

2025 Wyland National Art Challenge

Presented by the Wyland Foundation, Blick Art Supplies, The National Coral Reef Alliance, and Municipal Water District of Orange County.

World-renowned environmental artist, conservationist and muralist Wyland is inviting classrooms across the United States to take part in the 13th annual Wyland National Art Challenge, a nationwide environmental mural and individual art contest with the theme of conservation of our ocean, lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands. The contest **begins Oct. 1, 2025 and runs through Dec. 1, 2025**. Teachers are invited to create with their students a 4-foot by 8-foot (or larger) mural painting to celebrate how conservation shapes our lives and our world. A mural canvas will be provided in a random drawing to more than 20 participating classrooms who sign-up before Sept 5, 2025. ***NOTE: Schools that don't receive a mural kit may still participate by painting a mural on any 4-foot by 8-foot surface (or larger).***

Teachers will submit photos of their class's mural painting for the contest entry at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge Oct. 1 - Dec. 1, 2025. Contest categories include grades K-5, 6-8, 9-12. The class in each category whose mural best expresses their understanding of conservation will receive a cash prize. Schools may register multiple classes. However, only one free mural kit per school is permitted. ***To enter, each mural must be accompanied by at least five individual drawings or paintings from students as part of the process of discovering their subject matter and theme for their mural. An individual winner will be selected from each grade category, K-12. Prizes include a scholarship and gift cards for art supplies.***

Also included in the Wyland National Art Challenge is an individual photo contest. Prior to creating a classroom mural, students may wish to utilize photography as part of the process of discovering their subject matter and theme for their mural. Prizes include a scholarship and a \$50 gift card.

SCHEDULE / DEADLINES

Sept. 5, 2025:

Deadline to sign up for the more than 20 free mural-canvas drawing kit. Winners chosen in random drawing. Schools not receiving a canvas can enter the contest using ANY 4 foot by 8 foot (or larger) permanent or temporary surface to create a mural artwork. Please sign up using the form at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge. To sign up by mail, write to Wyland Foundation, ATTN: Wyland National Art Challenge. Please include teacher's full name, school, grade level, title, number of students, mailing address, email, and phone number. The classrooms that receive a free mural canvas kit will be notified via e-mail on or before Sept 19, 2025.

Sept. 19, 2025:

Mural canvases will be shipped on or before Sept. 19

Oct. 1, 2025

Art Challenge begins. Entries may be submitted at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge.

Dec. 1, 2025

Digital photograph of classroom mural and individual art contest submissions due for judging. Individual photography submission for photo contest due for judging. Submit entries at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge. Please be sure to include teacher's full name, school, grade level, title, number of students, mailing address, email, and phone number. Individual art and photography submissions must also include the student's name.

Dec. 19, 2025

Winners will be notified on or before Dec. 19, 2025 at the email address they provide upon submission.

COMPLETE RULES

MURAL CONTEST

1. **ENTRY PERIOD:** Submit entries Oct. 1- Dec. 1, 2025 at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge. Digital image(s) of the mural must be 300 DPI jpeg file, please include one additional photo of the students with the mural if available. The winning mural will be announced on or before Dec. 19, 2025.

When submitting the photos of the classroom mural please follow this format:

SchoolName_TeacherName_photo#.jpg

Example:

