POSTER AND T-SHIRT CONTEST

The Celebrate the Gulf Marine Education Festival will be held Saturday, April 3, 2027, at Memorial Park in Pass Christian, Miss., in conjunction with the Art in the Pass Festival. Each year we host a poster and t-shirt contest to tie together this marine education festival and the arts festival.

SUBMIT YOUR ARTWORK FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED AS THE FESTIVAL ARTIST!
ENTRY DEADLINE: JANUARY 13, 2027, 5 P.M

Rules and Regulations:

1. Amateur and professional artists, at least 13 years old, are encouraged to participate.
2. No entry fee is required.
3. Each artist may submit up to four entries for consideration in any medium, except photograph. Must be original artwork.
4. Digitally created graphic design artwork produced using Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Canva or similar design software is accepted. **AI-generated artwork is not permitted.** Submissions must be saved as a high-resolution JPEG or TIFF file at 300 dpi and 16.25" x 14.75". Artwork must be original or use properly licensed design elements and imagery.
5. The physical artwork must be submitted for judging and replication for the poster and t-shirt.
6. The theme must depict conservation, recreational or the scenic qualities of Mississippi's coastal resources and be appropriate for a family atmosphere event.
7. The artwork must be suitable for reproduction on both poster and t-shirt.
8. The artwork has no size restriction, but must accommodate 16.25" X 14.75" vertical for the poster.
9. Each submission must be accompanied by a completed entry form. Forms are also available at grandbaynerr.org/celebrate-the-gulf.
10. Submissions must be sprayed with a fixative (if appropriate), covered with acetate or clear plastic wrap and supported front and back with corrugated or foam core board for protection.
11. Submit artwork and entry form to: Attn: Celebrate the Gulf, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1411 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39530 or Grand Bay NERR, 6005 Bayou Heron Road, Moss Point, MS 39562.
12. Submissions will be judged by the festival committee. The judges' decisions are final. Winner will be announced February 2027.
13. The winning artist will be awarded $500 and ten posters. Artwork will become the sole property of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR). MDMR retains the right to use the artist's name in any present and/or future promotional or educational activities.
14. The winning artist must attend the festival and sign the posters on April 3, 2027, from 10am -3pm.
15. Winning artwork will be publicly displayed at the Celebrate the Gulf Festival.
16. MDMR reserves the right to cancel the contest at its discretion.

The Celebrate the Gulf committee will not be responsible for loss or damage to entries, but will take great care to return in good condition.
For more information, email celebrate.gulf@dmr.ms.gov.

ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

WATERFEST
CELEBRATING AND PROTECTING MISSISSIPPI'S WATERS

POSTER AND T-SHIRT CONTEST
ENTRY FORM

Marine Education Festival
Celebrate the Gulf

Artwork Title: _____

Artist's Name: _____ Artist's Age: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I _____ **acknowledge and agree to the following conditions**:
(Artist's Full Name)

- Winning artwork becomes the sole property of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. The agency retains the right to use the artist's name in any present and/or future promotional or educational activities.
- The winning artist is required to sign posters at the festival on April 3, 2027, 10 a.m.-3p.m.
- Reproductions and future use of art will be at the sole discretion of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.
- Mississippi Department of Marine Resources reserves the right to cancel the contest at its discretion.

I hereby release custody of my artwork to Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.
I have been provided a copy of and agree to abide by the 2027 Celebrate the Gulf Poster and T-Shirt Contest Rules and Regulations.

Signature:_____ Submission Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian (under 21 years old):_____

Please complete one form per entry.