

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

Introduction and Program Description – Class Scrapbook

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**, students research and create narratives and artworks depicting animals and plants that live in wetlands in southern California. Each student's art and written work is compiled in a class scrapbook. Competition criteria reflect State of California Content Standards, including science, geography, reading and writing skills.

Competition categories: kindergarten; grades 1-2; grades 3-4; and grades 5-6. Public and private schools, home schools, and special education classes are encouraged to participate.

Classroom entries are due at the Museum by 6:00 pm Tuesday November 8, 2011.

All participating classes will receive a framed Award of Merit certificate and a ribbon. Teachers, students and their families are invited as our guests to the Awards Ceremony on Saturday, November 19, 2011 at 2:00 pm. Entries will be exhibited at the Museum through Sunday, November 27.

Entrants are eligible to win these prizes:

Grand Prize – all categories eligible:

Free bus transportation and admission for a field trip to the San Bernardino County Museum for the class (not to exceed \$750 total)

Second Grand Prize – all categories eligible:

Free Museum on the Road outreach program (\$150 value)

Prizes for EACH COMPETITION CATEGORY (K, 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6 categories):

- 1st place** Free class Loan Program membership (\$100 value), and a set of materials for studying wetlands
- 2nd place** \$50 gift certificate to the Museum Gift Shop and a set of materials for studying wetlands
- 3rd place** \$25 gift certificate to the Museum Gift Shop and a set of materials for studying wetlands

Additional information and contest details are available on the Museum's website,

<http://www.sbcounty.gov/museum/>

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

We wish you and your students the best in this endeavor, and hope your students find opportunities to enjoy the wetlands habitats their neighborhoods, community parks, and open space areas.

****Family and Individual Poster Competition: get your students' families involved** too. Individuals and families design posters to promote wetlands conservation. Find information for the **Individual and Family Poster Competition on the Museum's website.** 083011**