

# Texas State-Fish Art Contest Rules and Regulations



**Mail Texas entries only to:**  
Texas State-Fish Art Contest  
Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center  
5550 F.M. 2495  
Athens, TX 75752

**DEADLINE:** Entries must be postmarked by **MARCH 31 annually**. Each entry must include:

- A completed entry form. Entry forms must be completed, signed, and glued to the back of the original artwork.
- Original artwork of participant's drawing of a state fish
- 1-page essay about participant's fish entry, its habitat, or efforts to conserve it

## Rules & Regulations

- The Texas State-Fish Art Contest is open to all Texas children in grades 4 through 12.
- Only one entry per child per year.
- The artwork must depict any official or recognized state fish. The fish **must** be depicted in its natural habitat. Information about each state fish is available on the Internet at <http://www.statefishart.com>.
- All artwork must be the contestant's original, hand-done creation. **Photographs and computer-generated artwork will not be accepted.**
- All artwork must be horizontal, 8.5" x 11" without a mat, frame, cover sheet, or border. Art techniques may include scratch-board, pointillism, chalk, charcoal, dry brush, watercolor, crosshatch, lead, collage, linoleum printing, or crayon. (Please note: if contestants use chalk or lead they should seal it with an adhesive.)
- No lettering, signatures, or initials may appear on the front of the artwork.
- Completed entries must include an essay on theme paper not to exceed one page in length. Essays should be related specifically to the characteristics of the fish, its state, habitat, behavior, or efforts to conserve it. The composition must include the student's name and address.

## Prizes

- All contestants will receive a certificate of participation.
- Winners will be announced in the spring.
- Three winners from each state will be selected, one winner per grade group (4-6<sup>th</sup>, 7-9<sup>th</sup>, 10-12<sup>th</sup>), for a total of 150 winners nationwide.
- Participants will compete within their own state and grade category regardless of species submitted.
- All winning designs will be displayed at the Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Expo in the summer following the contest deadline.
- All winning designs will be displayed online at <http://www.statefishart.com>.

## ***The Art of Conservation Stamp Award***

Each year **Wildlife Forever** will select one design from all the entries for an attractive fish stamp.

**Criteria for selection of the award** follow:

- All rules, regulations and deadlines of the State-Fish Art Contest apply.
- The state fish should be the dominant feature of the design, and the habitat must be appropriate for the species and state.
- Designs may include fishing-related items.
- Keep the design simple. The image will be reduced to create a stamp.
- Color will be given priority over black and white.
- **Do not** make the design look like a postage stamp. No numbers or design elements are allowed.

### **Additional Information**

- The State-Fish Art Contest is not open to the immediate relatives of Wildlife Forever or sponsor employees. Immediate relatives are those living in the same household.
- It is the contestant's responsibility to inform Wildlife Forever of any change of address for returns.
- Contestants may enter any official or recognized state fish in the United States.

### **Wildlife Forever:**

- Has the right to use the name and photo of any State-Fish Art contestant and the art image without compensation.
- Can retain ownership of all artwork entered in the contest. In order to promote the Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest, products may be produced from winning artwork images. Any monies realized from the sale or licensing of the artwork will be used to support the contest, wildlife conservation, and education initiatives. The winning artists must provide autographs upon request without charge to Wildlife Forever.
- Retains all winning entries unless returned.
- Will return all artwork upon request after August 31 of the contest year, if the student provides a self-addressed, stamped 10x13-inch envelope.
- Will not insure entries it receives or be responsible for loss or damage of the entries.