

# 2025/2026 RIVER OF WORDS

## ART & POETRY CONTEST

A free youth art and poetry competition with a watershed-focused approach that combines poetry and art to educate children about the natural world and cultural histories of the places they live.

Over 25 years of educating youth about their watersheds through poetry and art

### CONTEST

Your job is to depict what a watershed is to you through any form of art or poetry! We are excited to see how you express the environment around you.






### WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is a system that separates waters flowing to different rivers, basins, or seas. It can even be a small creek in your backyard! For example, the Mississippi River is an enormous watershed.



### HOW TO ENTER

All entries must be submitted through the online submission portal. The deadline to submit all art and poetry for the 2025/2026 contest is January 31, 2026. Please visit our website homepage to learn more about entering!

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### TIP & TRICKS

- When exploring your environment, what do you see? Hear? Feel? Smell? Use your senses!
- Have fun with form, with images, with textures. Surprise yourself and try something new!
- Your poem or artwork can reflect the experiences of a culture or natural world surrounding you.