



Youth Arts in the Parks

Appalachian Spring Wildflower Art Contest Overview and Guidelines

What This Program Is All About:

Youth Arts in the Parks is a student competition that celebrates ecology through art! Through this program and the April art exhibit at Tamarack, students have the opportunity as community leaders to raise awareness of Appalachia's natural diversity and parks. Their works inspire community connections to local ecology, as well as outdoor stewardship. Student who participate in this art program will explore the business of art and its role in economic development.

Youth Arts in the Parks is part of New River Gorge Wildflower Weekend, a special event that celebrates the area's amazing ecology. A partnership of New River Gorge National River, Babcock State Park, Hawks Nest State Park, and Pipestem Resort State Park hosts this annual public event. Parks like these are places that "bring relevance to all citizens," said National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis. "That's where learning really begins."

Who May Participate and Requirements for Entry:

- **WHO MAY ENTER:** Students in grades K through 12 in Fayette, Nicholas, Raleigh, or Summers County, West Virginia are eligible to participate.
- **SUBJECT MATTER:** All entries MUST be inspired by a spring Appalachian wildflower/s native to the New River Gorge area of West Virginia. An abbreviated species list and image references are available on-line.
- **NUMBER OF ENTRIES:** Each student may only enter one piece of artwork.
- **MEDIUM:** All entries must be original artwork. These may be of any medium type (pencil, ink, acrylic, oil, charcoal, pastel, watercolor, clay, paper, wood, etc.) Computer generated art or photography will NOT be accepted.
- **SIZE:** 2-D size 8 1/2" x 11" or 11" x 14" ONLY, portrait or landscape in orientation; 3-D size no larger than 2 ft. square.
- **WRAPPING:** 2-D entries must not be framed, mounted, or matted. If pastel, charcoal, or other loose medium is used, entries must be protected with shrink wrap, wrapped in acetate, or sprayed with fixative before submission.

Information for Teachers and Supervising Adults:

- Adults, please explain and discuss with your students the rules of this competition along with the criteria upon which their artwork will be judged, including the ethics of art.
- **WV CSO CONNECTION:** This program is designed to help teachers meet elements of several West Virginia Content Standards and Objectives: Visual Arts policy 2520.12 (VA.S.1-6), 21st Century Science K-8 2520.3 (SC.S.[K-8].1-3), and 21st Century Science 9-12 2520.35 (SC.S.[9-12].1-3). National Education Standards can also be applied: Visual Arts NA-VA.K-12.1, Science NS.K-12.3 Life Science, and Economics NSS-EC.K-12.14 Entrepreneurs.
- **WILDFLOWER SPECIES REFERENCE:** An abbreviated species list is available on-line with this contest information. Some wildflower photographs are available on-line as reference, though these works are not to be traced or copied. A limited number of wildflower photograph binders are available for free loan to school teachers. To sign out one of these reference binders, contact jodi_french-burr@nps.gov or call 304-465-2632.
- **PHOTOS OF ART IN ACTION:** We encourage teachers to take photographs of students creating these works of art. If images are available for use by the National Park Service or other sponsors, please complete the National Park Service Photo Release Form and contact jodi_french-burr@nps.gov.
- **RANGERS VISIT THE CLASSROOM:** Invite a ranger to visit your classroom to orient students to this arts program. A limited number of program dates are available; contact jodi_french-burr@nps.gov or call 304-465-2632 to sign up.
- **RECOMMENDATION FOR LARGE GROUPS:** If all or a large number of students from your school choose to participate in this program, we recommend that schools have students vote on top entries to be sent to competition. Perhaps remaining works can be put on display at your school.
- **APRIL ART CONTEST DISPLAY:** All participants must agree to the public display of their works at Tamarack and on-line, and if their artwork is selected as one of the top four entries, their work will be for public sale at Tamarack.
- **RETURN OF ARTWORK:** All artwork will be returned to the artist through their school after the conclusion of the April art exhibit at Tamarack, except those pieces sold in the David L. Dickirson Fine Art Gallery.
- **YOUTH ARTS IN THE PARKS FESTIVAL IN THE PARK:** On May 1, we'll continue this ecology celebration for school groups *in* the park. Assistance for bus funding is available. More details coming to your school soon.



www.nps.gov/neri



www.tamarackwv.com/gallery/youthartsintheparks.aspx



www.wvstateparks.com

How Do Students Enter the Contest:

