



“Partnering with mangrove forest communities, grassroots NGOs, researchers, and local governments to conserve and restore mangrove forests and related coastal ecosystems, while promoting community-based sustainable management of coastal resource”

Children’s Mangrove Calendar Art Contest

Invitation for Submissions

Dear Friend of the Mangroves,

We would like to invite children from your country to join in this fantastic creative and educational competition. It is an opportunity for the younger generation to learn about the vital role Mangroves play in the lives of coastal communities and marine life around the world whilst letting them explore their imagination and have fun when creating their pieces of art.

This competition is a wonderful way for participating NGOs to build relationships with teachers and to develop children’s understanding when thinking about the environment around them. Education about the importance of Mangrove and Coastal ecosystems is critical when affecting long term change; they are the next generation of decision makers and we have the chance to teach them the value of the natural world, giving them a life-long appreciation and respect for their environment.

MAP is asking you for the following:

- **Pass on information about this competition to your local schools**
- **Act as a liaison between MAP and the schools; providing resources regarding mangrove and ecological information**
- **Collect the winning pieces of art from each school participating within your country and send the three best entries on to MAP**

Please send your final 3 entries to the address at the bottom of this letter. The winning entries from your country will be included in the final judging and will have a chance of being included in the calendar. **We must receive the art work in MAP's office by the 31st July.**

We have attached the information about the contest ready to have your name added as the local contact representative and duplicated for distribution to teachers in your country.

Please inform us if your school is going to participate, by contacting **Monica** at this email: monicagquarto@olympus.net. If you need any more information or assistance then please contact us and we will do the best we can to help you implement this exciting educational project in your country.

We will send all student winners, participating NGOs and schools copies of the final calendar and the winning students will receive a signed official certificate showing their great achievement in this years Children’s Mangrove Art Contest.

We look forward to seeing all of the colorful work you help produce!

Yours sincerely,

Monica Alicia Paz Gutierrez-Quarto,

Calendar Project Coordinator

Mangrove Action Project

monicagquarto@olympus.net

Tel. (360) 452-5866



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Children's Mangrove Calendar Art Contest

Contest Instructions

These instructions are available in 9 languages: <http://mangroveactionproject.org/map-programs/childrens-art-calendar>

We invite all primary school children from tropical and sub-tropical nations, whose schools are located near mangroves to create art telling us *"Why mangroves are important to my community and me"*.

Selected winners will be published in next year's calendar which will be distributed internationally to raise awareness about Mangrove Forest ecology. We want to promote appreciation and awareness about mangrove forests through this creative contest by encouraging and listening to the imaginative voices of children living in mangrove areas.

This is a brilliant opportunity to connect teachers, NGO's and students by working together on this fun and innovative project.

If you want to participate, please contact **Monica** at monicaguardo@olympus.net

Your local NGO contact is:

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

What kind of art can be submitted?

- **Technique:** We would like lots of **COLOURFUL** work please; no black and white! Paint, color pencil, ink, collage, pastel, crayons, etc. are all accepted. This can be on **canvas or paper**.
- **Dimensions:** **45 cm x 30 cm** or **18 in x 12 in**
- **Format: LANDSCAPE:** this means the art work should have the **longer length across** and the **shorter length up to down** so it will fit on the calendar page. (We have received wonderful art work in portrait in the past but sadly were unable to use it: please make sure we can consider yours!!)
- **Artist Identification:** On the back of each art work please write **in English:** the full name and age of the artist, the school name, address, city or town, country and title of art work.
- **Age Limit:** from **6-16 years old**
- **Topic:** **"Why mangroves are important to my community and me"**
- **How will entries be judged?** Each school will hold its own exhibition and **select 3 winners**. These winning entries will be



collected in each country by a participating NGO and **mailed to MAP's office to be judged by a team of artists.**



- **PRIZES**

1st Prize: a certificate + 3 calendars and the recognition of being published in an international calendar with global distribution.

2nd Prize: a certificate + 1 calendar

3rd Prize: a certificate + 1 calendar

School of winner in each country will receive 2 calendars

Organizing NGO will receive 8 calendars

- **When is the deadline?** Please, we must receive the art work in MAP's office **by the 31st July.**
- **Mailing instructions:** The art work has to be mailed in a **hard tube** (such as the ones for mailing posters) or **unfolded in a flat box.** Make sure the art is sent in certified or registered mail to address below:

Monica Gutierrez-Quarto,

Calendar Project Coordinator

Mangrove Action Project

P.O. Box 1854, 4872 Deer Park Rd.

Port Angeles, WA 98362-0279, USA

Tel./ fax (360) 452-5866

E-mail: monicagquarto@olympus.net and mangroveap@olympus.net

All entries selected at the national level should be submitted to the same address.



Some suggested Field Trip and Classroom Lessons

We would suggest coinciding this contest with a Mangrove Ecology Educational Project for the children. This lesson would aim to highlight the importance of mangrove forests for **the environment, their community** and **marine and terrestrial fauna that are linked with mangrove forests.** This project could include:

1. **Information and guidance in the classroom** aided by **text books, mangrove curriculum, slides and videos.**
2. **Eco-Study Field trips** for first-hand observation with the teacher and/or a local resource person. This would allow the children to see the many forms of life that inhabit the mangroves, such as the many **colored birds, fish, crabs, mollusks, reptiles, mammals,** and **insects** while also learning about the unique characteristics of the associated mangrove plants and trees.
3. During (or after) the field trips, the children can have discussions with their parents or local fisher folk about the mangroves in their region, learning more about the history of the area's mangrove forest, as well as **why they are important** and **what the problems are when the mangroves are lost.**

This educational project will hopefully give the children inspiration for their art work as well as an understanding and respect for their mangroves.