

Tom Bennett Art and Environmental Science Competition 2011
San Bernardino County Museum Association
Wetlands Conservation—Poster Competition

Introduction and Program Description

Wetlands are important habitats for wildlife, the plants they depend on, and people. They provide free essential services including filtering water, modulating the influence of storms by buffering land from floods and water surges, and providing nursery and lifecycle habitat for countless mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, crustaceans, insects and more. Wetlands have been eliminated for development and flood control across the state, leaving people to seek alternative – and expensive – solutions to the benefits that wetlands provided for free.

For this **Tom Bennett Art and Environmental Science Competition**, individuals and families create posters depicting some aspect of wetlands in southern California. Posters may be informational, an invitation, or a persuasive piece to encourage others to protect wetlands resources.

All individual and family entrants are eligible to win one of five, \$100 “Museum Bucks” award certificates to use anyway they like in the Museum—for admission, program registration fees, membership, or in the Museum Store.

In addition, all participants will receive a framed Award of Merit certificate and a ribbon. Everyone entering the competition is invited to attend, free of charge, the awards ceremony at the museum on **Saturday, November 19 at 2:00 pm**, and enjoy the Wildlife Art Festival that day. *Entries are due by 6:00 Tuesday, November 8, 2011.*

Eligible posters will be displayed in the Museum through December!

Getting Started

Posters are often used to **give information**, to **invite** viewers to participate in an event, or to **persuade** the reader to take action. Approach the design process as a way to accomplish **one** of these goals.

Decide what your poster will do before you start designing. For example:

- **Informational poster** –inform the viewer about one or more southern California wetlands and their conservation status.
- **Invitation to participate in an event poster** –such as preparing for a habitat clean up day, attending a wetlands festival event, or purchasing a hunting or fishing license at the beginning of hunting and fishing season.
- **Persuasion to join or participate in a cause poster** –to convince the viewer to join a movement or change a behavior, such as learning to identify birds, visiting and learning more about wetlands, or joining an organization that supports wetlands conservation.

Additional information and contest details are available on the Museum’s website:

www.sbcounty.gov/museum/

Or contact Curator of Education, Jolene Redvale, at jredvale@sbum.sbcounty.gov.

We thank the San Bernardino County Fish and Game Commission for making this program possible as part of our annual Wildlife Art Festival.

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