

Tech Center News

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Contest Features Kids' Entries for Earth Day Design

Club GM is holding a special "kids design an Earth Day" T-shirt contest.

This year's theme, said GM employee and club president Katie Murphy is "Watch GM Grow."

The entries are due by March 1, Murphy said. The designs should feature original art only. No clip art.

The contest is open to the children of GM Tech Center employees, Murphy said. The front of the shirt design selected will feature the art of children between the ages of 11 and 18. Up to five colors may be used. The back of the shirt will feature a design from a child between the ages of five and 10. They are limited to using two colors.

Murphy said any submitted design should incorporate a GM vehicle and the environment in some context.

The shirts with the winning two designs will be on pre-order beginning around April 1, Murphy said.

"We want to have the shirts ready for wearing in time for 'Bring Your Children to Work Day,' which is April 24 this year," Murphy said. "We'll also have them on sale at the Club GM store in the Tech Center, but they might be sold out by the time someone wants to get one."

Murphy said that this is the third year of the T-shirt designing contest.

"Last year, we had about 60 entries, so it's getting popular," Murphy said. "We get all kinds of designs. Some are in pencil and some are in crayon."

To learn more about the contest, call 586-441-8670, or email katherine.murphy@gm.com.

Scans can also be sent to Murphy at her email address.

28 Features Aid Camaro Z/28 in Quest for Performance

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"Like the first-generation Z/28, the new model is a road racer first and foremost. It features a wide range of state-of-the-art exterior performance modifications, and weight-reduction measures. It was bred for the track, pure and simple," said Mark Stielow, Camaro Z/28 Engineering manager.

Chevy officials list 28 features that helped the Camaro Z/28 lap Germany's famous Nürburgring road course four seconds faster than the Camaro ZL1.

1. Rear spoiler with "wickerbill." The aerodynamic coefficient of drag goal was achieved with original Camaro SS content and an accessory rear spoiler, but to meet the downforce requirements for Z/28, the spoiler was modified with a "wickerbill" – a small, vertical tab at the edge of the spoiler.

2. Unique front fascia. The Z/28's unique front fascia is based on the Camaro SS, but the fog lamps, air dam and the upper-base grille are replaced with covers that reduce weight.

3. Front splitter. The Z/28's front splitter is a large aero panel that provides downforce at the front of the car, enhancing cornering capability and high-speed stability.

4. Hood extractor. A functional carbon fiber hood extractor provides increased engine cooling by allowing hot air an exit route.

5. Rocker moldings and wheel flare moldings. Specific rocker moldings provide aggressive styling and improved aerodynamic performance.

6. Front wheelhouse liners. Unique wheelhouse liners with closeouts work with the vehicle underbody to make the most of airflow.

7. Belly pan. The Z/28 underbody incorporates a belly pan that helps reduce front lift.

8. Thinner rear window glass. Reducing the thickness of the rear window glass from 3.5 mm to 3.2 mm saved 400 grams.

9. Lightweight rear seat. Al-

though it looks like the rear seat in the SS, the Z/28's rear seat is 4.7 kilograms lighter.

10. Lightweight wheels and tires. The Z/28's 19-inch aluminum wheels save 8.7 kilograms compared with Camaro SS wheels.

11. Carbon ceramic brake rotors. Lighter than comparably sized steel brake rotors, the Z/28's carbon ceramic rotors save 9.6 kilograms.

12. No air conditioning. Because the Z/28 is intended for the track, air conditioning was deemed a non-essential component.

13. LS7 engine with dry-sump oiling. The racetrack-bred LS7 includes features designed for the high-rpm environment of the track.

14. The air intake system. The LS7 uses a unique open air box intake system to make the most of high-rpm airflow into the engine.

15. Track-capable fuel system. The road course-ready fuel system is designed to keep the primary fuel pump reservoir full even under hard cornering and maximize the amount of fuel available.

16. Active dual-mode exhaust system and high-flow converter assembly. The system is engineered to provide high-flow and muscular sound character under aggressive acceleration.

17. TREMEC TR6060 six-speed manual transmission. Used in the Camaro ZL1 and Cadillac CTS V-Series, the TREMEC TR6060 six-speed manual has the capability to stand up to high-performance engines.

18. 5.1-ratio short-throw shifter. The Z/28 uses this shifter to provide quicker, more precise-feeling gear changes.

19. Strut tower brace. The Z/28 uses the same strut tower brace as the Camaro SS 1LE to provide extra chassis stiffness.

20. Zero-preload limited-slip differential. This high-performance differential is used to make the most of cornering capability and cornering exit traction.

21. Differential cooler. The Z/28's differential cooler incorporates an integral heat exchanger, eliminating the need for an external pump, wiring, relays, temperature sensors and fan.

22. Uprated lower control arm ride link "travel limiter" bushing. This higher-durometer part offers 50 percent greater stiffness at high load than the SS, improving steering feel and brake force deflection steer.

23. Uprated rear upper control arm bushing and lower trailing link bushings. These bushings improve lateral stiffness during hard cornering, as well as toe-change compliance during braking. The stiffness rate of this part is increased 400 percent.

24. Higher-rate coil springs and smaller-diameter stabilizer bars. Engineers increased the stiffness rate of the Z/28's coil springs by 85 percent in the front and 65 percent in the rear.

25. DSSV damper technology. The Z/28 is the first high-volume production road car to employ racing-derived DSSV or Dynamic Suspensions Spool Valve damper technology from Multimatic, which offers maximum response, stiffness and tuning optimized for the track.

26. Performance Traction Management. PTM is an advanced system that integrates the chassis mode selection, Traction Control and Active Handling Systems, tuned specifically in the Z/28 for optimal road-course performance and consistency. It allows the driver to press the accelerator pedal to wide open at the exit of the corner.

27. Nineteen-inch wheels and Pirelli PZero Trofeo R tires. A major contributor to the lateral performance of the Z/28 is the wheel-and-tire combination, featuring the widest front

wheels/tires of any comparable sports coupe, which contribute to lowering the center of gravity for enhanced handling.

28. Brembo carbon ceramic brakes. Large, robust and track-capable Brembo carbon ceramic matrix brakes deliver exceptional braking capability, while weighing in 9.6 kilograms under the comparable Camaro SS brakes.

Library Seminar Set to Discuss Tax Ramifications

The Warren Public Library is sponsoring an educational seminar in the conference room of the Warren Civic Center on Thursday, March 27, at 6 p.m.

"Timothy B. Smith of the Hantz Financial Services Group will be with us to discuss recent tax law changes, tax deferrals, tax credits and anything else you want to know about taxes," said librarian Kathy Faba. "We all know that tax time is just around the corner and we could all use some tax strategies right now, so anyone looking for help should stop by."

Space is limited, she said. To reserve a spot, call 586-574-4564.

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