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art materials

**MB** Real  
Estate

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**October 22, 2018**

**ONLINE VOTING BEGINS FOR 2019 ILLINOIS TOLLWAY MAP COVER ART CONTEST**  
*Student artwork displayed online and at Tollway oases*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – Beginning today, October 22, through Monday, October 29, the public can go online and vote for their favorite entry in the 2019 Illinois Tollway Map Cover Art Contest sponsored by the Illinois Tollway, Blick Art Materials and MB Real Estate Services Inc. (MBRE). The semifinalist entries in the student art contest can be viewed on the [Tollway's website](#) and at Illinois Tollway oases.

“The wonderfully creative artwork submitted by students for this year’s contest highlights a core value at Illinois Tollway – diversity,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Liz Gorman. “We wanted to give students the chance to illustrate the importance of diversity and inclusion.”

Areas of focus for the 2019 Tollway Map Cover Art Contest include, but were not limited to, the following themes:

- Diversity as it pertains to employees and the businesses and individuals that work for the Tollway
- Diversity as it pertains to the communities and customers the Tollway system serves
- Diversification of skilled and construction trades via workforce development and training

**2018 Tollway Map Art Contest Semifinalists**

Mia Chidichimo, Lincoln Way Central High School  
Lucy Clayton, Lincoln Way East High School  
Caden Elliott, Bolingbrook High School  
Angela Farkic, Lincoln Way East High School  
Autumn Kalady, Schaumburg High School  
Courtney Kurtz, Lincoln Way West High School  
Kathleen Lucchesi, Bolingbrook High School  
Sarah Marousek, Lincoln Way Central High School  
Alaina Pastoor, Lincoln Way West High School  
Mark Petersen, East Leyden High School  
Melanie Piunti, Lincoln Way Central High School  
Brenden Wagner, Bolingbrook High School

Members of the general public are invited to go online to the [Illinois Tollway's website art contest page](#) to view the semifinalists’ artwork and learn how to vote for the top four entries. The semifinalist entries are also displayed in galleries at five Illinois Tollway oases.

The top four contest entries will move on to the next level of judging. The grand prize winner and three runners-up will be selected by a panel of judges that includes members of the Tollway Board of Directors and representatives from MBRE.

“MB Real Estate is proud to feature the work of this year’s talented semifinalists at the Illinois Tollway oases whose maps illustrate Illinois’ incredible diversity and the importance of inclusion

among our communities. Congratulations and good luck to all of our participants,” said MBRE SVP & Managing Director of Asset Management Suzanne Hendrick.

Artwork created by the grand prize winner will be featured on the cover of the Tollway’s 2019 map, which is distributed at no cost to more than 75,000 customers. The grand prize winner and three runners-up will be featured in the Tollway’s annual report. Awards include:

- Grand prize winner: \$400 gift certificate from Blick Art Materials and \$200 in gift certificates from MBRE to use at oases retail shops and restaurants
- Runners-up: \$200 gift certificate from Blick Art Materials and \$100 in gift certificates from MBRE
- A certificate of appreciation for all students who participate in the contest
- Acknowledgment of winners at the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors meeting on November 29, 2018

### **About Blick Art Materials**

Founded in Galesburg, Illinois, in 1911, Blick Art Materials is one of the largest and oldest providers of art supplies in the United States, with 66 retail stores nationwide. Its products cater to the full spectrum of artists – from the youngest child ready to scribble with his or her first crayon to well-known, gallery-represented professionals. The company’s extensive selection, competitive prices and superior customer service make Blick the best choice for art educators, students, artists, architects, designers, hobbyists or anyone requiring quality art materials for work or pleasure. A long-time advocate of art education in the U.S., Blick also provides support of scholastic, collegiate and professional art shows, both financially and through a variety of materials that emphasize the benefits of art education. Blick also supports the communities in which it does business by sponsoring in-store events, local schools, art leagues and community groups across the country. Visit [dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com) for more information.

### **About MB Real Estate Services Inc.**

Founded in 1982, MB Real Estate is a full-service real estate organization that provides multifaceted expertise in Asset/Facilities Management; Leasing Services; Project/Construction Management; Tenant Representation and Investment Services. Additionally, MBRE Healthcare provides comprehensive real estate solutions for hospitals, health systems and physicians throughout the United States. Headquartered in Chicago, with regional offices in New York, Atlanta, Orlando, Dallas and Denver, MB Real Estate provides these services to corporations, institutions, professional organizations, private investors and non-profit agencies. For more information, please visit [mbres.com](http://mbres.com).

### **About the Illinois Tollway**

The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 294 miles of interstate tollways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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