

GRAYMOOR PEACE & AT-ONE-MENT CREATIVE CHALLENGE

OFFICIAL RULES

1. Sponsor; Purpose

1.1 **Sponsor.** The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement (“Sponsor”), located at Graymoor in Garrison, New York, hosts the Graymoor Peace & At-One-Ment Creativity Challenge (the “Contest”).

1.2 **Purpose.** The Contest invites creative works of eligible young adults to engage the witness of St. Francis of Assisi in this Jubilee year marking the 800th anniversary of his death.

2. Eligibility

2.1 **Who May Enter.** Open to high school students ages 14-18 and all young adults up to age 30.

2.2 **Entry Limit.** Limit **one (1) original work** per person, submitted to a single category. Multiple entries by the same person may be disqualified. Multiple entries from the same household are permitted.

2.3 **Age of Majority; Consent.** If you are under the age of majority in your state of residence at the time of entry, you must have verifiable consent of a parent or legal guardian to participate and to accept any prize.

2.4 **Ineligibility.** Employees, officers, and directors of the Sponsor and their immediate households are not eligible.

2.5 **Void Where Prohibited.** The Contest is void where prohibited by law.

3. Theme; Categories; Required Materials

3.1 **Theme.** Entries must respond to: “**A Franciscan Vision for Our Time.**” Each entrant must select **one line** from the popular *Peace Prayer of St. Francis* and interpret it through the chosen medium.

3.2 **Categories.** Each entrant may submit **one** work to **one** category:

(a) **Visual Art:** Painting, drawing, mixed media, digital art, or photography.

(b) **Literary Work:** Poetry or reflective prose (max **1,000 words**).

(c) **Media:** Short film/video, spoken word, or digital presentation (max **4 minutes**).

3.3 Entrants Statement. Each entry must include a **250–300 word** entrants statement explaining how the work engages a line from the *Peace Prayer of St. Francis* and reflects at least one of the following themes: unity, reconciliation, peace or At-One-Ment.

4. Entry Period; How to Enter

4.1 Entry Period. The Contest opens **March 25, 2026**, and closes **July 5, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. US Eastern Time**. Entries received after the deadline will not be considered.

4.2 Method of Entry. Follow the instructions on the official Contest webpage to upload your entry and required materials (collectively, an “Entry”). **Only digital submissions** will be accepted.

4.3 No Purchase Necessary. Making a purchase does not increase chances of winning.

5. Originality; Content Standards; Prohibited Conduct

5.1 Original Work; No AI-Generation. Entries must be original to the entrant, **non-AI generated**, created **specifically for this Contest**, and must not incorporate unlicensed third-party materials. Plagiarism or copyright violations will result in disqualification.

5.2 Content Standards. Entries must be suitable for public display and consistent with the Sponsor’s values of unity, reconciliation, and restoring relationships; entries that are offensive or inconsistent with these values may be rejected in Sponsor’s sole discretion.

5.3 Technical Requirements. Sponsor may specify file formats, sizes, naming conventions, and other technical requirements on the Contest webpage. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.

5.4 Proof of Rights; Source Files. Upon request, entrants must provide evidence of rights and/or furnish source files demonstrating originality and compliance.

5.5 AI Tools. Participants may use AI tools **solely for assistive purposes**, such as research, organization, or idea development. However, **AI-generated creative content is strictly prohibited**. This includes, but is not limited to:

- AI-generated images or artwork
- AI-generated written text, poetry, lyrics, or scripts
- AI-generated audio, music, voiceovers, or sound design
- Any other media created in whole or in part by generative AI

All submitted work must be **original and human-created**, unless the Sponsor explicitly permits the use of AI-generated material in writing.

5.6 No Public Sharing Prior to Announcement. Entries must not be posted, published, exhibited, or shared publicly in any form—including on social media, personal websites, or public portfolios—before the Sponsor’s official public announcement of the Contest winners. Early public disclosure may result in disqualification.

6. Judging; Selection; Odds

6.1 Judging Criteria. Eligible Entries will be judged by a panel designated by Sponsor using the following weighted or unweighted factors: (i) relevance to theme; (ii) creativity/originality; (iii) artistic merit; and (iv) clarity and depth of the artist statement.

6.2 Selection and Notification. Winners will be notified on or about **September 1, 2026**, and publicly announced on or about **October 3, 2026**. Judges’ decisions are final.

