

The Celebrate the Gulf Marine Education Festival will be held Saturday, April 11, 2026, at Memorial Park in Pass Christian, Miss., in conjunction with the Art in the Pass Festival. Each year we host the Student Art Contest to bridge this marine education festival with Art in the Pass.

We encourage all students in grades K-8 to submit their original art.

ENTRY DEADLINE: MARCH 13 AT 5 PM

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- 1. Students grades K 8 and enrolled in public, private or home school are eligible for participation.
- 2. No entry fee is required.
- 3. The artwork must be no larger than 8.5" X 11". Include the following information, legibly and on the back of the art; artist's first and last name, age, grade, school name, teacher's name and teacher's email address.
- 4. Any medium, except photograph and computer generated art, is accepted. Must be original artwork.
- 5. Artwork must depict conservation, recreational or the scenic qualities of Mississippi's coastal resources and be appropriate for a family atmosphere event.
- 6. Only teachers are eligible to submit entries. Each teacher may submit one entry per student, consolidating all submissions into a single packet. The packet should clearly display the teacher's name, school name, phone number and email address on the outside.
 Submissions should be sent to:

Attn: Celebrate the Gulf Mississippi Department of Marine Resources 1716 A.J. Holloway Drive Biloxi, MS 39532

OR

Attn: Celebrate the Gulf Grand Bay NERR 6005 Bayou Heron Road Moss Point, MS 39562

- 7. Submissions are judged by the festival committees. Grades are judged seperately. The judges' decisions are final.
- 8. First, second and third place awards are given to the to the winning artists on the day of the festival. Teachers are notified prior to the festival.
- 9. Winning artwork is publicly displayed at the Celebrate the Gulf Marine Education Festival.
- 10. Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) reserves the right to cancel the contest at its discretion.
- 11. MDMR retains the right to use the artwork in present and future promotional materials and educational activities.
- 12. Employees of MDMR and their immediate family members are not eligible for the contest.



