

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Lake Hopatcong Foundation Invites Students to "Dive In and Get Creative" with Art Contest

Landing, N.J. (March 28, 2023) - The Lake Hopatcong Foundation is excited to announce its "Dive In and Get Creative" student art contest, open to all students in Grades 1-12. The theme of the contest is "All Things Lake Hopatcong", which can include favorite lake experiences, natural beauty, wildlife, history/culture, or actions that help keep the lake clean and healthy.

"We are thrilled to offer this opportunity for young artists to express their love for New Jersey's largest lake and showcase their talents," said art contest committee member Linda Karpiak. "We hope to inspire and encourage our youth to appreciate the beauty of Lake Hopatcong and become stewards of the lake."

Entries can be in the form of drawings, paintings, pastels, printmaking, and computer-aided designs. The artwork will be judged on originality, creativity, and execution.

"We can't wait to see the incredible artwork that students will submit," said art contest committee member Sheri Salamanca. "We encourage students to think outside the box and use their unique perspective to bring the beauty of Lake Hopatcong to life."

There will be one first place winner and one second place winner per group (Grades 1-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12). First place winners will receive a \$100 cash prize, while second place winners will receive a \$25 gift card to Michaels arts and crafts store. Prizes are sponsored by local businesses like the <a href="Lee Factory">Lee Factory</a> and <a href="Station Hardware">Station Hardware</a>, both in Landing, NJ. Businesses interested in sponsoring and presenting a prize can call Caitlin at 973-663-2500 or email <a href="caitlin@lakehopatcongfoundation.org">caitlin@lakehopatcongfoundation.org</a>

Students who are interested in participating can learn more and download the entry form from <a href="lakehopatcongfoundation.org/artcontest">lakehopatcongfoundation.org/artcontest</a>. Entries must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2023.

Winners will be recognized at the Lake Hopatcong Foundation Annual Meeting on the evening of June 8, 2023. All submitted artwork will be exhibited on June 8 and will remain on display at the Lake Hopatcong Foundation Environmental & Cultural Center through the end of June.

The Lake Hopatcong Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to protecting the lake environment and enhancing the lake experience by bringing together public and private resources to encourage a culture of sustainability and stewardship on and around New Jersey's largest lake, for this and future generations. To learn more, visit <u>lakehopatcongfoundation.org</u>.

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