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# NEWS & NOTES

## INSPIRING INNOVATION

# Design Excellence

*The Japan Mint's worldwide competition challenges artists to create inspiring coins.*

The Japan Mint is accepting submissions for its 2016 International Coin Design Competition (ICDC). The government agency strives to encourage creativity and enhance the artistry of coin designs through the contest it has hosted annually since 1998. The competition is open to amateur and professional artists of all ages and nationalities.

A five-member jury of artists, medalists, and the Japan Mint's president and director of design and engraving will select the winners. Cash prizes of 500,000 yen (US\$4,970), 200,000 yen (US\$1,990) and 100,000 yen (US\$994) will be given to the first-, second- and third-place winners, respectively. The top two finishers also will receive a plaque and a medal featuring their winning designs. The student with the best composition will receive the Award for Future Designer and 50,000 yen (US\$474). The judges also will present a Jury's Special Award and 50,000 yen to the entrant (professional or student) who "show[s] outstanding promise for the future."

Entrants are required to submit sketches and plaster models of their obverse and reverse designs. Students born on or after August 31, 1986, who are currently registered in school need only send a drawing. Submissions must arrive at the Japan Mint no later than August 31. The deadline for students, who have an additional two weeks to submit their work, is September 14. For more information or to request an entry form, e-mail [ICDC-sec@mint.go.jp](mailto:ICDC-sec@mint.go.jp).



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