Image 1

wylandelementary_Anderson_grade 5_1.jpg

School name: Wyland Elementary

Teacher Name: Anderson

Grade level: Grade 5

Photo #: 1

2. ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open to all United States- based classrooms. Contest categories include Grades K-5, 6-8, 9-12. Employees of Wyland Worldwide, The Wyland Foundation, subsidiaries and affiliated companies as well as their immediate family members (spouses, parents, siblings, and children) are not eligible for prizes. The contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited by law. **3. RULES OF ENTRY:** To qualify for entry into the classroom mural contest, each participating mural must be accompanied by no fewer than five individual concept entries into the individual contest (See individual entry rules below). Mural entries whose accompanying individual concepts are strongly related to the final mural submission are encouraged. Additional supplemental materials such as a class journal with study notes, research, and observations about the mural topic are also encouraged. Each class may submit one entry, ON ANY 4 FOOT BY 8 FOOT SURFACE (OR LARGER), and the mural must be painted by students only. If it is determined that an adult painted/assisted on the mural, the entry will be disqualified. The Wyland Foundation is not responsible for any lost, late, incomplete, invalid, unintelligible, or misdirected entries. Winning submissions will become the property of The Wyland Foundation. By entering the contest you agree that the Wyland Foundation has the right to display, copy, distribute and otherwise use the artwork as it sees fit without any fee or other form of compensation. The mural may be representational, abstract and/or include mixed media

to express the conservation theme. **4. AGREEMENT TO RULES:** By entering the contest, you fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the rules as outlined herein and agree to accept the decisions of The Wyland Foundation, its partners, and the contest judges which are final and binding. **5. JUDGING CRITERIA:** Entries must meet all rules and submission criteria as stated herein to be eligible. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges. The murals will be judged on artistic merit, creativity, and effective communication of the message. **6. PRIZES:** Winning classroom in each category will receive \$500 for classroom art supplies. Teachers are encouraged to give all non-winning participants an official certificate of appreciation. A master copy of the certificate will be available for download at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge by Dec. 1, 2025. The certificate is signed by Wyland and National Geographic Explorer in Residence Dr. Sylvia Earle. **7. WINNERS:** It is your sole responsibility to notify Wyland Foundation in writing if you change your contact information. Winning schools must be located where the winning teacher or representative is currently employed at the time of entry. No prize is exchangeable, transferrable, or redeemable for cash. The Winner(s) are solely responsible for complying with any and all applicable federal, state, provincial, local or other statutes, regulations, and other laws and for bearing any personal income, VAT, withholding taxes, customs duties, or other taxes, fees, insurance, surcharges or other costs relating to any prize. Prize winners will be notified via email or by telephone at the email address or number they provided within ninety (90) days following the conclusion of the contest. Wyland Foundation is not responsible for changes to contact information provided by potential winner(s) that may interfere with winner notification. To claim prizes, winners will be required to respond by email within 30 days of notification, and provide your full name, email address, physical mailing address and phone number to this email address: artchallenge@wylandfoundation.org. **8. MURAL FULFILLMENT:** For the schools that receive confirmation of winning a free mural canvas, the mural canvases will be shipped to the address provided on or before Sept. 26, 2025. Additional murals may be created on any 4 foot by 8 foot surface (or larger), including paper, walls (with the permission of the building owner), floors, or separately purchased canvases.

COMPLETE RULES - INDIVIDUAL ART CONTEST

Prior to creating a classroom mural, students are encouraged to do their own individual drawings, or paintings as part of the process of discovering their subject matter and theme for their murals. These individual studies may be submitted for individual judging (NOTE: Students may also submit artwork even if not participating in the mural contest.) Students, teachers, or parents may submit photos of individual paintings or drawings on behalf of the students for the contest entry, along with a brief description of how the individual artwork fits within the classroom mural theme. If the artwork is not part of a mural, please provide a brief description of how the artwork fits the contest theme of conservation of our ocean, lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands. Paintings and drawings must be completed on any size surface in any medium. Individual contest categories include all grades K-12.

- 1. ENTRY PERIOD:** Submit entries Oct. 1- Dec. 1, 2025 at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge . Digital image(s) of the individual art must be 300 DPI jpeg file, please include one additional photo of the student with their entry if available. The winning artist will be announced on or before Dec. 19, 2025.

