

CONTEST CORNER



Celebrating The American Spirit

(NAPSA)—Children across America can spotlight their talents by participating in a unique contest that celebrates patriotism. Each year the competition challenges young people to explore a certain American theme that promotes history, patriotism or good citizenship.

The contest, run by the Junior American Citizens (JAC), is open to all youth, pre-school through high school, including all students in special education. Students compete against their peers for top prizes (special education students compete with each other, for example, while tenth graders compete with other tenth graders).

This year's competition, called "America The Beautiful," encourages children to study the geography, geology, ecology and history of their communities, states or regions. Students may gain an appreciation for the American landscape as well as a desire to protect the scenic splendor for generations to come.

The contest has three categories: art, creative expression and community service. Within the art category, students can compete on four subcategories: postage stamp, poster, banner and photographic essay. The creative expression category is divided into poetry and short story subdivisions.

JAC is an educational project of the Daughters of the American Revolution. This patriotic program is offered through public, private and parochial schools, approved



Celebrating The Red White And Blue—One contest helps children of all ages develop a sense of patriotism.

home schools, and youth groups across America and even in several foreign countries. In the 2001-2002 school year, JAC presented 315 national awards and distributed over \$6,000 in prize monies.

The group recommends teachers use the following questions to help stimulate discussion about the contest and the American landscape:

- What are the special features of the natural environment in the area?
- How did the natural landscape influence the history and settlement of the area?
- What was the natural landscape like before settlement?
- How can we keep our part of America beautiful?

For more information on the contest visit www.dar.org.