

From the Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Essay Contest!

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The Ocean Awareness Essay Contest is a great way to explore a career as a science writer—and possibly win thousands of dollars doing it! The goal of the ***From the Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Essay Contest*** is to challenge high school students to think critically about real challenges facing the ocean. Winning essays can earn students (and their school) up to \$2,500 in prize money. Contest information can be found at www.fromthebowseat.org/.



Submissions will be accepted September 15, 2012 – June 15, 2013

Although this contest may seem to be all about science, Becca Carifio, one of last year’s winners, has useful advice for this year’s contestants:

1. *Enter!* You can’t win if you don’t try.
2. *Write about something that you feel passionate about.* Even though there are proposed essay questions, students can ask contest organizers for permission to write about another topic.
3. *Make it personal.* Include your own experiences, opinions, or observations.
4. *Be entertaining.* After all, judges will be reading a lot of essays.
5. *Proofread and edit.* You can never edit too many times!

Have you ever considered a career as a “science interpreter?” Now, more than ever, there is a need for scientifically-literate communicators to share their knowledge in a way that is engaging and meaningful to the general public. Their work involves interviewing scientists, reading scientific journals, and experiencing the process of doing science themselves. Then they must go a step further to translate that into scientifically-accurate stories for kids, as well as for decision makers, such as natural resources managers, elected officials, and voters.

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