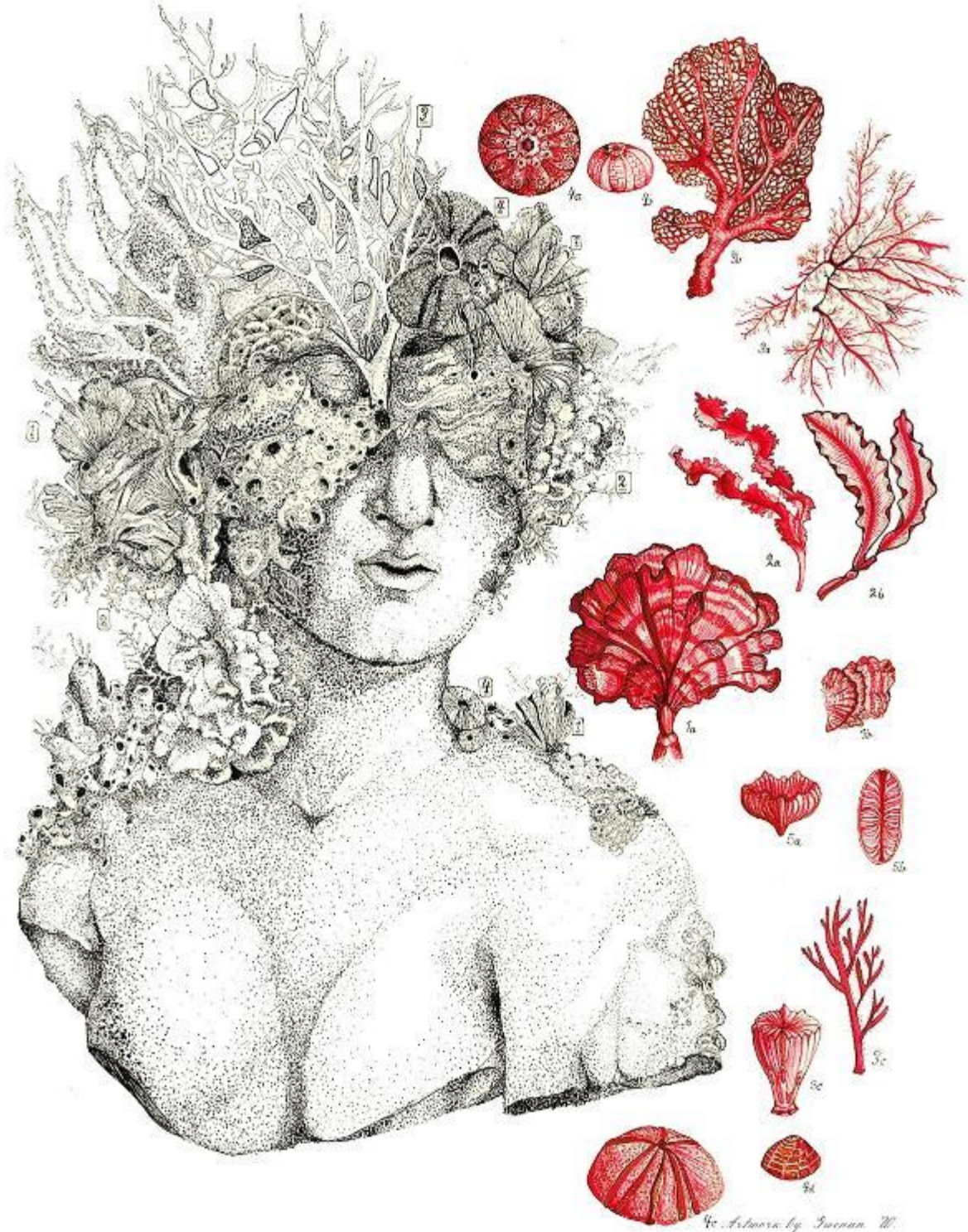


Bow Seat's

2020 OCEAN AWARENESS CONTEST



WWW.BOWSEAT.ORG/CONTEST



A CREATIVE CHALLENGE FOR TEENS WORLDWIDE

The global Ocean Awareness Contest is a platform for young people to learn about ocean issues through art-making and creative communication, and where teens can explore their relationship to a changing world and become advocates for environmental action. Students ages 11-18 from are invited to participate.

