150 years ago the Transcontinental Railroad that stretched across the United States of America and linked the east and west coasts was completed. Facing poverty and civil war at home, laborers from Guangdong Province in China left home to make a living to support their families. Chinese immigrants were recruited by railroad labor contractors to do the dangerous and difficult jobs such as blasting areas with explosives, laying track, and carrying heavy cargo in extremely hot and cold weather. The Chinese laborers would eventually create a transportation system that would easily connect people and trade goods.

Railroad laborers marked the first wave of Chinese immigrants to come work in the United States. They took on dangerous roles and paid the lowest wage. Today, Chinese Americans are not only railroad workers, but they also hold a variety of jobs within the workforce. Look around your community. What kind of different jobs do you see Chinese Americans working in? Draw some of the jobs or kinds of work you see.
2019 National Art Competition
The Chinese American Museum and the Chinese American Citizens Alliance are pleased to announce a juried, nationwide Art Competition for students during the 2018-2019 school year.

For over 100 years, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance sought to better the welfare of the community and to achieve equality and justice for Chinese Americans and to encourage American patriotism. The Chinese American Museum, located in Los Angeles, across Union Station, seeks to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of America’s diverse heritage by researching, preserving, and sharing the history, rich cultural legacy, and continuing contributions of Chinese Americans.

Rules
The Art Competition is open to students from kindergarten to grade twelve. Entries will be placed and judged in four divisions. A written description of the artwork is required and must accompany the entry form upon submission. The description can be typed on a separate sheet of paper and stapled to the entry form.

Division 1: Grade K to Grade 3
(title only, description optional)

Division 2: Grade 4 to Grade 6
(description must be 50 words or less)

Division 3: Grade 7 to Grade 9
(description must be 100 words or less)

Division 4: Grade 10 to Grade 12
(description must be 150 words or less)

All entries must be original, freehand drawings by the student only. The size of the artwork must be 18”H x 24”W and be two dimensional. Acceptable mediums include oil, watercolors, acrylic, crayon, pencil, etc. The artwork may not contain copyrighted characters such as Winnie the Pooh, Pokemon, etc., or the right of any third party and may not violate any U.S. or international copyright laws.

The official entry form, original or copied, along with a description of the artwork must accompany each entry. The entry must also have the name and address of the student written on the back of the artwork. Only one entry per student is allowed.

Awards and Recognitions
The winning entries will be announced in May 2019 and an awards ceremony will take place in the Greater Los Angeles area. Date and location to be announced. Selection of winners will be conducted by a panel of independent judges.

Winning entries and some finalists will be exhibited in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and other regional locations where C.A.C.A. Lodges are located.

First, second and third place winners will be selected from each division. In addition, two Grand Prize Awards will be chosen from all entries.

The Scholarship Awards are:

- Two (2) Grand Awards- $500 each
- Four (4) First Place- $300 each
- Four (4) Second Place- $200 each
- Four (4) Third Place- $100 each

Please Send Entries to
Chinese American Museum
ATTN: Art Competition
125 Paseo de la Plaza, Suite 202
Los Angeles, CA 90012

"Upon receipt of each entry, Chinese American Citizens Alliance—National shall own and retain all rights to the use of the entries, including, but not limited to, exhibition, distribution, reproduction and use of entry images. Winning entries will not be returned. Non-winning entries will be returned, if requested, to the contact person and address information provided with the entry."