



## **PRESS RELEASE FROM THE ELMHURST HISTORY MUSEUM**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** April 7, 2020

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## **2020 Ruth Strand Poster Activity Expands and Goes Online with “Lessons from Home”**

Each year the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation and Elmhurst History Museum sponsor the *Ruth Strand Poster Contest* for Elmhurst second graders in recognition of Ruth Strand, a long-time director of the Elmhurst Public Library and founding member of the Elmhurst History Museum. In light of this year’s extenuating circumstances and school closures, the Foundation and Museum changed the theme of this year’s activity to "Lessons from Home" to encourage young people to share their thoughts and drawings during this unprecedented historic time of social distancing and homeschooling.

**The 2020 Ruth Strand poster activity is open to ALL Illinois schoolchildren of any age who would like to participate.** This will be an online community project and not a judged contest as in previous years.

### **HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

To participate, each child should [download, print and complete the participation form](#) from the Elmhurst History Museum’s web site at [www.elmhursthhistory.org](http://www.elmhursthhistory.org). **Poster entries must be**

**received by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 8, 2020.** Children can use the form to draw a picture about their current homeschooling experience and/or describe ways their family is coping with our current shelter-in-place order during this time. Participants should also write a sentence or two describing what is happening in their drawing. Participants may scan or take a photo of their posters and submit them via email (JPG or PDF) to [jess.wandersee@elmhurst.org](mailto:jess.wandersee@elmhurst.org). **Poster entries must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 8, 2020** and will be shared in an online gallery and on social media.

To encourage participation and support local businesses, the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation will provide \$5 gift cards from Elmhurst City Centre as prizes to be awarded to the first 100 participants. Any questions about the contest can be sent via email to Jessie Wandersee, Supervisor of Education Services, at [jess.wandersee@elmhurst.org](mailto:jess.wandersee@elmhurst.org).

The Elmhurst History Museum continues to be closed through April 30, 2020 per Governor Pritzker's stay-at-home order. Staff is working remotely, and all programming and exhibits are suspended at this time. For more information and updates, please go to [www.elmhursthhistory.org](http://www.elmhursthhistory.org) or follow the museum's Facebook page.

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