THEME

Climate Hope: Transforming Crisis

Your voices, visions, and stories of hope are needed to help transform the world.

The 2020 Ocean Awareness Contest is a call for young artists, conservationists, makers, thinkers, and activists who are concerned about the future of our blue planet. Join thousands of youth around the world in our annual program that raises awareness about the climate crisis and potential solutions, uplifts youth voices for ocean conservation, and inspires hope and action through art, creative media, and storytelling.

Climate Hope: Transforming Crisis invites students to learn about the climate crisis and its impact on oceans; discover or imagine solutions at local, national, or global scales; and create work that explores hope in action.

Submissions accepted in:

- Visual Art
- Film
- Music
- Poetry
- Prose
- *NEW* Interactive & Multimedia

WHO MAY ENTER

Students from around the world are invited to participate in the Ocean Awareness Contest. Enter the division based on your age at the time of entry:

- **Junior Division:** Age 11-14
- **Senior Division:** Age 15-18

Students can participate as an individual or as a club, class, or group of any size.

All students must provide the contact information for an adult sponsor (teacher, parent, mentor, etc.).

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- **Gain knowledge** about a critical issue facing your generation: dive into Bow Seat's new Resource Studio to learn more about climate change and our oceans, explore solutions being created all over the world, and find resources for taking action in your community.
- **Build your portfolio** and make art in your preferred medium, or practice a new creative skill! Add to your resume with a global participation certificate.
- **Develop 21st Century skills** in communication, critical thinking, creativity, and advocacy. Use your artwork to raise awareness of the most important issue facing our blue planet.
- **Join Bow Seat's global community** of 12,000+ young people who care about our ocean and climate action, and be represented in an international digital activation experience. Be inspired by the work of other young creators around the world.
- **Earn cash awards and scholarships** of up to \$1,500.

Creativity is Power

You play an important role in shaping the future world. Your creative voice has the ability to: expose what is happening to our oceans and what may, or will, happen; question the societal norms that have brought us to this point; reflect and reshape what it means to be a human in the 21st century; discover and advocate for solutions; and persuade others to take action.

AWARDS

Awards will be given in each of the categories at both the Junior and Senior divisions:

	Junior Division	Senior Division
Gold Award	\$1,000	\$1,500
Silver Award	\$750	\$1,000
Bronze Award	\$250	\$500
Honorable Mention	\$100	\$250

Hometown Award

This award recognizes students in our hometown of Boston, Massachusetts, who may not have equitable access to arts programming. These merit-based awards will take students' financial conditions into account. Up to 3 winners in each age division will each receive a \$250 cash scholarship. Visit bowseat.org/contest for more information.

Making Waves Award

The Making Waves Award will be presented to one submission in each age division that is used to inspire hope and action in participants' schools or communities. Eligible participants will be required to describe how their submission was used in a campaign, initiative, or event to creatively raise awareness for ocean conservation and climate action. Examples include (but are not limited to): Documentary (Film submission) screened at a community event about climate change; op-eds or letters to the editor (Prose submission) published in a town newspaper; poster (Art submission) created for a school or community composting program. Show us how you are making waves in your community, and you may earn a \$500 cash prize!

Publishing, Exhibitions, and Special Opportunities

As a winner, you may have a special opportunity to showcase your talents worldwide while raising awareness of ocean issues to a broader community. Bow Seat organizes art exhibitions, pop up art shows, and film screenings; curates anthologies of art and poetry; and finds opportunities to publish student writing. As part of Bow Seat's student collection, your creative piece will help to educate and inspire audiences to take action!



HOW TO ENTER

Step 1: Review & Research

Review the Theme

The Ocean Awareness Contest theme changes every year. Be sure to review the description of the 2020 theme, *Climate Hope: Transforming Crisis*, before starting your piece. Submissions are judged based on how well they address the annual theme.

