 

**Creative Arts Contest - Complete Contest Guidelines**

In support of Credit Awareness Month, the St. Louis Regional Financial Empowerment Coalition, a collaborative of local financial institutions, non-profits and community organizations, is sponsoring the Creative Arts Contest. Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to answer this year’s Credit Awareness Month Question (see below) with a 1-1/2-minute original song and accompanying video.

**2023 Credit Awareness Question**

***Please explain what steps you can take during your teenage years to help kick start your financial future?***

**Contest Timeline & Awards**

* **October 06, 2023:** Video & Lyrics Submission Deadline. Contest starts September 1. *Note: The committee will select five finalists and these students will advance to the final interview round.*
* **October 16, 2023 at 4:00 pm:** Five Finalists Notified of their Advancement to Final Interview Round (via email and phone)
* **October 27, 2023 at 6:00pm:** Creative Arts Contest Final Interview Round
* Winners will receive the following awards: First place $2,000 Second place $1,000; Third place $500. $50 of prize winnings will be applied to a MO529 College Savings account. Additional prizes will be awarded to the other two (2) finalists. $100 will be awarded to non-profit organizations identified on contest application.

# Complete Contest Guidelines

**Candidates Must:**

* Be a student in grades 9-12
* Have age-appropriate knowledge of the core money management pillars: saving, spending, borrowing, and planning
* Be comfortable responding to questions about the effects of a global pandemic on finances, school, education, and social justice reform
* Not have been previously awarded a Money Smart Kid prize as a winner or finalist
* Attend school or live in the Metro St. Louis area. Counties include: (IL) Bond, Calhoun, Clinton, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair; (MO) Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Warren and Washington
* Must write an original song on the assigned topic and record a video of themselves performing it. The lyrics and musical composition must be the original work of the student submitting the video.
* Must sign waiver for video, lyrics and picture use

**General Guidelines**

* One finalist per household & submission
* Song/video must be no longer than 1.5 minutes and contain no profanity, nudity, racial slurs, gang affiliation or inappropriate paraphernalia
* No group submissions. Prizes will be issued to one person for each prize category (i.e. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place)
* Submission must include a video featuring the original song (mp4 format preferred)
* Submission must include lyrics to the song. Lyrics must be typed on plain white paper, double-spaced and attached to/with the application form.
* The application form must be signed by the student’s parent/guardian.
* The video, lyrics and application should be submitted through the online form at: [https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/m7v9e87ivkax5pe58qa9r/h?rlkey=f26axa40kblm1idvcwnhb28nz&dl=0](https://protect2.fireeye.com/v1/url?k=31323334-501d2dca-31321ef7-454455534531-223a9b2c3854a3f5&q=1&e=054bccfb-8e56-41de-b7e5-4b36deeb196d&u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dropbox.com%2Fscl%2Ffo%2Fm7v9e87ivkax5pe58qa9r%2Fh%3Frlkey%3Df26axa40kblm1idvcwnhb28nz%26dl%3D0)
* Save the files to your device using your last name and first name (i.e. Smith-Jane), click on the Dropbox link, select Add Files, Add your application, video and lyrics to Dropbox, Select Upload
* All submissions become the property of the Creative Arts Committee and may be used by Committee members to promote financial literacy. All submissions must be received by 11:59 pm on Thursday, October 06, 2023.
* Previous contest winners of the Creative Arts or Money Smart Essay Contests are not eligible.

**Creative Arts Contest Submission Form**

### Student Name Age Grade

School Name School Address

City Zip School Phone

Home Address City Zip Phone

Teacher Phone Email

Parent/Guardian Email

I confirm that the attached video, lyrics and musical composition submission is fully and solely the work of :

(Student Name)

I give permission for him/her to participate in the activities of Credit Awareness Month 2023, including consent to release photos, videos and personal information for media and promotional purposes.

(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

Please check the boxes below:

I have read and understand the contest rules and guidelines and agree to comply with them.

Fill out this form, making sure to include all information requested, sign the form as indicated, and submit it with video & lyrics submission.

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