

Expressions of Freedom Art Competition Official Rules

In commemoration and celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the National Park Service (NPS) and the National Park Foundation (Foundation) are sponsoring a nationwide Expressions of Freedom Art Competition (Competition). The competition is open to youth ages 13 to 18 and will be juried by professional artists. Participants may compete in one or more of the following categories: photography, poetry, and digital short films. Artistic submissions must explore personal meanings of freedom and relate to nationally significant themes. Additionally, each submission should showcase either the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Civil War, the struggles of the American Civil Rights movement, or freedom and equality reflected in one of America's national parks. These artistic works submitted to the contest by an entrant are hereafter referred to as "Submissions."

1. Eligibility

No purchase is necessary, and there is no fee to enter or to win. The competition is open to all youth who are age 13 through 18 at any time during the contest period and who are legal residents of the United States. Entrants under the age of 18 or who otherwise are not able to lawfully enter into and form a binding contract must obtain the consent of a parent or legal guardian to enter the contest. Participants must enter using their legal name. Competition Submissions must not contain any material that is copyrighted, trademarked, or otherwise subject to the rights of a third party. Entrants and their parents or legal guardians agree to abide by the terms of these official rules and by the decision of the NPS and the Foundation, which are final and binding on all matters pertaining to the competition. The NPS and Foundation reserves the right to disqualify any entrant that it determines, in its sole discretion, is ineligible to participate in the competition.

2. Submissions

Entrants may participate in one or more categories listed below. However, entrants may submit only one entry per category.

a. Poetry

- Poems can be written in any style, but must not exceed two hundred and fifty (250) words excluding the title.
- Do not include illustrations.
- Poems must be typed.

b. Photography

- You must take the photo yourself.
- Upload the highest resolution image possible (less than 10 MB). The winning image may be used in various contexts and a hi-res image ensures the best quality.
- Only JPEG images are accepted (no RAW or DNG images).

- Photographs submitted may include a description of the photograph (two hundred (200) characters or fewer) and a title of the photograph (not to exceed twenty (20) characters).
- Alteration and manipulation of photographs is permitted.

c. Video

- Entries may incorporate still images, music, and video clips. All such works must be original and created by the entrant.
- Videos may not exceed two (2) minutes in length.

3. Agreement to Official Rules

- a. By participating in the competition the entrant and, as required the parent or legal guardian, fully and unconditionally agrees to and accepts these official rules and the decisions of the NPS and the Foundation, which are final and binding in all matters related to the competition.
- b. The Competition is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited by law.
- c. All Submissions must be the entrants own work and the entrant must own the rights to distribute the entry.
- d. When the entrant enters a Submission in the Competition, the entrant thereby grants each of the NPS and the Foundation an perpetual, worldwide, irrevocable, royalty-free license to use, reproduce, distribute, prepare derivative works of, and display and perform the content of, the Submission any purpose, and to allow NPS and the Foundation to permit others to do the same.
- e. In the event that ownership of a Submission is challenged in any manner by any person, NPS and or the Foundation may disqualify that Competition Submission and may discontinue use of the Submission.
- f. NPS and the Foundation may each use your name and your state of residence when publicly crediting you as the creator of the entry.
- g. You agree to hold harmless and indemnify NPS and its employees, from and against any and all losses, costs, expenses, damages or other liabilities, including reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in connection with any cause of action, claim, suit, proceeding, demand or action brought by a third-party and resulting from your participation in the

Competition, a Submission, or the entrants breach of these Competition Rule. This indemnification survives this Agreement.

- h. The NPS and the Foundation each reserves the right to disqualify any entrant who violates any of the contest rules, who attempts to influence or receive unfair consideration from the judges, or who tampers with the entry process or the operation of any of the NPS or the Foundation's websites. The NPS and the Foundation also reserve the right to disqualify any entry that is inappropriate, indecent or obscene.
- i. The NPS and the each Foundation reserves the right to cancel or modify the competition and/or the prizes in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the NPS or the Foundation.
- j. Neither NPS nor the Foundation are responsible for: (1) any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by an entrant, printing errors or by any of the equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Competition; (2) technical failures of any kind, including, but not limited to malfunctions, interruptions, or disconnections in phone lines or network hardware or software; (3) unauthorized human intervention in any part of the entry process or the Competition; (4) lost, late, misdirected or incomplete entries, or technical or submission errors; (5) technical or human error which may occur in the administration of the Competition or the processing of entries; (6) any injury or damage to persons or property which may be caused, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, from entrant's participation in the Competition or receipt or use or misuse of any prize; (7) misdirected or undeliverable entries or for any technical problems, malfunctions of computer systems, servers, providers, hardware/software, lost or unavailable network connections or failed, incomplete, garbled or delayed computer transmission or any combination thereof; (8) any typographical/other error in entries, selection announcement or for any liability for damage to any computer system resulting from participation in, accessing or downloading information in connection with this Competition. If for any reason an entrant's entry is confirmed to have been erroneously deleted, lost, or otherwise destroyed or corrupted, entrant's sole remedy is another entry in the Competition, if it is possible.

4. Key Dates and Events

- Contest Submissions will be accepted from August 1, 2012 through October 15, 2012.
- Regional juries will vote in November of 2012.
- The National jury will vote in December of 2012.
- A National awards event will be held in January of 2013.

5. How to Enter

All entrants must submit their entry through the Foundation's website at www.nationalparks.org. Information collected from entrant is subject to the Foundation's Privacy Policies found: <http://www.nationalparks.org/privacy-policy>

6. Judging Criteria

There will be two (2) series of judging panels, Regional and National. Provided there are sufficient entries, the Regional judging will take place in up to seven (7) NPS regions: National Capital Region, Northeast Region, Southeast Region, Midwest Region, Intermountain Region, Pacific West Region, and Alaska Region. Some Regional judging may be combined. See regional map located here for specific regional designations:

www.nps.gov/gis/documents/nps_regions_11x8-5-new.pdf

The top three (3) winners in each category, in each region, will move on to the national judging. Each category will have a panel of three (3) qualified judges who will review all the entries for each category and determine the winner based on the following criteria:

- Originality (25%)
- Artistic Composition (25%)
- Technical Quality (25%)
- Entries that showcase either the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Civil War, the struggles of the American Civil Rights movement, or freedom and equality reflected in one of America's national parks. (25%)

7. Awards

All prizes are non-transferable, and no cash or other substitutions are allowed except by the Foundation. Arrangements for the fulfillment of all prizes will be made by the Foundation. Winning entries will be published online and in NPS and Foundation publications.

The Foundation will provide all prizes. The first place winner in each category will receive a \$2500 scholarship and one (1) America the Beautiful –National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass. ARV: \$80.00. The second place winner will receive a \$1000 scholarship and one (1) America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass. ARV: \$80.00. The third place winner will receive one (1) America the Beautiful –National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass. ARV: \$80.00. All other expenses, including taxes (if any), on receipt and use of prizes are the sole responsibility of the winners. Up to three honorable mention winners may be selected.

If your Submission is chosen, you will be contacted by NPS staff in December 2012 using the contact information provided with your submission. You are required to respond by email within seven (7) days or an alternate will be selected. Your email address will not be used except as required to fulfill this

contest. Winners will be announced on the nps.gov and Foundation's Expressions of Freedom Art Competition pages by January 1, 2013. All decisions are final. The NPS and the Foundation each retain the sole discretion over the selection of, and decision not to select, any particular entry as one of the winners. Winning selections will be incorporated into a traveling exhibit sponsored by the NPS and the Foundation. Winners will be identified on the exhibit and any supporting materials to be displayed publicly.