Read the Rules

This is an international contest open to students ages 11-18. Make sure you read all of the Contest rules, submission requirements, and other details before you get started.

Do Your Research & Get Inspired

We have many resources on our website to help you get started on your submission. Explore Bow Seat's new Resource Studio—a unique, curated space that includes inspirational artwork, journalistic media, primary literature, interactive quizzes, and more—to learn about climate change impacts on our ocean, find artists and organizations taking action for the climate, and discover how you can get involved in the global climate movement. Visit bowseat.org/resources.

Contest Deadline

The 2020 Ocean Awareness Contest deadline is Monday, June 15, 2020, at 11:59 PM Eastern Time (ET). Visit bowseat.org/participate to submit online.

Step 2: Create

Please review all submission requirements carefully.

Submission Categories

Students may submit one entry per category, meaning that you may enter up to six pieces, one in each category. If you submit more than one entry in a category (for example, two poems), those additional entries will not be counted or judged.

Art

Visual Art submissions may include:

- Drawing & illustration
- Painting
- Sculpture
- Graphic design
- Digital art, coding art & GIFs
- Mixed media & collage
- Printmaking
- Photography
- Ceramics
- Fashion & jewelry
- Data visualization & infographics
- Visit our student gallery for examples of visual art:
bowseat.org/gallery

Submission Requirements:

- Accepted file types: JPG, PNG, GIF, or PDF.
- You may submit up to 3 images (different angles or details) of your submission.
- Make sure your files are high resolution, not crooked, and can easily be viewed.

Reflection (required): All submissions must include a written reflection (artist's statement) of up to 250 words. This will be a separate question on the submission form.

Works Cited (if applicable): Include a bibliography (any style) crediting sources and citing any ideas, facts, quotes, or existing media used in your artwork that are not your own.

We encourage you to learn from and be inspired by other environmental artists and designers as you create your piece. If your submission is influenced by someone else's work of art, or if your submission uses someone else's image/artwork/photograph as a reference, you must give credit to the original source in the works cited section.

Film

Submissions may include (but are not limited to) narrative films, live action films, hand-drawn or computer-generated animation, documentaries, experimental film, or dance. Visit our student gallery for examples of film: bowseat.org/gallery

Submission Requirements:

- Films must be 2-4 minutes in length.
- Upload your film to YouTube or Vimeo and provide the public URL on the submission form. Ensure that your video is not private.
- Include a title and credits in the film itself for any information, images, audio, or video clips that are not your own. Bow Seat encourages you to use original, copyright-free, or public domain images, footage, and music.
- Name your film as “2020 Ocean Awareness Contest – Film Title”
- Your submission must be in English or have English subtitles if narration is in a language other than English.

Reflection (required): All submissions must include a written reflection (artist’s statement) of up to 250 words. This will be a separate question on the submission form.

Works Cited (if applicable): Include a bibliography (any style) crediting sources and citing any ideas, facts, quotes, or existing media used in your work that are not your own.

Interactive & Multimedia *NEW*

In response to student interest, the new Interactive & Multimedia category invites submissions that integrate creative communication and interactive or participatory elements, or which combine three or more of the other submission categories.

Submissions may include:

- Web-based media or apps, or website development
- Game design (video games or board games)
- Augmented reality
- Installations
- Podcasts

Note: Digital paintings and graphic design should be submitted in the Visual Art category. Animated films should be submitted in the Film category. Please contact us if you have questions about Interactive & Multimedia submissions.

Submission Requirements:

- You must provide up to 5 images, screenshots, or supporting text documents that illustrate your work. Accepted file types: JPG, PDF, PNG, GIF, or Word (.doc or .docx).
- You may also provide a link to browser-based works, as well as a video of gameplay or demonstrating projects in use (optional). If provided, videos must be shorter than 5 minutes and uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo (ensure they are not private). Audio files in MP3 format may also be uploaded (optional).

