

# “My Future, My Voice”

## Earth Day Fort Collins 2024 Youth Writing Contest for Students in Northern Colorado



*What do you want your future to look like?*

*What actions can you take or inspire others to take to address the climate crisis so you can have the future you want for yourself and the Earth?*

*Calling all Northern Colorado youth writers and activists to share your voice and vision to inspire and raise awareness for climate action! Inspired by Earthday.org's My Future My Voice Youth Ambassador program, we are asking that you express your visions and desires for the future you want to see through your writing.*

*We believe that creative expression raises awareness and can help us dream the world we want, and helps us remember our interconnection to each other and all life.*

*We believe that beauty, creativity, interaction, and collaboration are necessary to create a world where we all not only survive but thrive and that your voices are crucial to help motivate and inspire the action we need.*

*Share your voice and vision and submit your works to the Earth Day Fort Collins 2024 Art and Writing Contest!*

**You are invited to submit stories, essays, or poems via email file.**

Only one piece per category (story/essay/poem, etc.), but can submit a work in each category.

*In order to allow students the most room for creative expression, there are no set word or page limits*

### Rules:

1. All students must be between the ages of 11 – 18.
2. All students from grade 6 through 12 are eligible to participate, regardless of which school they attend, or if they are homeschooled or not currently enrolled.
3. **Entries due by noon on Friday, April 12th**
4. Email submissions to: [kellie@sustainablelivingassociation.org](mailto:kellie@sustainablelivingassociation.org)
5. The body of the email should include the following information:
  - a. Student's Name
  - b. Title and Category of Each Work Submitted
  - c. Grade Level
  - d. School if applicable
  - e. Phone Number

*\*For the sake of anonymity during judging, the student's name should NOT appear within the document.*

### Selection of Winners:

All submissions will be read by a panel of judges composed of volunteers, staff, sponsors, and community members. One 1st Place winner will be selected from each of the three categories: poetry, short stories, and personal essays. Additionally, two runners-up will be chosen for each category.

### Prizes:

Winners and runners-up will all be invited to present their work during the Earth Day Fort Collins celebration, April 20 at Civic Center Park.

### Additionally, 1st Place winners will receive:

1. A prize basket
2. The opportunity to read their work on the Main Stage during Earth Day Fort Collins
3. The opportunity to have their work printed on our website

### Runners-up will receive:

1. Prizes
2. The opportunity to have their work (or an excerpt) printed on our website