



2009 Youth Nature Writing Contest—Your Favorite Place in the Outdoors

Calling all nature writers! Lewis and Clark National Historical Park is sponsoring a Youth Nature Writing Contest. High school students in Clatsop, Tillamook, Columbia, Pacific, Wahkiakum, and Cowlitz counties are eligible.

In 500 words or less, describe your favorite place in the outdoors. It could be a place you love to hike, hunt, canoe, or just sit with your dog. It could be a place you visited once with your grandmother, or it could be a small pond on your farm that you walk by every day. Wherever that place is, it must be a place that is real, you love, and means a great deal to you.

There will be two divisions.

Division One: Eleventh and Twelfth grades.

Division Two: Ninth and tenth grades.

Prizes for Division One:

First Place--\$100 and a certificate of recognition, along with a Fort to Sea Trail water bottle.

Second Place--\$50.00 and a certificate of recognition, along with a Fort to Sea Trail water bottle.

Third Place--\$25.00 and a certificate of recognition, along with a Fort to Sea Trail water bottle.

Prizes for Division Two:

First Place--A book, *Plants of the Pacific Northwest* by Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon, a certificate of recognition, a quill and ink kit, a carabineer, Fort Clatsop Journal, and a Fort to Sea Trail Water Bottle.

Second Place—A book, *Animal Tracks of Oregon and Washington*, a certificate of recognition, a quill and ink kit, a Fort Clatsop Journal, and a Fort to Sea Trail Water Bottle.

Third Place—A book, *National Audubon Society Field Guide to the Pacific Northwest*, and a certificate of recognition, a quill and ink kit, and a Fort to Sea Trail Water Bottle.

The top three entries of each division will be announced and published on the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park website, www.nps.gov/lewi, on April 24, 2009. Some of the winning authors will also have the opportunity to read or discuss their essays during Earth Week on the KMUN Coast Community Radio show *Arts: Live and Local* airing Friday, April 24 at 3 pm. Some parts or all of the winning essays may be published in *The Daily Astorian*.



The literary judge for the **2009 Youth Nature Writing Contest—Your Favorite Place in the Outdoors** will be author and naturalist Carol Frischmann. Carol graduated from Duke University with a degree in Science Education and has shared her love of nature as a high school science teacher, “Zoo Lady,” and Audubon volunteer.

Find Carol's work at NBC Universal's Petside.com, KGW.com and in books and magazines such as Animal Planet's Pet Care series and BowTie Publications. Her book, *Pets and the Planet: A Guide to Sustainability* will be available from Wiley and Sons in March, 2009.

This contest marks not only Earth Week, but also National Park Week, which takes place April 18-26, 2009. The 2009 Youth Nature Writing Contest is sponsored by the Education Program at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, a partnership between the Lewis & Clark National Park Association and the national park. The **2009 Youth Nature Writing Contest—Your Favorite Place in the Outdoors** is one of many Centennial Initiative events across America that celebrate the National Park Service's upcoming 100th anniversary in 2016.

Some tips for entering:

This contest will be your chance to tell everyone why your place in nature is so significant to you. Use descriptive language. Make the reader feel the sun, see the trees on the ridge line, and smell the wet leaves beneath your feet. If a special person introduced you to nature, tell us about that experience, too. If there is a forest, a tract of land, or a river that you have a passion for, describe that place in a new way. Finally, make sure you have someone read your essay before you enter it.

Where to send your essay by March 23, 2009:

Email:

Send it as a Word attachment to: Will_George@nps.gov

Mail:

Nature Writing Contest
Lewis & Clark National Park Association
92343 Fort Clatsop Road
Astoria, OR 97103

You can also hand deliver your essay to the Fort Clatsop Visitor Center at the same address. We'll let you know we've received your story by email or postcard.

If you have any questions you may call 503-861-2471.

Follow the rules carefully and good luck!



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Rules:

- 1.** Create a title page with the following information: title of your story, your name, address, phone number, email address, your grade, and the name of your school or home school.
- 2.** All entries should have the title on the top of every page in the upper right corner with the page number.
- 3.** Entries must be typed, double spaced, in 12 point font size.
- 4.** Submissions will be judged anonymously. To assure confidentiality, do not put your name on the manuscript. The only place for the author's name will be the title or cover page.
- 5.** If mailing your entry, submit two copies.
- 6.** All entries must be original, nonfiction, written by the author, and unpublished.
- 7.** Manuscripts will not be returned. Keep a copy of your entry.
- 8.** Entries cannot exceed 500 words.
- 9.** Entries will be accepted through March 23, 2009.