



World Water Day (WWD) 2026

Crofton Cherry Blossom Festival

Summary Report



***ROW Foundation**, in collaboration with the Crofton Civic Association arranged a painting event at the Crofton Cherry Blossom Festival on **March 28th** , 2026.*





Pictures from the painting event.





Pictures from the painting event.



Evaluation of Crofton Cherry Blossom Festival Paintings for World water Day (WWD) -2026

Group A (Ages 2–4) – Honorary Category
(Not ranked due to the limited number of submissions).



Emelia Gardner (age 2)



Charlie Stuart (age 4)



Kylie Gardner (age 4)



Hazel (age 4)



Noah (age 4)



Nathaniel (age 4)

Evaluation of Crofton Cherry Blossom Festival Paintings for World water Day (WWD) -2026

GROUP-B (ages 5-8)

1st prize – Alexandra Tuangco (Age 8)

Alexandra's painting has a conceptual lean – a beautiful array of rainbow-like colors suggesting sky tinted by the sun and water vapor, with a weight of blue at the bottom to anchor the painting while suggesting water. Without being too overt, the words “No Throwing Trash” appears faintly through the blending of the water-based medium,, delivering a conscientious message to care for the planet.



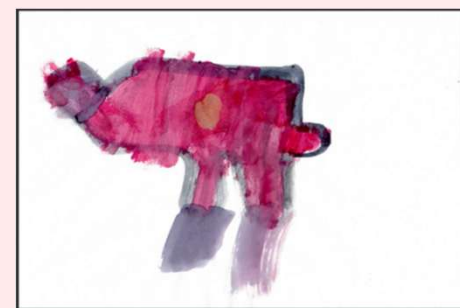
2nd prize – Shannon (Age 8)

Shannon's composition is divided into three strong horizontal bands, representing a green earth below and blue sky above, with a friendly human presence and a shining happy sun. The mountain, or hill, is painted in small scale which suggests distance. Small silhouettes appear to be descending the mountain after placing an American flag at the top, suggesting pride and patriotism.



3rd prize – Joseph (Age 6)

To me, Joseph's painting is one that sparks curiosity and demands conversation. It appears minimalist and abstract as it is unclear what is represented. Is it a human figure (suggested by two legs), a red-pink animal (suggested by a horizontal torso), or does it reflect cherry blossoms in some whimsical, arbitrary way? Whatever the case, its presence is strong as the object is isolated on a clean white background while casting two falling shadows that suggest an unseen light source



Special Award – Sarah Mazza-Curtis (Age 7)

Sarah's painting is uplifting in two ways: First, the primary and secondary colors of the rainbow stimulate the brain emotionally, typically triggering a happy response. Second, and more literally, the strong directional path of the rainbow feature carries our vision up and then down, like a rollercoaster, into the composition, then out of it and off the page. This play is broken up by outstretched upward limbs and two circles (a tree or a smiley face – it doesn't matter because beauty and interpretation is in the eye of the beholder).



Evaluation of Crofton Cherry Blossom Festival Paintings for World water Day (WWD) -2026

GROUP-C (ages 9-14+)

1st prize – Nora (Age 10)

Nora's painting utilizes the entire page to communicate a strong sense of nature while employing few elements. A strong horizontal line just above the center point of the composition signifies a landscape and distinguishes a sky and earth. The sky portion is light in color and more open, suggesting daylight, clouds, and open space, broken up by vertical trees reaching out of the earth. The lower portion suggests solid ground with green color depicting grass and a large blue egg shape referencing a body of water.



2nd prize – Emily (Age 9)

Emily's painting allows the brain to read this composition as a seascape, with a sharp horizontal line dividing the lower third of the page and filled in with blue to signify water. The top two-thirds of the painting is softer with an assortment of color that resembles a rainbow, or sunrise or sunset. A piece of land the left of the composition resembles a cliff with trees, allowing a resting place for the eyes as we travel across the vastness of imagined oceanic space.



3rd prize – Jeannie Freiland (Age 12)

To me, Jeanne Freiland's piece stands out from the other paintings in that it is constructed from minimal elements, focusing on one powerful subject – a tree. More specifically, it references a cherry blossom tree with its falling petals suggesting a force of gravity.



Special Award – Noah Mazza-Bell (Age – 18) Noah's painting appears somewhat abstract, utilizing loose, whimsical strokes, suggesting movement, and arbitrarily placed shapes and color that suggest a kind of order out of chaos. A vertical blue shape in the central area suggests a body of water that allows the eye to travel between a purple ground at the bottom and a row of trees at the top.





*THANK YOU FOR VIEWING THE WWD-2026 REPORT
ON CROFTON CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL. YOUR
COMMENTS WILL BE VALUABLE.*



*For more information, please visit the **ROW** Foundation website at <https://rowfoundation.org>.
If you have any questions or comments, you can reach out to **ROW** Foundation at
rowfoundation@gmail.com.*

