**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

***The Water We Want*: from Heritage to Future**

**Youth Prize Contest – 1st edition**

The Youth Prize Contest *The Water We Want* is aimed to explore our inherited and multifaceted water heritage from the perspective of young people.

With this contest, running from October 15th 2019 to March 15th 2020, the Global Network of Water Museums (WAMU-NET) wishes to link together the educational activities carried out by all its members, engaging actively young visitors as pro-active storytellers and narrators of our liquid future.

How can we inspire a new water paradigm, behaviors and attitudes to be more respectful of the environment and the scarce water resources we depend upon?

This contest calls to action young museum audiences worldwide, inviting them to explore creatively the crucial importance of our water heritage in connection with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – that is, what can we learn from our watery past to look after our liquid future.

**Topics**

The topic selected for the 1st Youth Contest, in connection with the World Water Day theme for 2020, is “**Water and Climate Change**”. It is suggested to elaborate this topic also in conjunction with **your inherited** **water heritage**, both natural and/or cultural, tangible and/or intangible and, if possible, with one or more **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs).

What stories can children and youth convey worldwide about their inherited water heritage? How would they illustrate the broad challenges of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs implementation? What tiny daily revolutionary gesture could contribute to water protection and improved sustainable water management? How can we modify the “negative” narratives on climate change into pro-positive and do-able solutions to face the global water crises?

**Participants**

The contest is addressed to schools, learning institutions (both formal and informal) and civil society organizations worldwide, and is limited to two age categories: students **6-12 year-old (primary education)** and **13-18 year-old (secondary education)**. With the aid of their responsible educator(s), students are encouraged to submit their works (a drawing, a photograph or a short video) to any water museum / institution affiliated to the Global Network. A list of all WAMU-NET members is available on the website [www.watermuseums.net](http://www.watermuseums.net) (under the menu “Network”).

**Submissions**

Only entries of the following types are admitted into the competition:

1. **Photos**
2. **Drawings**
3. **Videos** (with duration not exceeding 1 minute)

By **15th March 2020**, submissions must be emailed or sent by post to the local water museum affiliated to WAMU-NET, including: (1) the **Registration Form**, (2) the **Consent Form** (both available at watermuseums.net) and (3) their **work**. Each entry has to be presented with **a concise title and a short description (max. 200 words)**. It is mandatory to provide **English subtitles** for all works submitted, including writings and dialogues. Works without English translation will not be considered.

Only submissions sent to local water museums/institutions affiliated to WAMU-NET will be considered valid. Also single participants can take part to the competition, though only collective works sent by groups of students will be considered for the final cash prizes.

**Use of Social Media**

Only once the Registration Form has been accepted by the WAMU-NET affiliated water institution, the responsible teacher(s) can start posting the work on a **Social Media platform of their choice** (among **Facebook, Instagram or WeChat**), share their work using the official hashtag of the competition (**#waterwewant**) and tagging the WAMU-NET official profile together with the local affiliated water institution. At this initial stage, all entries are allowed to use in Social Media only the following description: “This works has been submitted to the youth contest *The Water We Want* curated by the Global Network of Water Museums”. The responsible educator(s) will be the only persons to access and post entries on Social Media on behalf of students.

**Selection of final entries for the digital on-line Exhibition**

**Each participating museum/institution affiliated to WAMU-NET will select maximum 6 final entries** among all the works received, considering the two participating age groups (6-13 and 14-18 year-old), and the three possible types of admitted entries (videos, drawings, photos).

All final entries will feature the **digital on-line Exhibition of the Global Network “The Water We Want”**, to be launched in April 2020. Each final entry will receive a prestigious Certificate of participation signed by the Director of UNESCO-IHP, the President of the Global Network and the President of the local water Museum/Institution. All works selected for the Exhibition can be used as future communication materials by the Global Network and, when appropriate, also by UNESCO.

**Winners and Prizes**

A Jury appointed by WAMU-NET will select the winners for each age group and for each type of works (drawings, photos, videos). The six final winners will be awarded symbolic cash prizes for a total fund of € 2.000.

**Contest Toolkit**

The Toolkit provided by the organizer includes the following forms, guidelines and useful materials:

1. Registration Form with details of the applicant school/institution and responsible educator
2. Consent Form on Media Use with a signed declaration
3. Policy Notice on Child-Protection and Safeguarding against abuses
4. Coordinated publicity materials, including the official logo of the contest, a photo bundle and a presentation to showcase the youth contest in schools and other institutions

Newsletters with inspiring articles and media will be shared throughout the campaign.

**Timeline**

15th October 2019: Public release of the Call for Proposals and Toolkit *The Water We Want*

15th October – 30th November: Parallel launching events of the youth contest *The Water We Want* will be organized by different water museums affiliated to WAMU-NET all over the world

30th November: Deadline for water museums interested in participating to the youth contest

15th March 2020: Deadline for submissions (to be sent only by each responsible educator via email or post to WAMU-NET affiliated water museums/institutions)

15th – 30th March 2020: WAMU-NET affiliated members will shortlist the 6 most representative entries from their schools / participating institutions, considering both age groups and types of work

1st – 15th April 2020: a Jury made by WAMU-NET representatives, museum professionals, artists and scientists will select the 6 final winners among all shortlisted entries

22nd April 2020: The 6 winners and all final entries selected by WAMU-NET affiliated institutions (up to 6 entries from each WAMU-NET member) will feature the digital on-line Exhibition curated by the Global Network

**For more information**

For more information contact the closest water museum/institution affiliated to WAMU-NET. A list of all our members is available on the website [www.watermuseums.net](http://www.watermuseums.net) (under the menu “Network”).

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| **The Global Network of Water Museums**  The Global Network of Water Museums (WAMU-NET) is a non-profit organization endorsed by the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO as an initiative aimed at raising awareness on our precious hydraulic heritage. The organization is aimed at coordinating the activities of water museums and institutions dealing with water management all over the world, by promoting the fundamental values of the inherited water heritage, both natural and cultural, tangible and intangible.  The Global Network seeks to find solutions to present-day water challenges by connecting past and present water management practices to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All WAMU-NET members are engaged in promoting a new water ethics, reconnecting humanity to the tangible and intangible heritage of water, including its social, cultural, artistic and spiritual dimensions.  [**www.watermuseums.net**](http://www.watermuseums.net)  **WAMU-NET members’ commitment**  As a Network, our strength lies in the relationships and partnerships we build among members within our Network and with a worldwide audience of schools and visitors.  All WAMU-NET members will promote and disseminate this competition at their own premises, through dedicated communication tools and newsletters and, if possible, as an integral part of their on-going educational activities, to increase participation and worldwide impact. |