

THE 2012 CURIOSITY CHALLENGE



The Cambridge Science Festival - Cambridge Public Schools – Cambridge Public Library

The Cambridge Science Festival is pleased to announce the fifth annual *CURIOSITY CHALLENGE*. The challenge invites, even dares school students between the ages of 5 and 14 to create artwork or a piece of writing that shows their curiosity and how it prompted them to explore their world.

Curiosity is defined in Wikipedia as any natural inquisitive behavior, and is the emotional aspect of living beings that engenders exploration, investigation and learning. Albert Einstein, one of the most innovative thinkers in history said, “The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.”

The *CURIOSITY CHALLENGE* hopes to involve students who may or may not be naturally drawn to science. Students are being dared to draw a picture, write an essay, take a picture or write a poem that shows what they are curious about. To enter the challenge, all artwork or pieces of writing should be submitted at any Cambridge Public Library Branch, at any Cambridge Public School or at the MIT Museum, 265 Mass Ave. Cambridge 02139 c/o The Curiosity Challenge by Friday, February 10th.

Students who enter the *CURIOSITY CHALLENGE* and are selected as winners will be honored at a special ceremony of The Cambridge Science Festival on Sunday, April 29th, 2012. Guest speakers will also present awards to the students.

By mid-March each winner will be notified with the specifics of the closing ceremony and more details on the *CURIOSITY CHALLENGE* celebration. The *CURIOSITY CHALLENGE* flyer, the program guidelines and extra student artwork labels are available on this site.

Dare to take the *2012 Curiosity Challenge!!*

*PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH OTHER TEACHERS, LIBRARIANS, FRIENDS,
LITERACY COORDINATORS AND YOUTH OUTREACH WORKERS.*

Guidelines

Art/Creative Writing Entries: Students are invited to submit original artwork or an original piece of creative writing addressing this year's Curiosity Challenge. Creative writing can be a poem, short story or an essay (maximum of 500 words). All two-dimensional artwork is acceptable such as drawing, painting, photography and computer generated work (must fit on a 9" x 12" page). Artwork/writing combinations are also acceptable.

We will not be able to return the artwork.

By entering the challenge you are giving us permission to reprint the entries on our website and in printed material.

All submissions must include:

- Please label each entry on the back with the student's name, home address, telephone number, school, grade number, and teacher's name and email contact. (See attached student tags to photocopy.)
- All artwork should fit on a 9" x 12" page. Bold colors in artwork are most effective and reproduce best (magic markers work well).

Deadlines: All artwork and written entries are due no later than ****Friday, February 10, 2012****

Students may submit entries to any Cambridge Public School, Cambridge Public Library branch or mail to Cambridge Science Festival, c/o The MIT Museum, 265 Mass Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139.

Curiosity Awards: Student winners will receive invitations to the celebration awards ceremony on Sunday April 29th.

Student entries will be displayed and awards will be distributed. Participant's families will be included in the celebration and brunch will be served.

Questions: For additional information please contact The Cambridge Science Festival at www.cambridgesciencefestival.org.

It is critical that students *legibly* fill out an information form and *securely* attach or glue it to the BACK of their submission. All entries are due to the Cambridge Science Festival by February 10, 2012. Good luck and have fun.