

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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***For Immediate Release***

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**Young Marin Poets Connect to the Coast**

*(San Francisco, May 2, 2012)*—The poetry of eight Marin County students will be part of an exhibit during May and June at the Point Reyes National Seashore Bear Valley Visitor Center. The students were honored in the 2012 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest for kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, presented by the California Coastal Commission.

Mill Valley 8<sup>th</sup> grader Olivia Rudd was a winner for her poem “Breaking Wave,” which will be exhibited along with 45 other pieces of art and poetry recognized in the statewide contest. Marin County poets were well-represented among those recognized in this annual contest, which received 2,272 entries from students throughout California.

Other Marin poets to be exhibited include Tallula Sorst (4<sup>th</sup> grade) of Corte Madera; Martha Quirie (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) and Sequoia Meadows (8<sup>th</sup> grade) of Fairfax; Audrey Webster (8<sup>th</sup> grade) of San Anselmo; Rex Collenette (7<sup>th</sup> grade) of San Geronimo; and Remy Rosenberg (6<sup>th</sup> grade) of Sausalito.

Following the Point Reyes exhibit, the 2012 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest will be on display at the Ford House Museum in Mendocino, 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 on exhibit shows talent well beyond the years of the students, and the poetry takes you through a gamut of emotions while powerfully evoking the California coast. These poets make you laugh, tear up, and feel the spray of the waves on your face.”

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](http://www.coastforyou.org) or call 800-Coast4U. For information about Point Reyes National Seashore, visit [www.nps.gov/pore](http://www.nps.gov/pore) or call (415) 464-5100. Bear Valley Visitor Center is located at 1 Bear Valley Road in Point Reyes Station.

*\*Images available upon request. Email [afrankel@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:afrankel@coastal.ca.gov) or call 415-597-5888.\**

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