

## US Stamp Designs

For quite a long time, it was the postmaster general who decided on the design of stamps that will be issued. However, the US legislators started making laws about the subjects to be featured on stamps, giving rise to the formation of a committee that will review the stamp designs.

At least fifty thousand stamp design ideas from Americans are reviewed by the committee annually. Out of these, only 35 ideas are recommended by the committee to the postmaster general who then makes the final decision.

While any design idea can be entertained, the general rule is that only dead people can be the subject of a US postage stamp. As a general rule only former presidents can be depicted in US stamps at any time after their death while other people can only be depicted in the stamps at least ten years after their death.

- Mrs. Nagalakshmi Tadakaluri, Philatelist.