

# IGES Student Contests

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) offers science-themed contests for students in grades 2–4, 5–8 and 9–12



"Penguins That March," by 2006 first-place winner Ha-young Kim.

## ART CONTEST Grades 2–4

At a young age, art can serve as a creative and fun gateway to learning about science. With this in mind, IGES sponsors the annual IGES Art Contest for Children in Grades 2–4. Each year's contest has a different theme and supports national science education standards.

Entries are judged by a panel of artists, scientists and IGES staff members, and the winning artist receives a \$250

savings bond and his or her artwork is displayed on the IGES holiday card.

Recent themes include: "The Ocean: From Top to Bottom!" (2007), "Going to Extremes: Polar Exploration" (2006), "Connect 4: Air, Land, Water and Life" (2005), and "Picture Me! What Kind of Earth Scientist Would I Be?" (2004). More than 3,000 kids from more than 30 states and the District of Columbia have participated in the contest since it began in 1996.

<http://www.strategies.org/ArtContest>

## EARTH DAY PHOTO CONTEST Grades 5–8

Our planet is constantly changing. Look closely and you'll see changes on the land, in the water and in the air. Of all the seasons, changes are especially noticeable during spring. As the day grows longer, temperatures increase and flowers bloom. Birds migrate and forests come alive with plants and wildlife. And thunderstorms and tornadoes are spawned as warm and cold air converge.

In celebration of spring, IGES sponsors the annual IGES Earth Day Photo Contest for Grades 5–8.

The contest combines observations, science and technology, challenging students to take a photograph of something changing in their local environment. It could be a change occurring in their backyard, outside their school, in a local park, or off in the distance toward the horizon. Participants also research and write a scientific explanation that answers questions about the change taking place in the photograph.

Entries are judged by IGES staff, and top winners receive cash prizes and their photograph in a commemorative frame.

<http://www.strategies.org/EarthDayPhoto>



Photograph of Hawaii's "picturesque Makapu'u Beach... the result of hundreds of years of wave erosion and salt weathering," according to the essay of 2007 first-place winner Kristen Tanabe.

## SPONSOR A Student Contest!

Is your company or organization looking for a way to support science education? Contact IGES for sponsorship opportunities.

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## THACHER SCHOLARS AWARD Grades 9–12

Geospatial technologies have numerous uses in science research, ranging from climate prediction to archaeology. In an effort to engage the next generation of scientists, IGES sponsors the annual Thacher Scholars Award, given to secondary school students demonstrating the best use of geospatial tools or data to study Earth. Eligible tools and data include satellite remote sensing, aerial photography, geographic information systems (GIS), and the Global Positioning System (GPS). Entries can be submitted by individuals or teams.



Recipient, 2007 Thacher Scholars Award recipient.

The Thacher Scholars Award was founded in honor of former IGES board member Peter S. Thacher. An internationally recognized leader in promoting the use of satellite observations of the Earth, Thacher served as deputy director of the United Nations Environment Program, as an advisor to NASA and, at the time of his death in 1999, as president of the Earth Council Foundation–U.S.

Winners receive cash awards in the amount of \$2,000 for first place, \$1,000 for second place and \$500 for third place. For each winning student or team, a teacher or designated adult "coach" receives a \$200 gift card to Amazon.com.

<http://www.strategies.org/ThacherScholars>