

The 2026 Youth Honor Awards focusing on Multicultural & Nature Awareness

Traditions & Celebrations • Diversity & Tolerance • Dreams & Visions • International/Intercultural Experiences • Family & Society • Nature & Ecology • Youth Activism • Environment and Climate Issues • Peace & Justice.

Youth Honor Awards recognize creative and artistic works by young people that promote multicultural, global, and nature awareness. The winning entries will be featured on our website in August

A Few Ideas to Get You Thinking!

If You Want to Enter a Multicultural/Diversity Submission:

What does diversity mean to you? Your race or religion, culture, ethnicity or country you come from, the language your family speaks at home, your family's economic background, your abilities or disabilities, the color of your skin, sexual orientation... Do you belong to a privileged group? Were you adopted? Are you bi-cultural or biracial? Why/how to learn multiple languages? How has your culture or diversity challenged you or helped you in preparing for your future or made you who you are? What lessons did you learn in an extended trip to a country or region? How can our diversity help us become more sustainable, livable, beautiful, or appreciative? How to promote peace in a place? You can even submit a photo/art essay showing diversity and/or beauty of a culture or place, or a group of people...

If You Want to Enter a Nature/Ecology Submission:

Share an experience in nature, hiking or camping trip that brought you closer to nature. Think of activities that helped you learn about the beauty of nature and natural systems; biology/ecology of an area. What can we learn from weeds or trees? Send photos or art pieces (or an illustrated essay) that show the beauty and/or intricacy of nature, ecology of an area, etc. How do you help protect an ecosystem, a community, or a part of the planet?

★ Bilingual (Non-English writings with an English translation) are equally welcome!

★ You may choose to highlight the work of a youth organization or a group project you participated in. Using the entry guidelines (*below*), tell us how they work to promote peace, appreciate and/or preserve nature, enrich a community, its members and/or the lives of underprivileged people in your community.

Entry Guidelines:

Original writing (essays, interviews, poems, plays, short stories, etc.) and/or art (photos, paintings, cartoons, etc.) from youth (ages 7 to 18), should be typed or neatly handwritten. Please do not send AI-generated writings or artwork! Entries should be appropriate for a subset of 7 to 18 year-olds. Prose ≤ 1,000 words; poems ≤ 30 lines. Limit photos and artworks to a maximum of 8 pieces; poems and prose to a maximum of 5.

Entries must be postmarked/emailed by 5 May 2026. Please include:

- A cover letter telling about yourself and your submission, your age/grade, address and an e-mail for our response/notification if you are a winner.
- A parental permission email telling us that the work entered is your original work and that we have their permission to publish your entry, if selected for publication.
- \$6 Entry Fee. (To pay entry fee via PayPal, visit the website). Low-income entrants can enter for free. Every student who enters the awards can download a digital copy of the Skipping Stones issue featuring the Honor Awards from our website in late August/early September 2026. Winners will be notified!

Ten winners (and also some noteworthy entries) will be published on our website in the Autumn 2026. Winners will receive an Honor Certificate, Skipping Stones issues, and 5 multicultural and nature books.

Send your **2026 Youth Award entries to:** By email: editor@SkippingStones.org

By snail mail: Skipping Stones Magazine, 166 W. 12th Ave Eugene, Oregon 97401 USA