



St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge 2025 Pollinator Art Contest



Subject Matter

Art work should highlight one or more pollinator species (i.e. hummingbirds, bats, bees, beetles, butterflies, and flies that carry pollen from one plant to another) found in Florida.

Judging

The art will be judged on the basis of

- Concept: How well the work relates to the pollinator theme.
- Composition: How well the elements of line and form work together.
- Color: How color enhances the art work.
- Expression: How imaginatively the work conveys an idea or emotion.
- Originality: New portrayal of subject.
- Accuracy: Obvious artist did research on pollinators.

Winners will be chosen in four categories:

- K-Grade 2
- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

First, second, and third place winners will be selected from each category this year. There will also be a Best of Show chosen. Contest entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges, including artists and conservationists. **The decision of the judges is final.** Contest winners will be notified prior to the Monarch Butterfly Festival, which will take place Oct. 25, 2025. Winning artwork and other artwork will be displayed at the **Monarch Festival** in **Nature's Classroom** as space allows.

Entry Requirements

- **The physical size of submitted art work must be on media 8.5" x 11" and less than 1/4" thick. Any other size and anything thicker will not be judged or displayed.**
- Image must be a portrayal of one or more of Florida's pollinator species. Artistic liberties may be taken as long as the depiction is a recognizable pollinator species.
- Entries should **not** be matted, mounted, laminated, framed or folded.
- A loose detachable cover sheet may be laid over the art face to protect it during shipping
- The entry may be multi-color, black and white, or a single color; it may be rendered in pen, ink, paint, crayon, marker, or pencil.

- ***Please do not use chalk, pastels, or glitter. These smear or damage other contestant's artwork. Artwork done in chalk or pastels, or glittered will not be judged.***
- No photography or computer-generated art will be accepted. Computers or other mechanical devices may not be used in creating artwork.
- Students are encouraged to print their titles on the front of their pictures. However, they should ***NOT write their names anywhere on the front of the picture.*** Such markings will result in disqualification.
- ***Design entries must be entrant's original, hand-drawn creation and may not be traced or copied from published photographs or other artists' works. Entries as such will be disqualified.***
- One entry per student is accepted.
- Completed entry form must be affixed to the back of the artwork.
- ***Conservation Message about the importance of conserving pollinator species must be included with art entry. See entry form. Don't attach to artwork, but make sure to include all artist information on the message.***
- **Entries must be received by October 10, 2025.**
- Winners will be notified prior to Oct. 23, 2025.
- Winning entries will be posted on the refuge website at (www.fws.gov/saintmarks), along with the artist's name.

Submission

Entries may be delivered in person or sent to: St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

Physical Address:

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge
ATTN: Lori Nicholson
1255 Lighthouse Road
St. Marks, FL 32355

Mailing Address:

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge
ATTN: Lori Nicholson
P.O. Box 68
St. Marks, FL 32355

Direct questions to Lori Nicholson at 850-251-8525 or lori_nicholson@fws.gov

Ownership

Winning artwork will be displayed for one month after the festival, however, general submissions may be picked up by participants at the Monarch Festival by contacting docent in Nature's Classroom. Artwork will not be returned by mail. ***All artwork not picked up by Nov. 30th becomes property of St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge.*** Though the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and St. Marks NWR will attempt to treat all submitted work with the utmost care, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and St. Marks NWR is not responsible for any damage or loss that may occur during the sending of entries through the mail. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will have permission to use art work for educational purposes.