When submitting the photos of the individual art contest please follow this format:

StudentName_GradeLevel _photo#.jpg

Example:

Image 1

JohnSmith_grade3 _1.jpg

Student name: John Smith

Grade Level: grade3

Photo #: 1

2. ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open to all United States- based students in all grades, K-12. Employees of Wyland Worldwide, The Wyland Foundation, subsidiaries and affiliated companies as well as their immediate family members (spouses, parents, siblings, and children) are not eligible for prizes. The contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited by law. **3. RULES OF ENTRY:** One individual entry per student. Entry must be created by student only. If it is determined that an adult assisted on the art, the entry will be disqualified. The Wyland Foundation is not responsible for any lost, late, incomplete, invalid, unintelligible, or misdirected entries. Winning submissions will become the property of The Wyland Foundation. By entering the contest, parents of the winning student agree that the Wyland Foundation has the right to display, copy, distribute and otherwise use the artwork as it sees fit without any fee or other form of compensation. **4. AGREEMENT TO RULES:** By entering the contest, you fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the rules as outlined herein and agree to accept the decisions of The Wyland Foundation, its partners, and the contest judges which are final and binding. **5. JUDGING CRITERIA:** Entries must meet all rules and submission criteria as stated herein to be eligible. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges. Entries will be judged on artistic merit, creativity, and effective communication of the message. Water (ocean, rivers, lake, stream, and wetland conservation) themes are preferred, although not required. **6. PRIZES:** The student in each grade category whose artwork best expresses the conservation theme will receive a \$50 gift card for art supplies. Additionally, the high school junior or senior whose artwork best expresses the conservation theme will receive a \$500 scholarship to

be applied toward an accredited four-year school or university. Scholarship checks are to be used for qualifying tuition expenses (tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment) required by the educational institution. Recipient will be responsible for all taxes. The winner of the scholarship is not eligible to win the \$50 prize. Employees of Wyland Worldwide, The Wyland Foundation, subsidiaries and affiliated companies as well as their immediate family members (spouses, parents, siblings, and children) are not eligible for prizes. **7 WINNERS:** It is your sole responsibility to notify Wyland Foundation in writing if you change your contact information. No prize is exchangeable, transferrable, or redeemable for cash. The Winner(s) are solely responsible for complying with any and all applicable federal, state, provincial, local or other statutes, regulations, and other laws and for bearing any personal income, VAT, withholding taxes, customs duties, or other taxes, fees, insurance, surcharges or other costs relating to any prize. Prize winners will be notified via email or by telephone at the email address or number they provided within ninety (90) days following the conclusion of the contest. Wyland Foundation is not responsible for changes to contact information provided by potential winner(s) that may interfere with winner notification. To claim prizes, winners will be required to respond by email within 30 days of notification, and provide your full name, email address, physical mailing address and phone number to this email address: artchallenge@wylandfoundation.org.

Teachers/Parents are encouraged to give all non-winning participants an official certificate of appreciation. A master copy of the certificate will be available for download at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge by Dec. 1, 2025. The certificate is signed by Wyland and National Geographic Explorer in Residence Dr. Sylvia Earle.

COMPLETE RULES - INDIVIDUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Prior to creating a classroom mural, students may wish to utilize photography as part of the process of discovering their subject matter and theme for their murals. These individual studies may be submitted for individual judging (NOTE: Students may also submit photos even if not participating in the mural contest.) Students, teachers, or parents may submit photos on behalf of the student photographer for the contest entry, along with a brief description of how the photo fits within the classroom mural theme. If the photo is not part of a mural, please provide a brief description of how the photo fits the contest theme of conservation of our ocean, lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands. Individual contest categories include all grades K-12. In order to be displayed in our online gallery without being stretched or distorted, photographs must be submitted in .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif format, edited for web, at least 3,000 pixels wide and no larger than 10 MB. We do not accept photographs submitted through the mail and do not accept more than one contestant per e-mail address. High-quality scans of non-digital

photographs are acceptable. Digital photographs should be taken at the highest resolution possible.

