

## NEWS FROM THE DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

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### **Youth Drawing Contest Announced for “Thank You Delaware Bay” Print Ad *Visit the Display at DNREC’s Building at the Delaware State Fair or Website to Enter; First Place Ads to be Published in Newspaper***

Young people can demonstrate their talents and creativity by designing a new “Thank You Delaware Bay” public service advertisement that highlights why they are thankful for the Delaware Bay. The contest challenges students ages 6 to 16 to draw or paint an original public service ad that demonstrates their appreciation for the beauty and amenities of the bay.

“The Delaware Bay provides us with food, jobs, history, recreational opportunities and precious natural resources,” said Jennifer Holmes, educator with the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve. “The contest is a wonderful opportunity for students to design an ad that will help increase awareness of the bay’s importance in our region.”

Entries must be original artwork that is drawn or painted on the frame template available at the Thank You Delaware Bay exhibit located in DNREC’s building at the Delaware State Fair, July 18-26, each day from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. and on July 17 from 5-8 p.m., or posted on the website, [www.thankyoudelawarebay.org](http://www.thankyoudelawarebay.org).

Only artwork created with a pencil, crayon, marker or paintbrush will be accepted. Computer generated art or modifications to the frame template will not be accepted. All entries must be received by August 4 and include an entry form. Ads can be submitted at the fair exhibit or mailed to Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve, 818 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901.

Three winners will be selected from each age group: 6-9 years, 9-12 years and 13-16 years. The first place ad for each group will be published in a local newspaper and posted on the Thank You Delaware Bay website. In addition first prize winners will receive a 1<sup>st</sup> place certificate, a horseshoe crab pin and a gift certificate. Second place ads will be posted on the website and young artists will be awarded a horseshoe crab pin and 2<sup>nd</sup> place certificate. Third prize winners will have their ads posted on the website and receive a 3<sup>rd</sup> place certificate.

For more information, visit [www.thankyoudelawarebay.org](http://www.thankyoudelawarebay.org) or call 302-739-3436.

Thank You Delaware Bay is a partnership among DNREC’s Delaware Coastal Programs, The Nature Conservancy, and the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary that was organized to educate and promote Delaware Bay stewardship. The Thank You Delaware Bay campaign slogan, *The Delaware Bay Takes Care of Us. Let’s Return the Favor*, encourages actions to help protect the bay’s health and resources. The program is made possible, in part, through funding from the State of Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, through a grant from the Delaware Coastal Programs with funding from the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.