

Youth Submission Information

You are now the proud owner of a brand-new passenger train. Passenger trains took people all across the county before airplanes and cars became the main modes of transportation we use today. The National Railroad Museum challenges you to design and create your very own drumhead to put on a train traveling through your town! One way all these passenger trains stood out from each other was to create a unique logo or branding that would help them stick out.

Your job is to create an original artistic drumhead design to display at the end of your passenger train. Your design should tell a story about your drumhead! Get inspired by local geographical features or important historical markers of your hometown! You are encouraged to use different art mediums, but it must be able to be uploaded and sent to nrrmeducation@nationalrrmuseum.org.

Alongside your drumhead submission, you must include an artist statement describing your artwork in no more than 250 words. This artist statement should answer the following questions:

- Where is your passenger train traveling to and from?
- What is your passenger car's name? How did you decide on this name?
- What is your drumhead's story? Or how does your drumhead relate to local history?

Submissions must include:

- A two-dimensional, original art piece depicting local history. This may include but is not limited to, train history, moments of historical significance, important landmarks, historical figures, and local lore. This contest seeks to educate the public in local history and culture. **Incorporating railroad history is highly encouraged but not required.**
- Submissions must be uploaded using the attached templates. Entries must be submitted via email to nrrmeducation@nationalrrmuseum.org; mailed-in artworks will not be accepted.
- A corresponding, legible essay of no more than 250 words. Essays must put into context the artist's submission. Essays must be written with full sentences, no spelling errors, and proper grammar. Submission will not be accepted if it is illegible.
- Submissions are open now until **May 1st 2026**

Entries will be evaluated based on originality, interpretation of subject matter/theme, creative techniques, composition, and overall art appearance. Submissions must be uploaded in one of the following formats: jpeg., png., pdf., word.

NRRM Drumhead Design Competition Rules and Regulations

The youth competition is open to all children under 16. The adult competition is open to all individuals 16 and up.

Submitted artwork and corresponding essay must be of the participants' own creation; the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at any point in the creation or submission process of this competition will not be accepted.

Submitted entries must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. The inclusion of any imagery from an existing photo or image (including a painting, graphic, or advertisement) that was created by someone other than the artist is a violation of the competition rules and will not be accepted. The inclusion of copyrighted material will not be accepted. This includes but is not limited to: trademarked sports logos, promotional material, and railroad logos. Sexually explicit material will not be tolerated. Additionally, a submission constituting solely of photographic materials will not be accepted.