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PRESS RELEASE

MUSEUM OF CYCLADIC ART

12th International Kids’ Art Contest

"Guardians of the Cyclades"  
March 12 – May 9, 2025  
  
kidscontest.cycladic.gr/en/

**Selected submitted artwork will be showcased in a special exhibition**

**at the Museum of Cycladic Art’s 3rd Cycladic Kids’ Festival in September 2025**

**at the City of Athens Arts Center.**

The **12th International Kids’ Art Contest** organized by the Museum of Cycladic Art invites young artists aged **4 to 15** to step into the role of environmental protectors. With the theme **"Guardians of the Cyclades,"** this year’s contest aims to educate and inspire children about safeguarding the unique natural and cultural heritage of Greece’s Cyclades islands.

Through creativity and imagination, contest participants will be encouraged to envision a world in which the environment is protected and sustainable practices ensure a bright future for the next generations. The contest provides a meaningful way for young artists to express their concerns, dreams, and solutions for protecting our planet through artistic representation.

This year’s artists will create original works in response to the following prompts:

***Who is Your Cycladic Guardian?***

***How can your Guardian contribute to protecting the environment for future generations?***

Running from **March 12 to May 9, 2025 (entries submission at** [**kidscontest.cycladic.gr/**](https://kidscontest.cycladic.gr/)**en**), the contest will culminate in an exhibition of selected works on **September 27, 2025**, at the City of Athens Arts Center **of the Municipality of Athens** as part of the Museum of Cycladic Art’s **3rd Cycladic Kids Festival**. This highly anticipated event will celebrate the creativity and vision of young artists from around the world while promoting awareness of environmental protection.

**A Legacy of Creativity and Awareness**

The International Kids’ Art Contest is one of the Museum of Cycladic Art’s most successful initiatives, drawing participation from thousands of children across Greece and around the world. The contest also welcomes submissions from special education schools and refugee-reception and integration centers, making it an inclusive platform for artistic expression.

This year’s theme encourages children to **design their own "Guardian of the Cyclades"**—a creative figure with special abilities to protect the islands’ environment. Via bespoke **educational content on the contest’s digital platform kidscontest.cycladic.gr/en** participants will explore the fragile ecosystem of the Cyclades, the challenges it faces, and practical ways to promote sustainability in everyday life.

**How to Participate:**

1. **Visit the International Kids’ Art Contest website** to draw inspiration, learn more about the contest theme, and download your Guardian Card template.
2. **Design Your Own Guardian Card** – Use the contest template to create a unique Guardian of the Cyclades. Your Guardian can be a hero of the land, sea, or air. Consider incorporating elements from Cycladic history, mythology, and nature to make your creation even more meaningful.
3. **Incorporate an Environmental Message** – Describe a specific action your Guardian performs to help the environment. Does it plant trees in a burnt forest? Does it set up recycling bins? Does it organize cleanups at beaches or archaeological sites? Perhaps your Guardian educates people about the importance of reducing waste or conserving water resources.
4. **Share and Compare** – In classrooms or groups, use your Guardian Cards in a fun activity: Compare creations and discuss which Guardian would be the most effective in environmental protection. This interactive approach will foster teamwork and critical thinking about environmental solutions.
5. **Submit Your Guardian Card** for a chance to win! (see submission instructions below)

Winners of the competition will be announced on **June 5, 2025 – World Environment Day**—on the contest’s digital platform [**kidscontest.cycladic.gr/**](https://kidscontest.cycladic.gr/)**en**. Selected works will receive special recognition, and participants will have the opportunity to see their artwork featured in a high-profile exhibition.

**Selection Committee:** A distinguished panel of art and environment experts will evaluate this year’s submissions. The committee includes:

* JILL TIEFENTHALER - CEO of National Geographic
* ROBERT McCABE - Distinguished Photographer
* HYPERCOMF - Artistic Collective based in Tinos island, Greece
* VASIA EXARCHOU - Author of *The Cyclades Circle*and Architect
* MELINA DUNHAM - European Climate Pact Ambassador
* DAPHNE DRAGONA - Curator and Author

**Join the Contest – Submission Instructions**

Submit your artwork digitally by **May 9, 2025,** by completing the following steps:

1. Visit the 12th International contest website [**kidscontest.cycladic.gr/**](https://kidscontest.cycladic.gr/)**en** to download and print the Protection Card template and the symbols sheet.
2. Select your favorite art materials and technique and craft a unique Guardian of the Cyclades!
3. Come up with a title for your creation.
4. Write down what the guardian protects at the bottom of the card and attach a symbol from the provided symbol sheet that represents it.
5. Take a clear photograph or scan of your artwork.
6. Ask an adult to complete the contest entry form on the museum’s kids’ contest website and upload your submission.

**Would you like to participate in the physical exhibition in September as well?**

Send the original artwork to the Museum of Cycladic Art!

Address:

Museum of Cycladic Art

4 Neofytou Douka street, 10676 Athens, Greece

Online submission is mandatory.

Mailed entries without a unique code will not be accepted.

By participating in the contest, you become part of a creative journey and a Guardian of the Cyclades!

Good luck!

The 12th International Kids’ Art Contest reflects the Museum of Cycladic Art’s dedication to engaging younger generations in artistic expression while promoting environmental awareness. Through their creativity, children can make a real difference, reminding us all that the future of our planet lies in our hands.

For more details, visit **kidscontest.cycladic.gr/en**

