International Compost Awareness Week
2017 Poster Contest

Deadline: November 14, 2016
Received by 12 midnight EST

Join in the fun and enter your poster!

Call for Entries:
The International Compost Awareness Week Committee of the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation (CCREF) invites YOU to get involved in ICAW 2017. We’re looking for anyone interested in participating in our 15th Annual Poster Contest. The winning poster will be used to promote International Compost Awareness Week, May 7 – 13, 2017.

POSTER THEME: Compost! Healthy Soil, Healthy Food

The contest runs from September 1 until November 14, 2016 and is open to anyone who wishes to share their artistic creativity to promote this year’s theme. The winning poster will serve as the 2017 International Compost Awareness Week visual display. We invite municipal, facility, or state agency representatives and industry professionals to join in the fun, along with students, youth groups, commercial composters, green industry businesses, gardeners, environmentalists, Everyone! Whether or not you have celebrated or been involved in ICAW in the past, we want you to participate this year.

It’s easy! Here’s the deal:
The Poster Contest winner will have his/her poster reproduced and distributed nationwide. It will be the official 2017 International Compost Awareness Week poster and featured on the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation’s website. The winning “poster artist” will have his/her name posted on the CCREF website and will be included on all print material and in any CCFEF press releases in association with our Annual ICAW Celebration.
The successful poster winner will receive a $500 prize. The three contest divisions are: grades 3-7, grades 8-12, and college - adult.

The contest begins on September 1, 2016 and continues until November 14, 2016. The finalists will be announced on the CCREF’s website with online voting available.

This is YOUR opportunity to display your creative talent and show your belief in composting and in the benefits of using compost!

Official Guidelines:

1. **Fee:** Free!

2. **Entries per person:** Entries are limited to ONE SUBMISSION PER ARTIST.

3. **Submitting your entry:** You must complete the entry form application and checklist, and submit your poster via email to: info@compostfoundation.org with “Poster Contest - Name of artist” in the subject line. A short paragraph on why you chose to participate in ICAW 2017 and explanation of your poster concept must be included with your email submission.

4. **Design:** The poster must include the words International Compost Awareness Week May 7 - 13, 2017 along with the poster theme – Compost! Healthy Soil, Healthy Food.

5. The concept and images of the poster should be based on “compost use” or address the “benefits of recycling organic residuals.” We will especially look for images that demonstrate that organic materials are a key component to healthy soils. It provides the micro-organisms needed to breakdown nutrient in the soils needed to feed the plants and hold the water needed for plant growth.

    When creating your poster, please remember that the winning poster will be reproduced and distributed nationally. The Composting Council Research and Education Foundation’s logo, along with sponsor logos, will be added to the poster below the winning image.

6. **Only ORIGINAL artwork will be considered. Please check your spelling; misspelling the theme will disqualify your poster!**

7. **Posters that include personal or corporate information or product endorsements will be disqualified.**

8. **Copyrighted Images/Subjects:** Copyrighted, trademarked products, packaging, brand names and advertisements may not be used within the poster. Original signed release forms are required for persons, whether
public or private citizens, who are photographed and appear on the poster. Release forms can be as simple as a paragraph stating “permission” from “subjects” with a printed list of names of the individuals appearing and signed by the individuals. If the subject is under 18 the release form must be signed by a parent or guardian. This rule will be strictly enforced.

9. **Electronic Resolution and Format:** Artwork is to be submitted in electronic format with a resolution of 300 dpi and in jpg format. (Note: *Poster Winner* will be requested to resubmit poster at higher resolution for reproduction purposes.) Poster should measure no larger than 12” wide X 17” high and be vertical (portrait) in orientation.

10. **Judging and winner selection:** All entries will be reviewed by the judges and the best three identified in each division. The divisions are
   - Grades 3 to 7
   - Grades 8 to 12
   - College students and adults

The competition will be judged on the following criteria (40 points maximum):

- **Marketability of poster to multiple audiences** -- 10 points.
- **Creative and original artwork and idea** -- 10 points.
- **Attractiveness in terms of design and neatness of layout** -- 10 points.
- **Overall Impact, all graphics are related to the topic and make it easier to understand the poster theme** -- 10 points.

The three top-rated posters in each division will be put to an online USCC member vote; the overall winner will receive a $500 prize.

11. **Final poster:** The Composting Council Research and Education Foundation’s ICAW Committee reserves the right to alter the final poster design or to reject all submissions for the final poster design. All submissions become the property of the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation and may be used for commercial purposes. No entries will be returned.

12. **Deadline:** November 14, 2016, 12 midnight EST
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Compost! Healthy Soil, Healthy Food

ICAW Poster Contest Application
Deadline: November 14, 2016
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Adult Submission:
Individual Name: _________________________________________________
College / Company / Organization Name:
________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address: ___________________________________________________________________
Title: ___________________________________________
Phone: ( ) _____________________ Email: _______________________

Student Submission:
Student Name: ___________________________________________________
Grade: ____________ School / Organization: ___________________________
Mailing Address: ___________________________________________________________________
Teacher Name or contact on behalf of student: ___________________________
Relationship to student (if not teacher): ________________________________
Phone: _____________________ Email: __________________________
Best time to contact: _______________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Name: ____________________________________________
Phone __________________________  Email: __________________________
Best time to contact: _______________________________________________

• Included in your email - please describe the message in your poster and why you chose to participate in ICAW 2017 (please limit your description to 150 words.)

• I hereby certify that I am submitting original work and not a copy of published photographs, magazines, book illustrations, or other materials protected by copyright laws. I understand that the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation will keep my submission. I grant exclusive right to the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation and its designees to utilize my artwork for promotional purposes and to display my art. I agree that my artwork and/or composition may be used, altered, or published as they see fit without additional compensation to me.

Signature of Participant:
__________________________________________ Date: _______________

Signature of Parent, Guardian or Teacher if Student is under 18 years of age as of November 14, 2016:
__________________________________________ Date: _______________

ICAW Poster Requirement Checklist

Before you email your poster, be sure to check that all requirements have been met:

_____ Size is no more than 12” wide X 17” high
_____ Resolution is 300 dpi in jpg format
_____ Poster contains the theme title, “Compost! Healthy Soil, Healthy Food
_____ Poster contains the words “International Compost Awareness Week,
May 7 - 13, 2017”

Note: Please submit your poster to: info@compostfoundation.org with “Poster Contest - Name of artist” noted in the subject line. For any questions, please contact Beth Simone, Development Officer, 301-897-2715 or bethsimone@compostfoundation.org