1. ENTRY PERIOD: Submit art entries Oct 1.- Dec. 1, 2025 at www.wylandfoundation.org/artchallenge Digital image(s) of the individual entry must be 300 DPI jpeg file, please include one photo of the student with their photo if available. The winning photographer will be notified on or before Dec. 19, 2025. **When submitting the photos of the individual photo contest please follow this format:**

StudentName_GradeLevel _photo#.jpg

Example:

Image 1

JohnSmith_ grade3 _1.jpg

Student name: John Smith

Grade Level: grade3

Photo #: 1

2. ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open to all United States- based students in all grades, K-12. Employees of Wyland Worldwide, The Wyland Foundation, subsidiaries and affiliated companies as well as their immediate family members (spouses, parents, siblings, and children) are not eligible for prizes. The contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited by law. **3. RULES OF ENTRY:** One individual entry per student. Entry must be created by student only. If it is determined that an adult assisted on the photograph, or the work was in anyway copied or duplicated from another source, the entry will be disqualified. The Wyland Foundation is not responsible for any lost, late, incomplete, invalid, unintelligible, or misdirected entries. Winning submissions will become the property of The Wyland Foundation. By entering the contest, parents of the winning student agree that the Wyland Foundation has the right to display, copy, distribute and otherwise use the artwork as it sees fit without any fee or other form of compensation. Finalists will be asked to submit an original, unedited digital file. The Wyland Foundation reserves the right to disqualify incomplete entries and/or contestants who are unable to submit, upon request, a high-resolution photograph of at least 300 dpi at 3,000 pixels on the longest side or an original photo negative, print or slide. The photograph, in its entirety, must be a single work of original material taken by the Contest entrant. By entering the Contest, entrant represents, acknowledges, and warrants that the submitted photograph is an original work created solely by the entrant, that the photograph does not infringe on the copyrights, trademarks, moral rights, rights of privacy/publicity or intellectual property rights of any person or entity, and that no other party has any right, title, claim, or interest in the photograph. **4. AGREEMENT TO RULES:** By entering the contest, you fully

and unconditionally agree to and accept the rules as outlined herein and agree to accept the decisions of The Wyland Foundation, its partners, and the contest judges which are final and binding. **5. JUDGING CRITERIA:** Entries must meet all rules and submission criteria as stated herein to be eligible. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges. Entries will be judged on artistic merit, creativity, and effective communication of the message. Water (ocean, rivers, lake, stream, and wetland conservation) themes are preferred, although not required. **6. PRIZES:** The high school junior or senior whose artwork best expresses the conservation theme will receive a \$250 scholarship to be applied toward an accredited four-year school or university. Scholarship checks are to be used for qualifying tuition expenses (tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment) required by the educational institution. Recipient will be responsible for all taxes. One winner from among all photography entries will win \$50 for art or photography supplies. The winner of the scholarship is not eligible to win the \$50 prize. Employees of Wyland Worldwide, The Wyland Foundation, subsidiaries and affiliated companies as well as their immediate family members (spouses, parents, siblings, and children) are not eligible for prizes. **7 WINNERS:** It is your sole responsibility to notify Wyland Foundation in writing if you change your contact information. No prize is exchangeable, transferrable, or redeemable for cash. The Winner(s) are solely responsible for complying with any and all applicable federal, state, provincial, local or other statutes, regulations, and other laws and for bearing any personal income, VAT, withholding taxes, customs duties, or other taxes, fees, insurance, surcharges or other costs relating to any prize. Prize winners will be notified via email or by telephone at the email address or number they provided within ninety (90) days following the conclusion of the contest. Wyland Foundation is not responsible for changes to contact information provided by potential winner(s) that may interfere with winner notification. To claim prizes, winners will be required to respond by email within 30 days of notification, and provide your full name, email address, physical mailing address and phone number to this email address:
artchallenge@wylandfoundation.org.

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To learn more about the Wyland Foundation and the art contest visit
www.wylandfoundation.org.