

PRESS RELEASE

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Save the Redwoods League Launches National Art Contest to Encourage Kids to Protect Redwoods

SAN FRANCISCO (September 7, 2012) – <u>Save the Redwoods League</u>, the only nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting redwood forests throughout their natural range, **today announced its third annual redwoods art contest for kids**. The League's <u>Find Me in the Redwoods art contest</u> is a simple way to encourage America's students to have fun, connect with nature and help protect one of our country's most iconic natural wonders.

Beginning September 10, K–12 students across the nation are invited to create a work of art that features them **playing, learning or exploring** <u>redwoods</u>. Their art will help Save the Redwoods League raise awareness of redwood forests. Students can draw, paint or sketch their way toward a chance to win <u>fabulous redwoods</u> prizes while learning about the tallest and some of the oldest and largest living things on Earth.

"Save the Redwoods League's **Find Me in the Redwoods** art contest uniquely combines art, science and civic participation, while encouraging students to protect redwood forestlands," said Jennifer Benito, outreach director for Save the Redwoods League, "This contest is a wonderful way to encourage children to have fun, be creative, connect with nature and help protect a natural wonder."

Contestants compete in the following three grade categories: K–3, 4–8 and 9–12. Winners will be announced on November 15 via email and on the League's website. Winning entries will also be showcased in League publications. All artwork will be mailed to Ken Salazar, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior. Salazar is in charge of protecting <u>America's great outdoors</u>. Teachers also win. Educators associated with the first-place winners will win fabulous redwood prizes. The hope is to inspire teachers to educate students about the wonders of the redwood forests.

All entries must be mailed or hand-delivered to Save the Redwoods League, 114 Sansome Street, 12th floor, San Francisco, California, 94104, Attn: Redwoods Art Contest by **October 19, 2012, 5 p.m. US Pacific Time.** No late submissions will be accepted. No fee is required to enter the contest. <u>Spanish and</u> <u>English</u> entry forms will be available online on Monday, September 10.

Prizes generously donated by <u>Balloons Above the Valley;</u> <u>Cavallo Point, The Lodge at the Golden Gate;</u> <u>FolkManis Puppets;</u> <u>Mount Hermon Redwood Canopy Tours;</u> <u>Redwoods & Rivers Rafting;</u> <u>REI;</u> <u>Sequoia</u> <u>Park Zoo;</u> and <u>Skunk Train</u>. Media sponsored by the <u>Bay Area News Group</u>

About Save the Redwoods League

Walk through a redwood forest—home of the tallest, largest, and some of the oldest living beings on Earth—and you can't help but feel an overwhelming sense of awe and peace among these magnificent giants. Since 1918, Save the Redwoods League has led the effort to protect the coast redwoods and giant sequoias for all to experience and enjoy. To date the League has completed the purchase of more than 190,000 acres of redwood forest and associated land. For more information, please visit SaveTheRedwoods.org, or to receive monthly email updates, sign up at SaveTheRedwoods.org/signup.

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