- Interactive & Multimedia submissions must include a short written description of your concept or description of use (for example: instructions of app use; gameplay summary; description of viewer interaction; or description of how the submission combines multiple categories or media forms). This will be a separate question on the submission form.

Reflection (required): All submissions must include a written reflection (artist's statement) of up to 250 words. This will be a separate question on the submission form.

Works Cited (if applicable): Include a bibliography (any style) crediting sources and citing any ideas, facts, quotes, or existing media used in your work that are not your own.

Music

Submissions may be original compositions or song parodies in any musical genre. Visit our student gallery for examples of music: bowseat.org/gallery

Submission Requirements:

- Record a video of yourself performing the work. The video may include other images or video, but must contain footage of your performance* or composition process. (*Screen captures of digital instruments are acceptable for electronic or digital music).
- Submissions should be 2-4 minutes in length.
- Upload your performance to YouTube or Vimeo and provide the public URL on the submission form. Ensure that your video is not private.
- Name your film as "2020 Ocean Awareness Contest – Song Title"
- If your submission has lyrics, you must upload a Word (.doc or .docx) or PDF document of your song lyrics (in English). You may include lyrics as captions in the video (recommended). If your song is performed in a language other than English, you must provide an English translation of the lyrics.
- Include a title and credits in the video for any information, images, audio, or video clips that are not your own. Bow Seat encourages you to use original, copyright-free, or public domain images, footage, and music.

Reflection (required): All submissions must include a written reflection (artist's statement) of up to 250 words. This will be a separate question on the submission form.

Works Cited (if applicable): Include a bibliography (any style) crediting sources and citing any ideas, facts, or quotes used in your work that are not your own. If you create a song parody, you must clearly credit the original songwriter. Bow Seat encourages you to use original, copyright-free, or public domain images, footage, and music.

Poetry

Submissions may be free or formal verse, or spoken word poetry. Visit our student gallery for examples of poetry: bowseat.org/gallery

Submission Requirements:

- Format your submission in 12-point type, Times New Roman font, single-spaced with 1-inch margins.
- Include the title of your poem at the top of the page. Do not include identifying information such as student name and school.
- Accepted file types: Word documents (.doc or .docx) or PDF.
- Your submission must be written in English.
- Submission length:
 - Junior Division: no more than 1 page
 - Senior Division: no more than 2 pages

Reflection (required): All submissions must include a written reflection (artist's statement) of up to 250 words. This will be a separate question on the submission form.

Works Cited (if applicable): Include a bibliography (any style) crediting sources and citing any ideas, facts, or quotes used in your work that are not your own. Works cited are not included in submission length.

Spoken Word Video (optional): You may include a video of you performing your poem. You must upload your video to YouTube or Vimeo and provide the video URL in your online submission form. Please ensure that your video is not private. Do NOT submit a Word or PDF document with a link to the video.

Prose

Submissions may include fiction, personal narratives, expository or journalistic writing, or other short written works, such as op-eds, scripts, or creative nonfiction. Visit our student gallery for examples of prose: bowseat.org/gallery

Submission Requirements:

- Document should be in 12-point type, Times New Roman font; double-spaced with 1-inch margins.
- Include the title of your work at the beginning of this document. Do not include identifying information such as student name and school.
- Accepted file types: Word documents (.doc or .docx) or PDF.
- Your submission must be written in English.
- Submission length:
 - Junior Division: Up to 750 words (approximately 3 pages)
 - Senior Division: Up to 1,250 words (approximately 5 pages)

Reflection (required): All submissions must include a written reflection (artist's statement) of up to 250 words. This will be a separate question on the submission form.

Works Cited (if applicable): Use in-text citations (parenthetical or footnotes, in any style) and include a bibliography (any style) for any ideas, facts, and quotes that are not your own. Works cited are not included in submission length.

Write Your Reflection

A written reflection is required to accompany your submission, regardless of category. It is like the introduction to a book or an artist's statement in a museum. The judges will not lower your score for a poorly written reflection, but writing a thoughtful and personal reflection will certainly help the judges understand you and your work better, and you will likely do better in the Ocean Awareness Contest!

