

Department of Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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Students Invited to Compete in Radon Poster Art Contest

(Anchorage, AK) – It's back! Students across the state once again have the chance to showcase their artistic talents and promote an important public health program through the 5th annual Alaska Radon Poster Contest.

Radon is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that can cause lung cancer – and it is present in Alaska. According to the Environmental Protection Agency 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 buildings through cracks and openings in the foundation.

"We encourage Alaskans from the ages of 9 to 14 to help us spread the news about the dangers of radon through their art," said Paul Goodfellow, Geological Health Hazards Program Manager with the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGS). "Radon is found throughout the state, 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."

Prizes:

- **First place:** \$100 Michaels gift card for artist, and additional \$100 Michael's gift card for the student's classroom. Submitted as Alaska's entry to National Radon Poster Contest
- **Second place:** \$75 Michael's gift card for artist
- Third place: \$50 Michael's gift card for artist

Poster entries must be emailed or postmarked on or before Dec. 19, 2025 to DGGS for consideration. Winners will be announced during National Radon Awareness Month. More information about the contest and entry forms are available at the following website: https://dggs.alaska.gov/outreach/radon-poster.html.

Goldenview Middle School student Luciana Liu won Alaska's first place 2024 award, and her 2022 submission also won the national contest.

National Radon Awareness Month starts in January. Alaska DGGS will be hosting weekly public outreach sessions in Anchorage to promote home testing in Southcentral Alaska. Fairbanks residents can visit the DGGS offices at 3354 College Road to receive their home test and discuss resources for homeowners. If you are located outside of Southcentral or Interior, please contact the Alaska Radon Program to request tests be mailed to your home or workplace.

For those interested in receiving a free radon testing kit, more information about the Alaska Radon Program is available at https://dggs.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.

The Department of Natural Resources' mission is to develop, conserve, and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources consistent with the public interest.

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Luciana Liu's winning 2024 poster.