

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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***For Immediate Release***

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Local Students Honored in Exhibit of Coastal Art and Poetry at Mendocino's Ford House Museum

(San Francisco, July 9, 2012)—The poetry of two Mendocino County students will be part of an exhibit July through September at the Ford House Museum in Mendocino. The students were honored in the 2012 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest for kindergarten through 12th grade students, presented by the California Coastal Commission.

Haley Lacey, a 12th grader from Comptche, was a winner for her poem "Mendocino Morning," and Julieta Salazar Bautista, a 5th grader from Fort Bragg, received honorable mention for her poem "La Pedra/The Stone." Their poems will be exhibited along with 45 other pieces of art and poetry recognized in the statewide contest, which received 2,272 entries from students throughout California.

The 2012 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest comes to Mendocino via the Point Reyes National Seashore, and will next travel to Crystal Cove State Beach in Orange County and the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center in Ventura.

Annie Kohut Frankel, California Coastal Commission Education Coordinator, commends the student artists and poets. "The artwork and poetry on exhibit shows talent well beyond the years of the students. Haley's poem describes a moment when it seems like the whole town holds its breath waiting to see the first whale of the season swim by. Julieta's poem has you staring into the water as your eyes open to all of the life around you." Julieta first wrote her poem in Spanish and then translated it with the help of poetry teacher Karen Lewis.

The California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest is held annually to encourage youth to reflect on the beauty and spirit of California's beaches and ocean. Through this effort the California Coastal Commission endeavors to inspire a greater sense of appreciation and stewardship for these natural places. For more information about the contest and the Commission's other education programs, visit www.coastforyou.org or call 800-Coast4U. For information about the Ford House Museum, visit www.mendoparks.org or call (707) 937-5397. The Museum is located at 735 Main Street in Mendocino.

Images available upon request. Email afrankel@coastal.ca.gov or call 415-597-5888.

More...

Mendocino Morning

The sea the heart of the ocean beating
Beating against rocks spray shining as it flies
Lifting on currents of chilled coastal air
Floating towards a town
This town
Nestled on the cliffs basking in the early morning light
Lighting windows and rooms
the town awakes and moves
A whale spouts
Progress stops
the town sits
breath held
eyes focused
searching for that glitter of white
each crest bringing false hope
another spout and a breach
the town exhales
The migration has started the whales are returning

Haley Lacey
2012 Winner
12th grade, Comptche

La Piedra

La piedra brilla
como el sol y la luna
cuando la veo bajo el mar.
Como los peces nadan,
las ballenas en busca de alimento,
los tiburones, como persigen a los peces,
y como se muevan las algas,
y como los cangrejos persigen a pecitos,
y las conchas del mar se abran.

The Stone

The stone shines
like the sun and the moon
when I see it beneath the sea.
Like the fish swim,
The whales searching for food,
the sharks, how they chase after the fish,
like the seaweed moves,
like the stars hide,
and like the crabs chase little fish,
and the shells of the sea open up.

Julieta Salazar Bautista
2012 Honorable Mention
5th grade, Fort Bragg

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