Your reflection should describe 1) your creative process and 2) what you have learned through your exploration of the Ocean Awareness Contest theme, *Climate Hope: Transforming Crisis*. Use the following questions to guide your writing:

- What inspired your work?
- What feelings did the process of creating (art, writing, film, music, interactive/multimedia) raise for you?
- What is your message to viewers of your artwork?
- After doing research on the climate crisis and potential solutions, what have you learned?
- What gives you hope?
- What action(s) will you personally take now that you've learned about this issue and potential solutions?

Reflection Requirements:

- Length: 100-250 words
- Your reflection must be written in English.



Step 3: Submit

Students must create an account and submit their work through our online system. Bow Seat cannot accept submissions via email or physical mail. Visit [bowseat.org/contest](https://www.bowseat.org/contest) to access the submission platform. *Preview the submission form on page 15.*

The Ocean Awareness Contest deadline is June 15, 2020.

Submission Checklist:

- Your contact information
- Your submission (Art, Film, Interactive & Multimedia, Music, Poetry, Prose)
- A title for your submission
- Your written reflection
- Works cited (if applicable): List of sources for any ideas, quotes, or facts used that are not your own
- Contact information for an adult sponsor (required for all participants)
- Parent/guardian consent (required if under 13 years old). See pages 16-17 for more information.

Once you make an account and start a submission, you will have the opportunity to save your work and continue at another time.

Teachers: You may create a single account under your name and submit multiple entries on behalf of your class, but you must submit separate entries for each individual student, unless they are participating as a group.



Step 4: Connect & Continue

Share Your Work

Thank you for participating! You are part of Bow Seat's global community of more than 12,000 young people and counting who are using their creative voices to speak up for our blue planet.

Share this opportunity with other artists, writers, filmmakers, musicians, climate activists, and ocean lovers you know! By giving young people an opportunity to think creatively about ocean conservation and climate action, and a platform for you to express your ideas, we hope to create a wave of awareness and impact around the world. Tag us **@fromthebowseat** and use the hashtag **#ClimateHope** if you share your work online so we can spread the love!

Take Action

The work isn't over just because you've submitted! Do what you can as an individual, connect with others in the movement, and explore opportunities for staying involved. Find an organization working on climate action, ocean conservation, and social justice in your community. Continue to use your creative voice to speak up and out on local, regional, national, and global issues! Visit [bowseat.org/resources/for-students](https://www.bowseat.org/resources/for-students).



JUDGING

All 2020 Contest results will be announced in January 2021. Winners and their sponsors will be notified via email before the results are publicly announced.

Bow Seat judges are artists, writers, teachers, scientists, and of course, ocean-lovers! Each year, we also invite a cohort of Bow Seat student alumni and emerging artists to participate in Contest judging. Meet the team at bowseat.org/about/our-team.

Judges consider:

- How well submissions address the annual theme of the Contest;
- Demonstration of artistic voice, originality, and imagination;
- Craftsmanship, including quality, technique, and skill in chosen medium; attention to detail; and accuracy of communicating issues;
- If a submission meets category requirements (such as length, file type, etc.).

Judging begins immediately after the Contest ends, and we take the time to fairly judge each and every entry to the Contest. We receive thousands of entries, and our team of judges puts in thousands of hours of cumulative work each year reviewing your submissions.

We know that you're anxious to hear Contest results. We take an enormous amount of pride in the care we put into the Contest, and we appreciate your patience as we continue to do so!



INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS & SPONSORS

All student participants are required to provide the contact information for an Adult Sponsor. This can be a teacher, parent, guardian, mentor, coach, or other supporting adult.

Whether you are a teacher who assigned the Contest as a class project, a parent helping your child explore their creative potential, or an adult who was asked to be a sponsor for a student submitting on their own, your responsibilities are simple: all we need is to be able to contact you in case we have problems getting in touch with your sponsored student.

When your student submits their work, they will be asked to provide your name and email address. You will receive a confirmation email once they submit so that you can have it on record as well.

