Calling all Artists and Climate Justice Activists!

We need YOUR photographs, drawings, videos, poems, digital art and memes (yes, we mean it, memes), to help make Montgomery County’s climate change plan more engaging and accessible.

A key way for the county to educate our community on climate change is through art. Harness your creativity to help promote and Montgomery County’s Climate Action Plan!

The Climate Change Plan Art Contest seeks to use art to educate the public about the connection between our daily lives, our communities, and a changing climate. The art submitted by the winning entrants may be featured on the County’s climate change plan and other County materials.

Due to the heightened responsibility of each citizen required by the Plan, it is vital for us to emotionally engage the public and to help them internalize an environmental ethic. Your art has the power to conjure feelings in a way that quantitative data cannot. Any form of art can be the qualitative assessment of feelings around our future: the anxiety and urgency climate change should provoke.

A key aspect of the county’s climate plan is environmental justice, with the goal of giving voice to communities who historically have not been given a seat at the table. We encourage submissions that capture the inequalities exacerbated by climate change as well as those that highlight the voices of the historically marginalized. Additionally, we encourage submissions in ALL languages in order to reflect the diversity of experience in our community.

To enter the contest, please read the OFFICIAL RULES below and send your entry to climate@montgomerycountymd.gov or post on Instagram with the hashtag #MCClimateAction.

Deadline for the contest is February 28, 2021. Early submissions encouraged. Only original artwork will be accepted.
OFFICIAL RULES

Introduction

These are the official rules (“Official Rules”) of the Climate Change Art Contest (“Contest”) organized by Montgomery County Government (“MCG”). Information on how to enter and about the prizes is part of these Official Rules. To the extent of any inconsistency, these Official Rules prevail.

The purpose of the contest is to create original art (drawings, photos, poems, videos) for inclusion in the County’s climate change plan. The winning entries may be used online, in print, on other material.

Definitions

• “Entry” means an artistic submission created by the Entrant for this Contest.
• “Entrant” means the individual or team that offers the Entry under the terms of this Contest.

Eligibility

1. The Contest is open to Montgomery County, Maryland, residents.
2. Residents of all ages are welcome to participate.
3. Residents may submit individual entries or team entries (group collaboration is welcome as long as social distancing protocols are in place).

How to Enter

4. Entries must be submitted by email to climate@montgomerycountymd.gov or posted on Instagram with the hashtag #MCClimateAction.
5. The email must include the name, age, postal address, phone number and email address of the Entrant.
6. No more than 3 Entries may be submitted by any one Entrant.
7. Entries must conform to the Submission Guidelines set out below. Entries which fail to do so will be rejected.
8. The deadline for Entries is 11:59pm on February 28, 2021 (Eastern standard time). Early submissions are encouraged.
9. There is no fee to enter the Contest.
10. You may choose to enter your piece into any one of the following categories
   a. 1) Engage! What is the connection between community and climate?
   b. 2) Sound the Climate Alarm! Capture the emergency of climate change
   c. 3) Adaption How can our community adapt to a rapidly changing world?
   d. 4) Environmental/Climate Justice Capture who will be disproportionately impacted by climate change’s effects
   e. 5) “future vision of Montgomery County,” what the County would look like in 2035 if we meet our GHG goals in an equitable way. We especially encourage submissions of digital art to create future landscapes, concept art, and your utopias.
**Submission Guidelines**

1. **Poems** (in any language) must be submitted as a Word file or in the body of an email.

2. **Photos, drawings, and memes** must be submitted as jpeg or pdf files. The minimum resolution requirement is 300dpi.

3. **Videos** must be no more than one minute in length. Due to email size restrictions, please include a link to the video instead of attaching the video file.

For further questions regarding submissions, email climate@montgomerycountymd.gov.

**Judging and Selection of Winners**

- The winning entries of each of the categories will be selected by judges appointed for the purpose. Their decision will be final.
- MCG reserves the right not to select winners if, in its sole discretion, no suitable entries are received.

**Prizes**

Subject to the requirements outlined above, the winning entries may be included in the County’s climate change plan and may be used online, in print, on other material.

Each winning entry will receive a $100 check.

**Intellectual Property Disclaimer**

11. All submitted work must be original and not based on any pre-existing design.
12. All Entries will become the sole property of MCG.
13. MCG may publicly display the winning entries online, in print, on other material.
14. Submitting an entry constitutes permission for MCG to make public and otherwise use the winner’s name for publicity purposes.

**Acceptance**

Participation constitutes the Entrant’s full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of these Official Rules. By participating in the Contest, the Entrant is representing and warranting that he/she/they has read and understood, and agrees to be bound by, these rules. Including the guides and rules referred to herein, these Official Rules constitute the entire agreement between the Entrant and MCG in relation to the Contest. They govern the Entrant’s participation and supersede any prior or other agreements between the Entrant, MCG and relating to the Contest.