

# Snow Leopard Conservancy's 8th Annual Artwork & Poetry Contest – 2026

## CONTEST RULES

- **ONLY ENTRIES RECEIVED BETWEEN JUNE 15, 2026 AND AUGUST 15, 2026, 12 MIDNIGHT PDT WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

- **Submit all entries via email to [shavaun@snowleopardconservancy.org](mailto:shavaun@snowleopardconservancy.org).**

Note: Entries submitted through social media/messaging/texting will not be accepted.

- **Original Artwork Only – No AI** images will be accepted.
- Artwork and Poetry previously submitted to Snow Leopard Conservancy Contests in part or in whole **WILL NOT** be considered.
- Photography will not be accepted
- No employee, subcontractor, associate, partner, or representative of the Snow Leopard Conservancy may submit entries to the contest.
- **Amateur and professional artists and writers** are invited to submit entries.
- **You may submit up to two (2) entries;**
  - **1 work of art – any division and 1 poem**
  - **2 works of art**
  - **2 poems**
- Original artwork creations should focus on the theme. Artwork inspired by photographs or using a photograph as a references is acceptable while copies of photos are discouraged.
- There is no fee to enter, and no monetary prizes are awarded.



## Artwork & Poetry Contest Theme for 2026

*The Bond, Exploring our Kinship with the Elusive  
Snow Leopard, Guardian of the High Mountains*

## AGE CATEGORIES

### Adult

Age 18 & Over

### Youth

Age 12 – 17

Age 11 & under

## DIVISIONS

### Original Poetry

### Original Traditional Artwork

For example, Oils, Acrylics, Pastels, Charcoal, Pencil, Colored Pencils, Pen, Marker, Crayon, Watercolors, or Scratchboard

### Original Digital Artwork

**Original Combined Media** – A Combination of Traditional & Digital Artwork

**Original Unique Media** – For example, woodworking, needlework, clay, collages, concrete work, beading, etc.

- **POETRY ENTRIES** should be submitted as either a **WORD DOCUMENT** or in **PDF** format. Any other file format will be rejected.
- **The electronic file MUST BE LABELED AS FOLLOWS OR WILL BE REJECTED:**
  - **YOUR NAME**
  - **TITLE OF THE ENTRY**
- **ARTWORK ENTRIES** should be submitted electronically (a photo of your original artwork – framed or unframed) in **JPEG** format. Any other file format will be rejected.
- **The electronic file MUST BE LABELED AS FOLLOWS OR WILL BE REJECTED:**
  - **YOUR NAME**
  - **TITLE OF THE ENTRY**
  - Emailed files of artwork are required to be **at least 1.5 MB and no larger than 6 MB**. Please reduce resolution of your photos larger than 6 MB.
  - If you have used a reference photo for your artwork, you **must provide the photographer's name**.
  - You may include a **brief narrative** (no more than 1 paragraph/3-4 sentences) that provides background on your artwork, but it is not required. **A narrative is not a substitution for the artwork, itself, exemplifying or expressing the theme.**

- **All artwork submitted must be signed or initialed or your entry will be rejected!**

**ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN EMAIL CONTAINING THE FOLLOWING:**

- The artist's/author's name
- Age category you are entering: Adult 18 & Over – Youth 12-17 – Youth 11 & Under
- Division you are entering: Poetry – Traditional Artwork – Digital Artwork – Combined Media Artwork – Unique Media Artwork
- Medium used if Traditional, Combined, or Unique Artwork
- Title of the submission
- Your Email Address

**If any of the above instructions are unclear, please email [ask@snowleopardconservancy.org](mailto:ask@snowleopardconservancy.org) or [shavaun@snowleopardconservancy.org](mailto:shavaun@snowleopardconservancy.org) before submitting your entries.**

**JUDGING CRITERIA**

- **Interpretation of the contest theme.**
  - **Portrayal of the beauty & strength of the snow leopard.**
  - **Creativity, uniqueness, & originality.**
  - **Overall impression.**
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- **Finalists in all categories and divisions will be announced Saturday, August 22, 2026, via an online presentation.**
    - All Finalists will be emailed a Certificate of Appreciation.
  - **Winners and Honorable Mentions in all categories and divisions will be announced on Saturday, September 5, 2026, via an online presentation.**
    - All Winners will be emailed an Award Certificate

## PRIZES

- **Grand Prize and First Place winners in all categories and divisions will be awarded a Digital Snow Leopard Mother & Cub Adoption Package.**

- By submitting your artwork and/or poetry, you are giving the Snow Leopard Conservancy permission to display/post it on our website, in newsletters, in our annual impact report, and across our social media channels for the purpose of creating awareness and fundraising. The Snow Leopard Conservancy will not use your poetry or artwork for any other purpose without first obtaining your permission. And any other entity or organization that contacts the Conservancy regarding permission to use your work will be directed to the artist/author.
- Occasionally, the Conservancy will seek additional permission to reproduce the contestant's original artwork in the form of unsigned prints to be offered for sale for the purpose of fundraising through our online store and at special events. In this instance, artists will be contacted individually and are under no obligation to give assent.
- The artist/author will retain the copyright and physical possession of their creations, and any sales of original creations should be conducted between the artist/author and the buyer.
- The Snow Leopard Conservancy will appropriately credit the artwork/poetry to the artist/author, and upon request, will provide contact information for the artist/author. However, the Conservancy is under no obligation to promote professional websites via social media or in any other manner or market submitted creative works.

**PLEASE READ THE CONTEST RULES CAREFULLY! THANK YOU.**

If you have any questions or need clarification, please feel free to email us at [ask@snowleopardconservancy.org](mailto:ask@snowleopardconservancy.org).

We wish you luck and thank you for entering the Conservancy's Art & Poetry Contest 2026.