the first National Missing Children's Day in memory of Etan Patz, a 6-year-old boy who disappeared from a New York City street corner on May 25, 1979. Each year, the Department of Justice commemorates Missing Children's Day by honoring the heroic and exemplary efforts of agencies, organizations, and individuals to protect children." states the DOJ website. "National Missing Children's Day is dedicated to encouraging parents, guardians, caregivers, and others concerned with the well-being of children to make child safety a priority. The commemoration serves as a reminder to continue our efforts to reunite missing children with their families and an occasion to honor those dedicated to this cause."

"We are extremely impressed by Daphne's awareness and engagement on this very important issue, and thank her for such a thoughtful and creative poster," AG Shikada said. "She is clearly very talented and intelligent and we wish her nothing but the best at the National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest."

"The artwork Daphne created truly captures the theme and spirit of Missing Children's Day, which is 'bringing our missing children home,' raising awareness about the problem of missing children and keeping hope alive. We congratulate and thank Daphne and all of the contest participants for their exceptional creativity, thoughtfulness and passion for this important cause." said Amanda Leonard, MCCH Coordinator.

“On behalf of the Hawaii Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, I want to congratulate Daphne for creating an inspirational drawing to address the problem of missing and runaway children. Her drawing represents the passion that we in law enforcement feel to protect and save our missing children. As in her drawing, our goal is to bring missing children from the dark into the light and reunite them with their families and loved ones.” said ICAC Commander Edward Arias.

MCCH operates as the State’s missing children clearinghouse and a resource for law enforcement, social services, and affected families. The ICAC Task Force is part of a cooperative nationwide network of ICAC Task Forces supported by OJJDP and dedicated to protecting children by investigating and prosecuting persons who victimize children in the online environment.

Anyone with information regarding missing children or the exploitation of children is encouraged to contact your local police department or the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at 1-800-THE-LOST.

For additional information, visit the DOJ website at: <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/nmcd/about-missing-childrens-day>

For more information, contact:

Gary H. Yamashiroya
Special Assistant to the Attorney General
Email: ATG.PIO@hawaii.gov
Web: <http://ag.hawaii.gov>
Twitter: @ATGHlgov