Ocean Art Contest

Use your creativity and artistic talent to express the importance of our oceans and coasts to you and the world!

Winning art work will be displayed at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History!

For more information:
www.CoastalAmerica.gov

Coastal America is a partnership among federal, state and local governments and private alliances to protect, preserve and restore our nation's coastal and marine ecosystems.

Coastal America Ocean Art Contest

Submissions:

Contestants must submit their art work to the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center (CELC) closest to them. For more information on participating CELC and contest rules please visit: www.CoastalAmerica.gov. Entries must be received no later than May 30, 2008.

Eligibility:

The contest is open to all students enrolled in grades K-12 and college and university students.

Contest Age Groups:

Group 1: Grades K-2
Group 2: Grades 3-5
Group 3: Grades 6-8
Group 4: Grades 9-12
Group 5: College and University Students

Art Work Requirements:

Log on to www.CoastalAmerica.gov for full details of entry guidelines

- Entries must be original paintings, drawings, photographs or other visual art work created by the contestant.
- Art work should reflect one of the seven Essential Principles of Ocean Literacy.
- Art work must be two dimensional and not exceed 24"x36".
- A narrative, not to exceed 150 words, explaining the selection of the Essential Principles should be attached to the back of the art work.
- Contestant's full name, grade, school, contact information, teacher/facilitator's name must be listed on the back of the art work.

Winners:

Regional winners will be announced and their art work will be displayed at the sponsoring CELC. The first, second and third place winners' art work from each age group at each CELC will be advanced to the national competition. For the national competition, a panel of judges will select first, second and third place winners in each age group from the entries submitted. The national competition first place winners from each age group will be invited to Washington, D.C. for a public announcement of the winners at a Coastal America ceremony that will be coordinated with the opening of the Smithsonian Ocean Hall in September 2008. The work of the national competition first, second and third place winners will be displayed at this award ceremony, and will then be exhibited at the Smithsonian, National Museum of Natural History, from December 2008 through March 2009. The national competition winners will also be recognized with special awards and media coverage.

Art Work Rights:

Ownership rights in any art work which is submitted to the Art Contest shall be in accordance with the ownership provisions of the contest, found at: www.CoastalAmerica.gov.

Judging Criteria:

Art work will be judged on visual impact, communication of the principle, and artistic merit. Each CELC will select a panel of judges for the regional competition. The national competition will be judged by a panel of ocean experts and artists selected by Coastal America.

The Seven Essential Principles of Ocean Literacy:

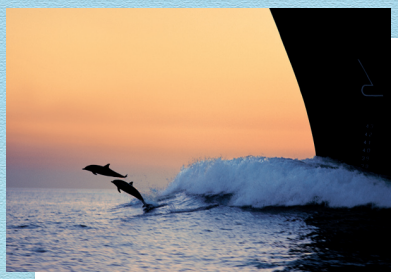
Art work must reflect one of the Seven Essential Principles:

1. The Earth has one big ocean with many features.
2. The ocean and life in the ocean shape the features of the Earth.
3. The ocean is a major influence on weather and climate.
4. The ocean makes Earth habitable.
5. The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems.
6. The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected.
7. The ocean is largely unexplored.

The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems

Year of the Reef
Painting by Wyland

The ocean and humans are inextricably interconnected



Flight
Photograph by Bob Talbot

Participating CELCs:

- Acuario de Veracruz, Veracruz, Mexico +52 (229) 9327984
- Alaska SeaLife Center, Seward, AK (907) 644-6709
- Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, CA (562) 590-3100
- The Florida Aquarium, Tampa, FL (813) 273- 4015
- Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta, GA (404) 581-4000
- Hatfield Marine Science Center & Oregon Coast Aquarium, Newport, OR (541) 867-0257
- J.L. Scott Marine Education Center-Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Ocean Springs, MS (228) 818-8890
- John G. Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, IL (312) 692-3172
- Monterey Bay Aquarium, Monterey, CA (831) 648-7971 or (831) 644-7596
- Mystic Aquarium and Institute for Exploration, Mystic, CT (860) 572-5955 x201
- The National Aquarium in Washington, D.C. (202) 482- 0852
- National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, Dubuque, IA (563) 557-9545
- New York Aquarium, New York, NY (718) 265-3450
- North Carolina Aquariums, Fort Fisher, NC (910) 458-8257 x234
- Texas State Aquarium, Corpus Christi, TX (361) 653-2620
- Waikiki Aquarium, Honolulu, HI (808) 440-9011