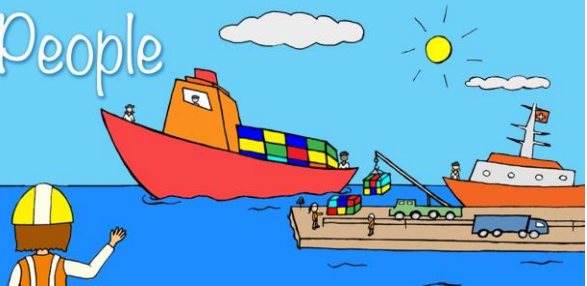


Connecting Ships, Ports and People

K-12 Student Art Contest

www.namepa.net/art-contest

Sponsored by: NAMEPA, USCG, CIP-OAS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WINNERS OF “CONNECTING SHIPS, PORTS AND PEOPLE” ART CONTEST ANNOUNCED

SOUTHPORT, CT—July 18, 2017 Two grand prize winners and 10 finalists have been selected from over 500 entries in the 2017 Connecting Ships, Ports and People calendar art contest sponsored by the North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA), the United States Coast Guard (USCG), and the Inter-American Committee on Ports of the Organization of American States (CIP-OAS). Each year, these organizations invite students in grades K-12 throughout the Americas to create a poster on a theme related to the marine environment. A 2018 bilingual calendar showcasing the winning entries will be printed in English and Spanish.

Students were asked to submit an original poster that creatively depicts the connections among ships, ports and people and how these connections affect our everyday lives. About 90% of the items people use every day are transported by ships and unloaded at ports before reaching our homes, schools, and communities. The men and women employed on the ships and at the ports work very hard to ensure that shipping remains the most environmentally friendly and safest way to transport goods across the world.

The winning artwork is featured on NAMEPA, Coast Guard, and CIP-OAS websites. Finalists will receive a certificate and a calendar with the artwork from all 12 winners. Two grand-prize winning artists (one from each of the grade brackets) will receive, in addition to the certificate and calendar, a \$100 cash prize and a USCG prize package.

To view the winning Connecting Ships, Ports and People artwork visit namepa.net/art-contest.

Grand Prize Winners

Grades K-5

Nelson Valencia, Grade 3, Unidad Educativa Atahualpa, Ibarra, Imbabura, Ecuador

Grades 6-12

Camille Quindica, Grade 7, Kapolei Middle School, Kapolei, Hawaii, USA

Finalists

Grades K-5

Dakota Bitterman, Grade 4, Cedar Road Elementary, Chesapeake, Virginia, USA

Wilson Cajas, Grade 2, Unidad Educativa Particular Católica de Cuenca, Cuenca, America del Sur, Ecuador

Theo Campoverde, Grade 2, Unidad Educativa Particular Católica de Cuenca, Cuenca, America del Sur, Ecuador
Edna Canales, Grade 5, La Estancia School, Comayagüela, Francisco Morazán, Honduras
Brandon Larrea, Grade 1, Unidad Educativa Atahualpa, Ibarra, Imbabura, Ecuador

Grades 6-12

Zulmy Almendarez, Grade 8, CEB Republica de Honduras, Choluteca, Honduras
Daniela Paredes, Grade 8, La Estancia School, Comayagua, Francisco Morazán, Honduras
Rachel Pizzolato, Grade 7, John Curtis Christian School, River Ridge, Louisiana, USA
John Dang Vo, Grade 7, River Road Middle School, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, USA
Aisha Wilson, Grade 6, Spanish Town Primary School, St. Catherine, Jamaica

About the North American Marine Environment Protection Association

The North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA) is a marine industry-led organization of environmental stewards preserving the marine environment by promoting sustainable marine industry best practices and educating seafarers, students and the public about the need and strategies for protecting global ocean, lake and river resources. For more information visit www.namepa.net.

About the United States Coast Guard

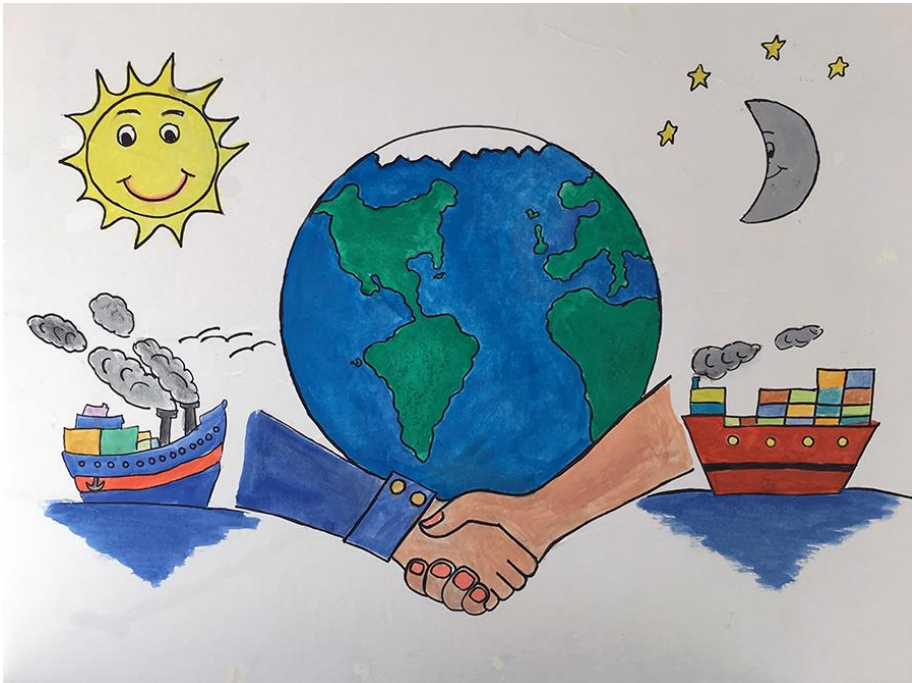
The U.S. Coast Guard is one of the five armed forces of the United States and the only military organization within the Department of Homeland Security. Since 1790 the Coast Guard has safeguarded our maritime and environmental interests around the world. The Coast Guard is an adaptable, responsive military force of maritime professionals whose broad legal authorities, capable assets, geographic diversity and expansive partnerships provide a persistent presence along our rivers, in the ports, littoral regions and on the high seas. Coast Guard presence and impact is local, regional, national and international. These attributes make the Coast Guard a unique instrument of maritime safety, security and environmental stewardship. For more information, visit www.uscg.mil.

About CIP-OAS

The Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS) brings together the National Port Authorities of all 35 sovereign nations of the Americas. CIP promotes competitive, sustainable, inclusive and secure maritime sector development by facilitating policy dialogue at the highest governmental and corporate levels. With close to 100 public and private members representing leading institutions from the maritime industry, CIP strengthens, in collaboration with its partners, institutional and human capacities through seminars, workshops, conferences, courses and scholarship programs. CIP priority areas include, in addition to promoting the protection of the marine environment and sustainable port management practices, competitiveness and logistics; protection and security; tourism and services to ships; legislation and regulation; and CSR and gender equality. For more information, visit <http://portalcip.org/>.



Artwork: Grand Prize Winner Grade 6-12, *Working Hard for You*, Camille Quindica, Grade 7, Kapolei Middle School, Kapolei, Hawaii, USA



Artwork: Grand Prize Grade K-5, *Conexión de Buques, Puertos y Personas*, Nelson Valencia, Grade 3, Unidad Educativa Atahualpa, Ibarra, Imbabura, Ecuador

