

**LETTER:**

January 2012

Dear Educator,

We are very pleased to offer our **63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide *Be Kind to Animals* Poster and Story Contest** to you and your students. Each year we are encouraged and impressed by the caliber of work and depth of compassion students demonstrate as they convey important humane themes via illustration or essay (photo optional).

**Humane education or character education is crucial for students of all ages.** Through pets, youth can learn important nurturing, character building, and citizenship skills. Humane education is about learning and cultivating respect, responsibility, and empathy for all living things.

**We know you are very busy**, but participation in this event not only supports character education, it also aligns with the Oregon state standards for both the Arts, Language Arts, and in some cases Science. Listed below are just a few ways this project can address the standards ranging from elementary to high school levels.

**The Arts:**

- AR.03.CP.01 Use experience, imagination, essential elements and organizational principles to achieve a desired effect when creating, presenting and/or performing works of art.
- AR.033.CP.03 Create, present and/or perform a work of art that demonstrates an idea, mood or feeling.
- AR.HS.CP.01 Select and combine essential elements and organizational principles to achieve a desired effect when creating, presenting and/or performing works of art for a variety of purposes.
- AR.HS.HC.03 Explain how works of art reflect the artist's personal experience, environment, society and culture and apply this knowledge to one's own work.

**Language Arts:**

- EL.01WR.16 Write brief stories that describe an experience.
- EL.02.WR.22 Write a brief description of a familiar object, person, place, or event.
- EL.04.WR.23 Write personal narratives: Include ideas, observations, or memories of an event or experience.
- ELHS.WR.21 Write biographical or autobiographical narratives or short stories.

Thank you very much for taking time to read this appeal for participation in our humane education contest. Each student that submits an entry will receive a certificate of participation. Winners, their parents and teachers will be honored at our *A'Cat'Emy Awards*. This year you can submit entries either by mailing or dropping them off at the Oregon Humane Society.

Remember the **deadline is March 23, 2012!** *Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this exciting opportunity or how you can integrate this assignment into your curriculum.*

Sincerely,



Jessica W Wiseley Kruger, Education Manager  
[jessicaw@oregonhumane.org](mailto:jessicaw@oregonhumane.org)

**LINK:**

<http://www.oregonhumane.org/services/contests.asp>

**Best Friends are found here at the OHS  
when you adopt one of the dogs, cats, rabbits,  
rodents, or birds looking for homes.**

**Check out all the animals available at:**

[www.oregonhumane.org/adopt/overview.asp](http://www.oregonhumane.org/adopt/overview.asp)