

## **BOISE COMICS ARTS FESTIVAL 2026 – ORIGINAL COMIC CREATION CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES**

*BY REGISTERING YOUR CHILD FOR THIS CONTEST, YOU AGREE TO THE CONTEST RULES, YOU GRANT PERMISSION TO THE BOISE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE CITY OF BOISE TO USE YOUR CHILD'S ART, LIKENESS, AND BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION, AND YOU AGREE TO RELEASE THE CITY AND LIBRARY FROM ALL LIABILITY IN RELATION TO THE CONTEST*

### **I. Contest Description and Overview**

The Boise Comic Arts Festival is an annual event hosted by the Boise Public Library to celebrate the literary medium of comics and graphic novels. This year, the Original Comic Creation Contest ("Contest") is open to children ages 4-14. There are two age categories for this Contest: Younger Kids (ages 4-9 years) and Older Kids (ages 9-14 years). If your child is 9 years old, they are allowed to participate in either category but not both. Only one entry per participant. The Contest is your child's chance to show off their comic crafting skills by creating a single page comic to express an idea, set a scene or mood, introduce a character, or tell a story.

### **II. How to Submit a Contest Entry**

Original contest entries must be submitted at a service desk at any Boise Public Library location during the Contest Period. If you would like to submit a digital reproduction of your child's original comic, it can be submitted as either a digital photograph or a digital scan and must be submitted in PDF, JPG, or TIF format to: [boisecomicsfestival@cityofboise.org](mailto:boisecomicsfestival@cityofboise.org).

Each Contest entry must be accompanied by a fully completed entry form and parental permission form available at library service desks. Contest entries must be no bigger than 11" x 17" and single-sided.

### **III. Eligibility**

To be eligible, the child must meet the age requirements as of July 31, 2026, and have a parent or legal guardian who is a resident of the state of Idaho. Children with immediate family members who are a Contest Judge or an employee, elected representative, or Board member of the City of Boise or the Boise Public Library are ineligible.

### **IV. Contest Period**

The Contest begins at 12:00:00 United States Mountain Time ("MT") on May 22, 2026, and ends at 20:00:00 MT on July 31, 2026. The Contest Administrators' clock is the official time keeping device for this Contest. Late Contest entries submitted are automatically disqualified.

### **V. Comic Requirements**

The comic submitted must be original work created by the Contest participant. It must not infringe or violate any rights of a third-party including patent, copyright, trademark, and it must not be defamatory, libelous, obscene, or “material harmful to minors” as defined in Idaho law.

Any entry the Contest Administrators or Sponsor deem in their sole and absolute discretion to violate the rules will be disqualified. Or, the Contest Administrators may at any time during the Contest Period and for any reason request the entrant modify, edit, or resubmit their entry to ensure that the entry complies with these rules.

## **VI. Contest Sponsors and Judges**

The Contest is sponsored by the Boise Public Library (“Sponsor”). The Sponsor will appoint a panel of qualified judges (“Judges”) comprised of members of the Boise Comic Arts Festival Team and/or individuals appointed by the Boise Comic Arts Festival Team. The Judges, in their absolute and sole discretion, will determine the winner of this Contest. The Sponsor reserves the right to select substitute Judges or modify the panel of Judges at any time and for any reason.

## **VII. Judging Criteria and Selection of a Winner**

- A. First, second, and third place prizes in the two (2) age categories will be determined by the panel of Judges by August 27, 2026.
- B. The Judges will award prizes on the following criteria:
  1. Creativity – the overall originality, style, and imaginative ideas expressed.
  2. Art – the use of color and contrast, the level of detail, the cleanliness of the presentation of the art, and whether the art enhances the story, characters, or ideas expressed.
  3. Layout and Organization – whether the layout and organization of the panel(s) advance the story, characters, or ideas expressed.
- C. Failure to comply with all Contest Rules and Library Rules of Conduct will result in disqualification of entry.
- D. All scoring and evaluation will be made in the Judges’ sole and absolute discretion.
- E. All decisions of the Judges are final, binding, and unappealable.

## **VIII. Prizes**

The prizes for first, second, and third place are gift certificates provided by the Sponsor for stores that sell art supplies, comics, or similar goods related to the Contest purpose as follows:

<b>Prizes</b>	<b>Younger Kids (4-9)</b>	<b>Older Kids (9-14)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$50.00	\$50.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$40.00	\$40.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$30.00	\$30.00

Prizes awarded are not redeemable for cash. No prize is transferable. No substitution for a prize will be made at the request of a winner. The Contest Administrators reserve the right to substitute a prize of similar value. Each winner may be required to provide picture identification which includes proof of age to claim a prize.

The Contest Administrators will contact the winners within three (3) days of selecting winning entries via the contact information provided on the Contest entry form and will provide instructions on how to claim the prize. If the Contest Administrators are unable to contact a winner or if a winner does not comply with instructions on how to claim the prize, the winner will forfeit the prize and the Contest Administrators will award the prize to another entrant.

The Sponsor and/or the City of Boise will announce the winners on their websites and/or social media accounts by September 6, 2026. To obtain the names of the winners, email [boisecomicsfestival@cityofboise.org](mailto:boisecomicsfestival@cityofboise.org).

No purchase, payment, or donation of any kind is necessary to enter to win; a purchase, payment, or donation will not increase the chance of winning. Contest participants are responsible for any costs or expenses associated with preparing and submitting their Contest entry.

**IX. Hold Harmless**

You agree to hold the City of Boise, the Boise Public Library, the Judges, the Contest Administrators, and any other person or organization supporting the Contest harmless from any and all claims, expenses, and liabilities incurred as a result of your participation in the Contest such as damage to person or property or claims of copyright, trademark, or other intellectual property infringement.

You further agree that the City of Boise, the Boise Public Library, the Judges, the Contest Administrators, and any other person or organization supporting or administering the Contest are not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate Contest information or for any human or technical error in the administration of the Contest.

**X. All Contest Entries Are Public and You Grant Sponsor a License to Use the Work.**

You acknowledge that by submitting an entry to the Contest it will be public. No entry will be received or held in confidence.

Further, by participating in this Contest you unequivocally and irrevocably grant the City of Boise and the Boise Public Library a worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free license to display, publish, post, create derivative works, edit or otherwise use the original artwork or reproduction thereof for any purpose and you waive any right of copyright, trademark, privacy, moral rights and any other legal rights that may preclude the City of Boise's or Boise Public Library's use of the artwork as permitted under the license granted herein.

Further, by participating in the Contest, you agree to allow the City of Boise and the Boise Public Library to use and display the participant's name, biographical information, statements, photographs, likeness, and voice online, in print, or in any other media in connection with this Contest without compensation or payment except where prohibited by law.

#### **XI. Agreement to the Official Rules**

By entering this Contest, you indicate your full and unconditional agreement to all the Official Rules as set forth herein and to the Contest Administrator's and Judge's decisions, which shall be final and binding. The Contest Administrators are the staff appointed by the Boise Public Library to administer this Contest. The Contest Administrators may cancel, terminate, modify, or suspend the Contest and these Rules and Regulations for any reason and at any time. All Contest entries, information, questions, or comments shall be directed to the Contest Administrators.