

**Press Release** 

## CALL FOR ENTRIES FOR THE CHILDREN'S DRAWING CONTEST AND CINEMINUTOS OF THE 11TH EDITION OF THE FESTIVAL OF THE OCEANS.

- This year the Children's Drawing Contest will also be open to teens; in addition to receiving submissions from primary and secondary students, it will also be receiving submissions from high school students.
- The "Cineminutos por el Océano" (Cineminutos -1 minute short film- for the Ocean) Contest for University students will now be open to receiving shorts in any language other than Spanish, which is expected to broaden the reach of the awareness messages about the ocean.

Cancun, Q. Roo, April 12, 2023. The 11th edition of the Festival of the Oceans has posted the call for entries for its children's drawing contest and Cineminutos for the Ocean short film contest.

This will be the 11th edition of the children's drawing contest of the Festival of the Oceans, once again inviting actively enrolled primary and secondary students and now, for the first time, high school students from Quintana Roo and the rest of Mexico and the World. The prizes winners will enjoy include trips to Cancun, dolphin interaction experiences and complimentary passes for the Grupo Xcaret parks. The winners of the contest will be exhibited at the Cancun International Airport as they have been in past editions. The deadline to submit physical works is Thursday, May 4, and the submission by email deadline is 11:59 p.m. Cancún time (EST) on May 7.

Separately, the Cineminutos (1-minute short film) for the Ocean University Contest, for its second edition will receive submissions from actively enrolled university students of any field of study and in any language. It is expected that because of this, the second edition of the contest will now attract international submissions from all over the world. The contest's winner will receive a scholarship for a special cinematography workshop at the Anahuac University in Cancun with study expenses paid by Delphinus. Shorts must be submitted by 23:59 (11:59 PM) Cancun time (EST), May 31, 2023, to be considered for the contest.

You may consult the contest bases on the festival's website at: <u>https://www.festivaldelosoceanos.org.mx/convocatorias</u>





## About the Festival of the Oceans:

The Festival of the Oceans is an initiative created and organized by Delphinus, a zoological institution that promotes reconnecting with nature through interactions with marine mammals. The resulting festival is an environmental education event that has been recognized nationally and internationally by SEMARNAT in 2016, the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions, IAAPA in 2014, the North American Marine Environment Protection Association, NAMEPA, in 2017, recipient of the Reef Alliance Award in 2019 and FUNDACOM in 2020.

The Festival of the Oceans is a relevant space for environmental education because of its central themes that revolve around issues of great importance for the health of the oceans, specifically: climate change, exotic invasive species, plastic pollution, overfishing and the loss of biodiversity (particularly that of the vaquita porpoise, (*Phocoena sinus*)).

## About Delphinus:

Delphinus is a modern zoological institution founded in Quintana Roo, Mexico, in 1990. Nowadays it operates 7 habitats for interactions with marine mammals in: Xcaret, Riviera Maya, Xel-Há, the Cancun Interactive Aquarium, Puerto Morelos, Punta Cancun and Playa Mujeres.

It is a Socially Responsible Organization and collaborator on research programs with institutions such as the Chicago Zoological Society and the Autonomous University of Yucatan (UADY).

The organization is certified in veterinary and animal behavior management by the Alliance of Marine Mammals Parks and Aquariums, AMMPA, and the International Marine Animal Trainers' Association, IMATA, and in animal welfare by the American Humane. The organization is a benchmark for social responsibility and environmental education because of its successful programs, such as the Festival of the Oceans of the Mexican Caribbean.

For more information, please contact Miguel Canseco, Delphinus' Director of Corporate Responsibility and Communications and General Coordinator of the Festival of the Oceans of the Mexican Caribbean