6.3 Odds. Odds of winning depend on the number and quality of eligible Entries received.

7. Prizes

7.1 Grand Prize (one per category). \$500 cash award; feature in a special Jubilee edition of *Graymoor Today*; special recognition during the **October 2, 2026** Graymoor Gala; and exhibition of the winning work at Graymoor for one year.

7.2 Honorable Mentions (up to two per category). \$250 each; digital feature on the Friars’ Jubilee webpage; certificate of recognition.

7.3 General Prize Terms. Prizes are non-transferable; no substitutions except by Sponsor in its sole discretion. **Winners are responsible for all taxes** and any costs not expressly stated.

8. Rights; Licenses; Moral Rights

8.1 Copyright. Entrants retain all right, title, and interest in and to their works, subject to the licenses granted herein.

8.2 Promotional License. By entering, each entrant grants Sponsor a **non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license** to reproduce, display, distribute, and publish the Entry, in whole or in part, for **promotional, educational, archival, news, and exhibition** purposes related to the Contest and Sponsor’s mission, with

customary credit to the artist. The promotional license granted by entrants does not include the right to sublicense the entry to third parties without the entrant's prior written consent. Entrants acknowledge that Sponsor may make reasonable modifications to entries for promotional purposes (e.g., resizing or formatting) and waive any claims related to moral rights arising from such modifications.

8.3 Christmas Card / Other Commercial Uses. If Sponsor wishes to reproduce any Entry for **commercial** purposes (e.g., as a Christmas card offered for sale), Sponsor will seek a **separate written license** with mutually agreed terms.

8.4 Name and Likeness. Where permitted by law, winners grant Sponsor the right to use their names, likenesses, and biographical information in connection with prize announcements and related publicity without additional compensation.

8.5 Moral Rights / Attribution. Sponsor will make commercially reasonable efforts to credit artists where entries are displayed or published.

9. Winner Verification; Disqualification

9.1 Verification. Sponsor reserves the right to request proof of eligibility. Potential winners are subject to verification of eligibility, compliance with these Official Rules, and execution of required affidavits, releases, and tax forms. Failure to provide such proof within the specified timeframe may result in disqualification.

9.2 Forfeiture. If a potential winner cannot be reached, fails to respond within the time specified in the notification, is ineligible, or fails to sign required documents, the prize may be forfeited and, at Sponsor's discretion, awarded to an alternate.

9.3 Disputes. Any disputes regarding winner verification or disqualification shall be resolved at the sole discretion of the Sponsor, whose decisions are final and binding.

10. Privacy

Information collected in connection with the Contest will be used to administer the Contest, to communicate with entrants, and as otherwise described in these Rules and on the Contest webpage.

11. General Conditions

11.1 Administration. Sponsor reserves the right to interpret these Rules, resolve disputes, and make all decisions regarding the Contest in its sole discretion; such decisions are final and binding.

11.2 Cancellations/Modifications. If fraud, technical failures, or any factor beyond Sponsor's reasonable control impairs the integrity or proper functioning of the Contest, Sponsor may suspend, modify, or terminate the Contest and, if terminated, select winners from among eligible, non-suspect Entries received up to the time of the action.

11.3 Release. By participating, entrants release Sponsor and its personnel from liability for injuries, losses, or damages of any kind arising from participation or receipt or use of any prize, except in cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

11.4 Indemnification. Entrants agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Sponsor, its officers, employees, and agents from any claims, damages, or liabilities arising from the submission, use, publication of their entry, including but not limited to claims of copyright infringement or violation of intellectual property rights.

11.5 No Waiver; Severability. Failure to enforce any provision shall not constitute a waiver. If any provision is found invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

11.6 Governing Law; Venue. These Rules are governed by the laws of the State of New York, without regard to conflict-of-laws principles, and any actions shall be brought in the state or federal courts located in New York.

11.7 Arbitration. By participating, entrants release Sponsor and its personnel from liability for injuries, losses, damages, technical issues, delays, or errors of any kind arising from participation or receipt or use of any prize, except in cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

12. Key Dates (Summary)

- **Opens:** March 25, 2026
- **Deadline:** July 5, 2026 (11:59 p.m. ET)
- **Winners Notified:** On or around September 1, 2026
- **Public Announcement:** On or around October 3, 2026

13. How to Obtain the Rules / Winners List

The Official Rules and winners list (after verification) will be posted or made available via the official Contest webpage. Sponsor is not responsible for delays, errors, or technical issues that may affect the availability of the Official Rules or winners list.