

CALIFORNIA COASTAL ART & POETRY CONTEST

For California Students
Kindergarten through 12th Grade

Winners in art and poetry will be selected in each of five grade-level categories (K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12) to receive a \$100 gift certificate to an art supply store or a bookstore. Each winner's teacher will receive a \$50 gift certificate from **Acorn Naturalists**. All winning and honorably mentioned art and poetry will be part of a travelling exhibit, as conditions allow.

Entry deadline: January 31, 2021

Enter online at www.coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry

Winners will be announced by the end of March

Art and poetry must have a California coastal or ocean theme. Please see the Contest Guidelines at www.coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry for complete rules. Art entries: please include a short statement (a paragraph or less) on how the coast or ocean inspired your art. Students may dictate poetry or artist's statement if needed, but it must be their own words or an English translation of their own words.



And the sky rolls
with boulders, sunlight barely
large enough to crawl through.

The body before me: solitary
but glinting teeth. A body of breaking.

A wave shatters into sea spray on the rocks,
and I imagine the yawning maw of the ocean
swallowing
the house behind me.

Excerpt from poem by
Dohyun Kim, grade 11, 2020

For guidelines in English and Spanish, prompts for inspiration, and teacher tips, visit www.coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry or email coast4u@coastal.ca.gov

Visit **www.coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry** with your parent or guardian to complete the online entry form and upload your poetry or art and artist's statement.



CALIFORNIA
COASTAL
COMMISSION

Above artwork from the 2020 contest by Yvonne Wang, grade 6

CONTEST GUIDELINES

1. This contest is open to California residents in grades K-12. (Immediate family members of Coastal Commission staff are not eligible.) There are five grade categories for awards in both art and poetry: K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. **Entries must have a California coastal or ocean theme** (for example, no tropical or arctic settings or species). Art does not need to depict specific places or species, but if it does, they must be California places and species. Meaning, sometimes a fish is just a "fish," but if it's a recognizable type of fish, make sure it's one that lives here! And while you can submit a poem about "the beach," please don't submit one about Waikiki Beach. Winners will be selected for art and poetry in each of the grade categories; winners will receive a \$100 gift certificate to an art supply store or bookstore. Each winner's teacher (named on the Entry Form) will receive a \$50 gift certificate for educational supplies from Acorn Naturalists. In addition, multiple honorable mentions may be selected.
 2. **Poems and artwork must be student's original work.** If a poem is a reference to an existing poem (or song, or other work), that poem and poet should be named on the entry. Artists should include a short statement of a paragraph or less describing their inspiration for the artwork. If needed, this can be dictated to or translated by the teacher or parent. (Please make a note if that's the case and include the original text if translated.) Any art entry that has been traced from or is a digital alteration of an existing photo or image that was created by someone other than the student is a violation of the competition rules. If using an image created by someone else (of an animal, for example) as a model for an art entry, student's artwork must be significantly different to avoid plagiarism. No hands other than the student's own should be involved in the creation of artwork.
 3. **Original artwork may not exceed 11 x 17 inches in size.** Acceptable art media are paint, pencil, markers, ink, crayon, chalk or pastel (fixed), collage, and digital art. Three-dimensional pieces and photography are not eligible. Glitter is not allowed.
 4. **All entries must be uploaded before midnight January 31st.** Students may enter multiple pieces but must complete a separate entry form for each one. Winners will be contacted directly and announced at **coastforyou.org** by the end of March 2021.
 5. Be sure to keep the original artwork. **If artwork is a winner or honorable mention, student must mail the original artwork (unless artwork is a digital creation) to the Coastal Commission.** Artwork will be kept by the Coastal Commission for approximately one year for public exhibit.
 6. Please use the online entry process if possible. If digital upload of entries causes a hardship, they can be mailed to the California Coastal Commission at 455 Market Street, Suite 228, San Francisco, CA 94501. Print out and complete a paper Entry Form (found at www.coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry) for each entry. Poems should be printed on the back of the completed Entry Form (preferred) or stapled to the Entry Form. Attach completed Entry Form and a short Artist's Statement about the inspiration for the artwork to the back of each piece of artwork with glue or tape. Please do not fold art or use paperclips or staples. **Mailed entries must arrive at the Coastal Commission no later than February 1st.** Multiple entries (whether from one student or from a group) can be sent in one package, but each entry must have its own entry form attached. The Coastal Commission is not responsible for entries that are late, damaged, or lost. **Entries will not be returned.**
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COASTAL ART & POETRY CONTEST ENTRY PROCESS

For art entries, scan your artwork at 300 dpi or take a photo of the art on a flat surface or wall with good lighting and no shadow, camera directly in front of it (not at an angle). For poetry entries, create a document with your poem or make a scan or photo of a hand-written poem. Do not include your name or other personal information on the poem.

With your parent or guardian, find the online entry form at **www.coastal.ca.gov/art-poetry** where you will upload your art or poetry. (If viewing the online form on your phone, UNCLICK "Mobile-Friendly" to view all of the entry form.) Your parent or guardian will have to agree to use a digital signature before completing the entry form, meaning that filling out the form on the website serves the same purpose as signing a form by hand. The entry form will ask for the following information:

- Your name, age, and grade
- Title of your art or poetry
- If entering art, the medium that you used (for example, watercolor, crayon, colored pencil, digital...)
- If entering art, the measurements of your artwork; the maximum size allowed is 11"x17"
- If entering art, a short artist's statement of a paragraph or less. Poems do not need to include a statement.
- Your school's name and teacher's name if applicable
- School address, phone number, and teacher's email if applicable
- Your parent or guardian's name
- Your mailing address, phone number, and an email address for your parent or for you. (Please don't use a school email if it can't receive outside messages and if it isn't regularly checked.)

You will be asked whether you allow your city's name to be publicly shared if you are a winner or honorable mention.

Your parent or guardian will digitally sign on your behalf to agree to the following:

Pledge of Originality: The poem or artwork I am submitting to the California Coastal Commission's Coastal Art and Poetry Contest is my own original work. If my poem is a reference to an existing poem, I have named the poem and poet on my entry. I did not trace other artwork or photography, or digitally alter an existing photo or image that was created by someone else. If I used an image created by someone else (a photo of an animal, for example) as a model for an art entry, my artwork is significantly different to avoid plagiarism. No hands other than my own were involved in the creation of the artwork.

Your parent or guardian will digitally sign the entry form releasing the Coastal Commission from liability and granting non-exclusive rights to your contest entry, meaning that the Coastal Commission can use your art or poetry, but it is also still yours to use as you like.

Please use the online entry process if possible. If you are not able to do so, you may print out a paper entry form and mail it in with your art or poetry. See number 6 of the Guidelines for instructions on how to do that.