

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release
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**CALIFORNIA STUDENTS INVITED TO ENTER THE
COASTAL ART & POETRY CONTEST**

What: The California Coastal Commission invites all California students in kindergarten through 12th grade to enter the 2015 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest. Winners will be selected in each of five grade-level categories (K-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-6th, 7th-9th, and 10th-12th) in both art and poetry to receive a \$100 gift certificate to an art supply or book store, and other prizes. Each winner's teacher will receive a \$50 gift certificate for educational materials courtesy of Acorn Naturalists. All winners and honorable mentions will receive tickets for their families to visit the Aquarium of the Pacific, courtesy of the Aquarium. Students may have their work featured on Commission web pages and materials, and winning entries will be exhibited throughout the state, including at the Ford House Museum in Mendocino, Channel Islands National Park in Ventura, and the Bear Valley Visitors Center at Point Reyes National Seashore. Previous winners can be viewed at www.coastforyou.org. The public can view the 2014 exhibit at the Birch Aquarium at Scripps in La Jolla through January 19. *Print-quality images available upon request.*

Why: By encouraging youth to reflect on the beauty and spirit of California's beaches and ocean, we hope to inspire a greater sense of stewardship for these natural places.

When: All entries must be postmarked by January 31, 2015.

How: Art and poetry must have a California coastal or marine theme. Please refer to the contest guidelines for complete contest rules. All entries must include an entry form. Obtain the entry form and guidelines in one of the following ways:

- check the website at www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/poster/poster.html,
- email coast4u@coastal.ca.gov,
- call (800) COAST4U [800-262-7848]

Who: The California Coastal Commission was first established by voter initiative in 1972 and pursuant to the California Coastal Act of 1976 continues to provide long-term protection for California's 1,100-mile coastline.

Images available upon request or at www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/poster/poster.html. Email Annie.Frankel@coastal.ca.gov or call 415-597-5888.

The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, rigorous use of science, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination. The Coastal Art & Poetry Contest is part of its effort to raise public awareness of marine and coastal resources and promote coastal stewardship.

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