

2019 Art & Essay Contest

Dear Educators and Students,

Peace Islands Institute (PII) welcomes submissions for its 9th Annual Art & Essay Contest. This year's theme is ***"Save the Earth's Natural Resources!"*** Since its inception in 2010, PII's Art & Essay contest attracts submissions from around 200 New Jersey schools. The contest consists of two categories, art and essay, and is made up of two participant categories, middle school (grades 6 through 8) and high school (grades 9 through 12). Each participant can compete in one or both of art and essay categories. Please visit our website at artandessay.org for more information on previous contests and follow our Instagram account at [@artandessay](https://www.instagram.com/artandessay) to stay up to date with the contest announcements.

About PII:

PII's mission is to facilitate a forum of mutual respect and collaboration, both welcoming and accepting varied viewpoints and voices with the intent to (1) develop original and alternative perspectives on vital issues that New Jersey is facing, (2) generate solutions to these issues, and (3) support successful practices. PII promotes education, friendship and harmony, and acting as an island of peace for all New Jerseyans of different ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. Art and Essay Contest serves PII's mission by instilling some of the peace-building values among the youth of our state and giving them a platform to express their vision of a strong and prosperous community based on the values of unity, education, welfare, and progress.

2019 Sponsors:



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2019 PII Art & Essay Contest Theme:

SAVE THE EARTH'S NATURAL RESOURCES: "Can Our Children Enjoy The Same Resources and Beauty That We Have Had for Generations?"

- **REDUCE** waste by using less,
- **REUSE** containers and products,
- **RECYCLE** or **REPAIR** old products!

Definition of the Theme and Brainstorming Worksheet:

When planning your submission(s), it is important to think about the theme, **SAVE THE EARTH'S NATURAL RESOURCES: "Can Our Children Enjoy The Same Resources and Beauty That We Have Had for Generations?"**

In other words, try to think about the following:

- The Earth has a lot of beautiful places that has to stay same for new generations.
- Why does global warming matter?
- Can we stop climate change? How are we affected by the greenhouse effect?
- Could technology ruin nature? What can be done about it?
- How should we plan our lives to keep all of the Earth's natural resources safe?
- What are the consequences of waste (resources, food, energy, etc.)?
- How could I help increase awareness of environmental protection?
- How could I interact with someone who is not very sensitive about environmental protection?
- What do individuals do to prevent natural resources?
- What role can parents and school officials play to prevent wasting natural resources?
- What more could the state of New Jersey and law makers do to inform people about saving the Earth's Natural Resources?

The theme means much more than what comes to mind at first. When composing your work, feel free to be creative. Just remember you want to create a work that makes the reader/audience contemplate the theme and consider its importance in today's global context.

Who Can Participate & Important Dates:

Students at grades 6-12 from the State of New Jersey can enter the contest. Each student may submit only one work in each category.

1. The participants have to send their works by **May 31st, 2019, at 5pm.**
2. Winners will be announced on **June 18th, 2019** via our [Instagram account](#) and [website](#).
3. The awards ceremony time and venue will also be announced via same platforms.

Prizes for Each Category:

Grades 9 through 12:

1. First Place - \$400
2. Second Place - \$300
3. Third Place - \$200
4. 5 mentions - \$100 each.

Grades 6 through 8:

1. First Place - \$400
2. Second Place - \$300
3. Third Place - \$200
4. 5 mentions - \$100 each.

Contest Categories:

1. Essay Contest

- a. The participants must submit their essays online on www.artandessay.org by **May 31st, 2019, at 5pm.** (If you have difficulties to submit online you may mail to the address below)
- b. Essays must be original, unpublished, and written by one student.
- c. Each student may submit only one (1) essay.
- d. We ask teachers to sponsor students and guide them. We also ask them to submit essays online on students' behalf. Submissions by students or parents are not accepted. The number of submissions a teacher can sponsor per grade is limited to **five (5)** due to the high number of submissions.
- e. Each essay should be no more than 1000 words.
- f. Each essay should be written in Microsoft Word, double-spaced, Times New Roman font, size 12, and should not have any images in the document.
- g. Essays may be one of the following types: (1) Informative Essay, (2) Narrative Story, or (3) True Story
- h. Top three places and five mentions for each category of participants will have their names

published on the our website on **June 18th, 2019** and will receive their prizes at the award ceremony.

Each submission will be judged on the basis of following criteria: (1) grammar, (2) uniqueness, (3) writing style and flow, and (4) understanding of the theme and its implementation in the piece.

i. Each submission must include

- Student name,
- Grade,
- School name
- Sponsoring Teacher's Name, Phone number, and Email

j. Participants automatically consent to their work being used and copied by Peace Islands Institute for promotional and/or informational purposes.

2. Visual Art Contest

a. The participants have to mail their arts by **May 31st, 2019 at 5pm.**

b. Artworks ranked in the top 15 will be displayed during the award ceremony.

c. Participants may submit entries utilizing any medium in a 2-D format. Drawing, watercolour, oil paint, acrylic paint, collages, mixed media accepted. (No sculpture or photograph!).

d. Submissions may be one of the following sizes: 16”X16, 16”X12 or 17”X11”

e. A jury of art professionals will judge the submitted works on the basis of the following: (1) uniqueness, (2) creative/expressive use of materials, (3) artistry of execution, and (4) integration of medium and message (overall impact of the visual idea)

f. Each submission must have on the back:

- Student name
- Grade
- School name
- Sponsoring Teacher's Name, Phone number, and Email

g. Participants automatically consent to their artwork being used and copied by Peace Islands Institute for promotional and/or informational purposes.

h. No artwork will be returned to students.

Announcements:

1. Each winner is responsible for his/her own transportation to the ceremony venue.
2. Check (awards) will be made payable to parents or legal guardians.

Contact Information:

Peace Islands Institute

777 Terrace Avenue, Suite 109, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604

Ph: 1(201) 426-0689 **Fax:** 1(201) 426-0690

Email: contest@peaceislands.org

FAQ:

- 1) Are photographs allowed for the Art category? *No, they are not allowed.*
- 2) We are working on a mural and would like to submit that but obviously it belongs to more than one student. Is this a problem? *Unfortunately we cannot accept murals.*
- 3) Are schools outside New Jersey allowed to participate? *No, the contest is for all Middle and High Schools located within New Jersey.*
- 4) If I'm not able to make it to the Award Ceremony, what will happen to my prize? *You may pick it up from PII's office located in Hasbrouck Heights, or we could mail it to you.*