

## ***Call for Student Artists!***

# **Florida Wildlife Hospital Announces Student Art Contest to Commemorate 50 Year Anniversary**

## **Students in Grades 5-12 Invited to Enter Artwork Celebrating Mission to Keep Florida Wild**



MELBOURNE, Fla., March 6, 2023 – Florida Wildlife Hospital (FWH), located in Palm Shores (Brevard County) is seeking student artists, grades 5-12, to participate in an art contest commemorating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and its mission to “keep Florida wildlife wild.”

The winning art may be used as a T-shirt design, as well as for posters, greeting cards and other promotional/marketing items. The winner also will receive a gift basket of FWH merchandise and a private tour of the hospital for up to four guests. Additional winners may be selected depending on the number of entries.

### Contest rules and restrictions:

- Art must measure at least 6x8 inches, not to exceed 12x16 inches. Art may be created in portrait or landscape orientation; however, preference for the T-shirt design may be given to submissions in portrait orientation.
- Students may use any 2D medium, whether digital/graphic design, paint, marker, pencils, pastels, etc. High-resolution digital submissions are preferred but art may be submitted in hard copy format as well (see below for address and hours of operation).
- The hospital serves wild native Florida species of birds and animals only. Participating artists should review the hospital website and/or conduct research to ensure that any animals shown in their art are representative of the patients served and/or its ambassador animals. Visit [floridawildlifelifehospital.org](http://floridawildlifelifehospital.org).
- Art will not be returned; please photograph or scan any art you wish to retain prior to submission. FWH retains rights to all artwork.
- All participants must be willing to be featured on social media and in local press, to include full name, photo, city of residence and school.
- **Deadline for the contest is Friday, May 12, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.** Art may be submitted via email in high resolution format (300 dpi) to [events@floridawildlifelifehospital.org](mailto:events@floridawildlifelifehospital.org) or submitted in hard copy to FWH during operating hours (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). FWH is located at: 4560 N. U.S. Hwy. 1, Palm Shores, FL 32935

FWH is the only facility of its kind in Brevard County dedicated to rehabilitating and releasing local wildlife, including native birds, mammals, and reptiles including migratory birds.

On average, FWH sees more than 5,000 patients per year, 365 days a year and never charges for patient care. Staff and volunteers also field dozens of calls each day, advising callers how best to handle the particular situation. In the case of abandoned animals, the caller may think intervention is needed, when in fact, the mother will most likely return. The average length of stay per patient is approximately nine weeks, while the average cost of care per animal is approximately \$130 (although this can vary significantly depending on the species involved). Some animals are treated and released in a matter of weeks while some must stay for four to six months.

FWH Executive Director, Tracy Frampton, has served in that role since 2015 and has seen significant growth in the need for FWH's services in that time. "It's rewarding to know that we not only help the animals that may be sick, orphaned, or injured, but we also help people when they don't know where to turn," Frampton said. "We provide hope for Brevard residents and visitors who find a wild animal in need."

Community members can help FWH keep wildlife wild for the next 50 years and beyond by becoming a monthly supporter, making a donation of cash or supplies from the FWH wish list, leaving a legacy or estate gift, or adopting an ambassador animal. More information is available at [floridawildlifehospital.org](http://floridawildlifehospital.org).