



Submission Guidelines

What do you want the future to look like?

What actions can you take or inspire others 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 writing and art.

We believe that beauty, creativity, interaction, and collaboration are necessary to create a world where we 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, submit your works to the Earth Day Fort Collins 2026 Writing and Art Contest!

You are invited to submit stories, essays, poems, songs or artwork via email.

Only one piece per category but you 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. Students 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 Thursday, April 3rd
4. Email submissions to: 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 four categories: poetry, short stories, songs, personal essays and art. Additionally, one runner-up will be chosen for each category.

1st Place winners will receive:

1. A prize basket
2. The opportunity to have their work displayed on our website
3. The opportunity to read their work on the Main Stage during Earth Day Fort Collins, April 18th at Odell Brewing
4. An official Earth Day t-shirt

Runners-up will receive:

1. The opportunity to have their work displayed on our website
2. An official Earth Day t-shirt