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ENTRY DETAILS

The 2015 My Hawai'i creative writing contest is open to all middle school students (6-8th grade) in the state. Students are invited to submit their best story or poem that addresses this year's theme, "Hanohano Hawai'i Kuauli: Celebrating Collaboration and Wisdom Across Hawaii's Ecosystems."

Entries should tell a story, not simply share information. Acrostic poems will not be accepted.

- * All middle school students in Hawai'i are eligible.
- * Only one entry per student will be accepted.
- * All entries must be submitted electronically. (No mailed entries will be accepted.)

Submit entries online at:

www.hawaiiconservation.org/myhawaii

Entries are due by 5:00pm on March 6, 2015.

FORMAT

Stories and poems must be submitted as word documents (.doc). Submissions must be titled and typed in size 12, black font, and 1,000 words or less. Do not use special colors, fonts, or graphics of any kind.

Submit contact information in the entry form online, but do not reveal the student's name or school anywhere on the submission to maintain anonymity in the evaluation process. All entries will be reviewed online by a panel of judges with no access to any student identification or grade level.

By submitting an entry, the student and school authorize the My Hawai'i Story Project to use the stories/poems for educational purposes including, but not limited to, print and web materials.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

All entries will be judged using the following criteria:

- * Theme relevance how well did you connect to the theme and to Hawaii's unique environment?
- * Clarity of message how well did you express your ideas?
- * Creativity and originality your work must be your own!

Entries will be assessed by how well you express your ideas using appropriate grammar and writing style.

WINNERS

Winners will be announced on May 13, 2015.

The winning students will be published in the My Hawai'i Story Project anthology and will receive a copy of the anthology, award certificate, and other special prizes. We hope all winners will be able to attend the awards ceremony the first week of August. In addition, all state libraries will receive a copy of the anthology for their collections.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

This flyer is available on the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance (HCA) website: www.hawaiiconservation. org/myhawaii. We encourage you to pass the flyer on to teachers and post it for students and parents.

Questions? Contact: myhawaiistory@gmail.com

PROJECT PARTNERS

Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management Program

Hawai'i Conservation Alliance

Hawai'i Conservation Alliance Foundation

Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources

- Division of Forestry and Wildlife
- Division of Aquatic Resources

Hawai'i Department of Education

Hawai'i Environmental Education Alliance

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The Pacific Writers' Connection

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

Hanohano Hawai'i Kuauli