



VERMONT URBAN &
COMMUNITY FORESTRY
PROGRAM

Growing Works of Art Contest

A Contest for Vermont Students
Grades K-8



ABOUT

Arbor Day is a day to plant, nurture and appreciate trees and the difference they make in our lives. To help us spread the word about Arbor Day, we are inviting students (Grades K-8) to celebrate by creating tree art and companion stories.

CONTEST PRIZES

One winner will be selected from each age group, grades K-8. Each winner will receive:

- A Vermont State Parks season punch pass (\$30 value).
- Be featured on WCAX's "Across the Fence" television show!
- Artwork and stories featured online.



THEME: Tree Tales from A to Z

Students must choose a letter of the alphabet and identify a tree - themed fact or story. Examples include:

- **Benefit of trees:** "B" for beauty, "O" for oxygen; "S" for shade;
- **Type of tree:** "A" for apple, "M" for maple; "B" for birch;
- **Part of a tree:** "B" for bud, "L" for leaf; "R" for root;
- Any other **tree-themed idea!**



HOW TO ENTER

- Review submission guidelines.
- Choose letter and tree-themed word.
- Create artwork and companion short story or written description of chosen tree-themed word.
- **Submission deadline: March 14, 2025**

Learn more at vtcommunityforestry.org/art

Submission Guidelines

- Entries must be received by **March 14, 2025**.
- Students currently enrolled in grades K-8 in Vermont are eligible to enter. One winner will be selected from each grade.
- Only one entry per student allowed.
- Entries must include the artwork and the written portion.
- A completed entry form must accompany the submission.
- Art must be original and no larger than 11 x 17 inches.
- Art work can be created in pen, pencil, crayon, pastels, paint, cloth, collage, photography or computer art.
- The chosen letter/word should be included on the entry form. It does NOT need to be included in the artwork.
- Teachers and club or organizational leaders may submit entries in groups as long as each individual submission has the completed entry form.
- Entries can be submitted electronically (scan or link to folder).
- Any individual is allowed to win only one time.
- **Entries become the property of the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program and will not be returned.**

Judging Criteria

- Entries will be judged on 50% creativity and originality, and 50% successful communication about their tree-themed word and companion story or written description (suggested 1-3 paragraphs in length).
- Written portion: Students must use selected tree-themed word to either further describe how that word is connected to trees or by using it in a story about their connection to trees.
 - Example: If “Maple” is the selected word, students can write about the process of maple syrup production, a story about how their family creates maple syrup, or why maple is their favorite tree species.
 - Example: If “Bud” is the selected word, students can write about the bud’s part in the tree life cycle, or share a story of how they watch tree buds burst in spring.

HOW TO ENTER

Entries can be submitted by mail or email. Entries must be received by March 14, 2025. Send completed entry form, written component, and artwork to:

Gwen Kozlowski
140 Kennedy Drive; Suite 201
South Burlington, VT 05403

Email: vtcommunityforestry@gmail.com

DEADLINE: MARCH 14, 2025