- Read and follow all contest guidelines.
- Prepare your art entry, fill out the entry form, and submit your artwork and entry form to your county's Youth Arts in the Park Teacher Representative at your county's receiving site location listed below.
- **DEADLINE:** All entries must be received by your county's Youth Arts in the Parks Teacher Representative at their school **on or before March 1, 2012.** Here are the county representatives and receiving site locations:

FAYETTE COUNTY:

Christy Gill, Art Teacher
Divide Elementary School
Propps Ridge Rd.
Lookout, WV 25858
cgill@access.k12.wv.us

RALEIGH COUNTY:

Carolyn Buzbee, Art Teacher
Independence Middle School
800 Independence Rd.
Sophia, WV 25921
cbuzbee@access.k12.wv.us

NICHOLAS COUNTY:

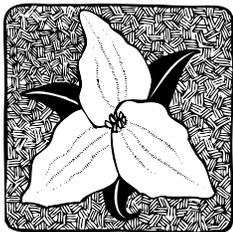
Nancy Taylor, Art Teacher
Summersville Middle School
40 Grizzly Rd.
Summersville, WV 26651
nmatylo@access.k12.wv.us

SUMMERS COUNTY:

Richard Hall, Art Teacher
Summers County High School
One Bobcat Dr.
Hinton, WV 25951
rbhall@access.k12.wv.us

Judging and Awards:

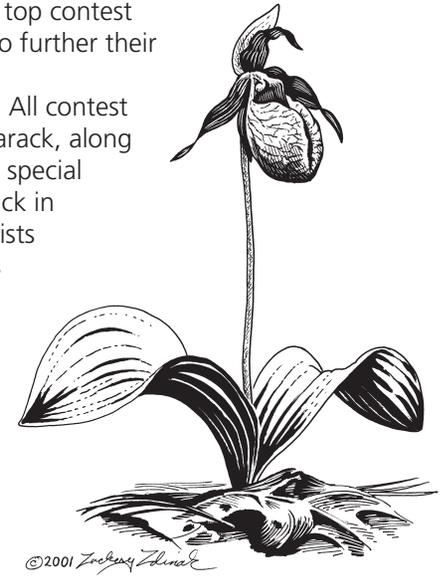
- **JUDGING CRITERIA:** Artwork entries must be a creative rendering of a native Appalachian spring wildflower and will be judged on the basis of original design and artistic composition.
- **JUDGING PROCESS:** Judging will first be held at the county level, a jury panel selecting the top five entries from each grade group (K - 5, 6 - 8, and 9 - 12) in each participating county. The 15 entries per county will then go to Tamarack for a second round of judging by grade group.
- **YOUTH ARTS IN THE PARKS DISPLAY OF WINNING ARTWORK:** All contest artwork juried to Tamarack will be on public display at Tamarack during the month of April. Top entries will also be featured on the National Park Service, Tamarack, and West Virginia State Parks web sites. Additionally, the top piece selected from each grade group, along with the "Best in Show." will be on display AND for public sale at Tamarack's David L. Dickerson Fine Art Gallery from April 1 through June 9. Tamarack staff will assist the top four artists and their teacher in deciding an appropriate purchase price for their artwork. If any of these four pieces are purchased, 58% of the purchase price will go back to the individual artist and 42% will go to Tamarack. If the work is not purchased, the artwork will be returned to the artist after the completion of the gallery show.



- **AWARDS:** All contest participants will receive a certificate of appreciation for their work as community artists and conservation leaders. Each school that participates will receive art supplies after the art exhibition to further their students' artistic endeavors. The top contest winners will also receive art supplies to further their creative, artistic works.
- **ARTIST RECOGNITION CEREMONY:** All contest artists whose work was juried to Tamarack, along with their families, will be invited to a special artist recognition ceremony at Tamarack in April. All participating schools and artists will be notified of event details as this celebration draws near.

Additional Questions:

Contact this program's coordinator at jodi_french-burr@nps.gov or call 304-465-2632, or contact your county's Youth Arts in the Parks Teacher Representative (e-mail addresses in the "How Do I Enter This Contest" section of this guide).



Before Mailing Please Remember to:

- Read the Contest Overview and Guidelines.
 - Prepare entry, following submission guidelines.
 - Fill out the entry form.
 - Have student, parent or guardian, and teacher sign the contest entry form.
 - Affix the entry form to the back of the entry.
 - Confirm the address of your county's receiving site.
- All entries must be received at this site on or before March 1, 2012.**
- If you have questions please contact this program's coordinator (304-465-2632) or your county's Youth Arts in the Parks Teacher Representative.
 - **Check your contact phone numbers for accuracy.**

Youth Arts in the Parks, a youth celebration of ecology through art, was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation. www.nationalparks.org.

