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Commissioner

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Department of
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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Students 9 – 14 Invited to Compete in Radon Poster Contest

(Fairbanks, AK) – Students across the state can once again showcase their artistic talents and promote an important public health program with the 4th annual Alaska Radon Poster Contest. Last year, Anchorage student Katelyn Cummings won [Alaska's first place award](#), earning a submission to the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors for consideration in last year's national contest. Alaska student Luciana Liu [won the national poster contest in 2022](#).

Radon is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that can cause lung cancer. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Surgeon General, radon exposure is the leading cause of lung cancer in the United States among non-smokers. This radioactive element comes from the ground and can enter homes and buildings through cracks and openings in the foundation.

Poster entries must be emailed or postmarked on or before November 15, 2024, and submitted to DGGS. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place, and the winning Alaska poster will be submitted to the National Radon Poster Contest. They will also earn a prize for their classroom. More information about the contest and entry forms are available at <https://diggs.alaska.gov/outreach/radon-poster.html>.

“Radon is found throughout the state and these creative young artists are helping raise awareness of the dangers,” said Paul Goodfellow, Geological Health Hazards Program Manager with the Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS). “And, thanks to the Alaska Radon Program, homeowners can request a free test kit to find out if their residence might have high radon levels.”

Alaskans interested in receiving a free radon testing kit or learning more information about the Alaska Radon Program should visit: <https://diggs.alaska.gov/hazards/radon.html>.

The Alaska Radon Poster Contest is sponsored by DGGS, the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service (UAF-CES), the American Lung Association in Alaska, and the National Extension Healthy Homes Partnership. The Alaska Radon Program receives financial support from the EPA's State Indoor Radon Grant through the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Air Quality. The grant is implemented through a partnership of DGGS and UAF-CES.

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Winning 2023 poster by Katelyn Cummings