We have many resources in our new Resource Studio—including articles, lesson plans, and videos—to help you and your student learn more about issues related to climate change and our ocean, and to support project inspiration and planning. Visit bowseat.org/resources.

Educator Innovation Awards

Many of our sponsors are teachers who effectively and creatively bring the Contest into their classrooms, teaching entire groups of students about ocean issues and empowering them to be stewards of our blue planet, while meeting important educational standards. To recognize their efforts, Bow Seat grants nomination-based Educator Innovation Awards of \$750. Visit bowseat.org/resources/for-teachers for details.

Rules & Eligibility

Competition Period

- All submissions must be received by June 15, 2020, at 11:59 PM Eastern Time (ET) to be considered in the 2020 Ocean Awareness Contest. The online platform will close automatically at the Contest deadline. Please plan accordingly!

Who May Enter

- This is an international Contest and is open to students ages 11-18 who are enrolled in middle school or high school (or the homeschool equivalent) worldwide. Proof of age, identity, or eligibility may be required.
- Students ages 11-14 may enter the Junior Division. Students ages 15-18 may enter the Senior Division. Please enter the age division based on your age at the time of entry.
- Participants under the age of 13 must have a parent or legal guardian complete a Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) Parent/Guardian Consent Form with their submission. See pages 16-17.
- Entries may be submitted by an individual or group of unlimited size. If you submit as a group, there must be one group leader who will serve as the contact person for the group. All of the names of the group members must be listed in the submission. Award money will be split evenly among the group members.
- Any student may submit (i.e., have their name included in) only one entry per category. Therefore, a student may have a maximum of six different submissions, one in each category.

How to Enter

- There is no fee to enter the Contest.
- Students must create an account and submit their work through our online system by the Contest deadline June 15, 2020, at 11:59 PM Eastern Time (ET). Bow Seat cannot accept submissions via email or physical mail.
- Students must provide the contact information for an Adult Sponsor: a teacher, parent, guardian, mentor, or other supporting adult.
- Entries submitted previously to the Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Contest will not be considered in the 2020 Contest. Submissions must be created during the 2019 academic year (or between July 2019 and June 2020).
- All entries must be the students' original work. While we recognize that existing sources will be used for inspiration and research, Bow Seat reserves the right to disqualify an entry at any time if we suspect or determine plagiarism.
- Entries must be submitted in English or have an English translation in order to be considered for judging.

Additional

- By entering the Ocean Awareness Contest, you agree to Bow Seat's Terms of Use (bowseat.org/terms-of-use).
- Bow Seat promises to run this Contest fairly, ethically, and with integrity.
- All judging decisions are final.
- All winners and their sponsors will be notified by email before they are publicly announced.
- Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs reserves the right to use students' work for marketing and promotional purposes in any and all media.
- Winners will be required to verify their eligibility by completing an Affidavit of Eligibility/Liability Release, and, where lawful, a Publicity Release during the award claim process.

Questions?

Fill out our contact form at bowseat.org/contact or send an email to info@bowseat.org.

Submission Form Preview

To get started, create an account in [our online submission platform](#). If you are a teacher submitting on behalf of a class, or a student submitting in more than one category, you can use one account for multiple submissions. Please be sure to review all [Contest rules](#) and guidelines before starting your submission. **Deadline to submit: June 15, 2020.**

PAGE 1: PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Participant Full Name

Email Address We will use the Primary Contact email address to notify you if there are issues with your submission or if you are a winner.

Are you participating as an individual or a group? Group member names and email addresses are required for group entries.

Category [Art/Film/Interactive & Multimedia/Music/Poetry/Prose](#)

Age Division [Junior Division \(Age 11-14\)](#) or [Senior Division \(Age 15-18\)](#)

Participant Age [Parent/Guardian consent is required for students under the age of 13.](#)

Hometown or City, U.S. State (if applicable), and Country

Demographic Information (optional) We ask for information on gender and ethnic identity to help us better understand who participates in our program.

PAGE 2: SCHOOL & SPONSOR INFORMATION

School Name

Adult Sponsor Name and Email Address A sponsor can be any adult, but is typically a parent, guardian, or teacher. Your sponsor will receive a confirmation email when you submit to the Contest.

PAGE 3: SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Submission Title

Medium and Dimensions [Art Category only](#)

Music Genre and Lyrics [Music Category only](#)

Upload Submission See [How to Enter page](#) for full category requirements

Description of Submission [Interactive & Multimedia Category only](#); See [How to Enter page](#) for full category requirements

Film Link (YouTube or Vimeo) [Film and Music Categories required](#); [Poetry and Interactive & Multimedia Categories optional](#)

Browser-Based Media Link [Interactive & Multimedia Category, optional](#)

Upload Audio File [Interactive & Multimedia Category, optional](#)

Works Cited [List the sources of any ideas, facts, media, or quotes used in your work that are not your own.](#)

Reflection (100-250 words) [Required. Your reflection should describe 1\) your creative process and 2\) what you have learned through your exploration of the Ocean Awareness Contest theme, *Climate Hope: Transforming Crisis*.](#)

Making Waves Award [Optional. Describe how your submission was used in a campaign, initiative, or event to creatively raise awareness for ocean conservation and climate action. Include a brief project overview, impacts/results, and an image. \(100-250 words\)](#)

PAGE 5: FINALIZE & SUBMIT

Submissions may be saved as a draft in progress, but cannot be edited once they are finalized. Students and sponsors will receive an email confirmation upon successful submission.



Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) Privacy Notice

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) requires that we gain verifiable consent for your child to participate in a Bow Seat-sponsored program. We are asking for your permission to retain your child's information (name, email, hometown, grade level, and school) and adult sponsor's (teacher, parent/guardian) name and email in order to track student participation, accept student submissions, notify winners, and distribute awards. If you consent, we may use your child's name, grade, and hometown (city, state (if USA) and/or city, country) in program-related outreach.

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child is participating in a program hosted by Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs ("Bow Seat"), an educational nonprofit. Bow Seat's mission is to empower the next generation of ocean caretakers through art, science, and advocacy.

To participate, your child must provide his/her personal information (first and last name, email, grade level, hometown, and school); his/her project; and an adult sponsor's first and last name and email. Since your child is under the age of 13, the information collected will be kept confidential in compliance with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA).

Bow Seat is the sole owner of all of the information that is collected.

- The personal information provided by the child is used to track program participation, accept student projects, notify program winners, and distribute awards.
- Only with parent/guardian consent, the child's name, grade, and hometown (city, state (if USA) and/or city, country) may be used to promote the program. This includes, but is not limited to, outreach via social media, websites, organizational literature, and at events.
- Bow Seat will not require a child to disclose more information than is reasonably necessary to participate in the program.
- No information will be disclosed to third parties.
- The parent can review the child's personal information, ask to have it deleted, and refuse to allow any further collection or use of the child's information.

Please complete the attached Parent/Guardian Consent Form. If you have any inquiries or concerns regarding Bow Seat's programming, please email info@bowseat.org.



Parent/Guardian Consent Form

I, _____, the parent or legal guardian of _____,
(PRINT PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME) (PRINT CHILD'S NAME)

have reviewed Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs' COPPA Privacy Notice. By signing below, I authorize my child to provide personal information for and to participate in a Bow Seat program.

By checking the "Yes" box below, I acknowledge that my child's name, grade, and hometown (city, state (if USA) and/or city, country) may be used to promote Bow Seat's programs.

- Yes**, my child's first and last name, grade, and hometown (city, state (if USA) and/or city, country) may be used to promote Bow Seat's programs.

- No**, my child's first and last name, grade, and hometown (city, state (if USA) and/or city, country) may not be used to promote Bow Seat's programs.

I also understand that it is important to provide accurate information on this consent form so that Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs may contact me.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

Parent/Guardian Email Address:

Parent/Guardian Phone Number:

Please email this signed form to info@bowseat.org or upload it with your student's submission on Bow Seat's online submission platform.