



FCCA FOUNDATION 2026 CHILDREN'S **ESSAY COMPETITION**

"What are a few unique things a cruise passenger can enjoy only when visiting my destination?"

All primary and secondary school students in FCCA partner destinations are invited to participate in the 2026 FCCA Foundation Children's **Essay Competition**.

RULES & GUIDELINES

- The essay competition will be conducted in two age categories:

Junior Division Children ages 12 and under (contestant may not have passed his/her 13th birthday by September 26, 2026).

Senior Division Children ages 13 to 16 years (contestant may not have passed his/her 17th birthday by September 26, 2026).

Each student must submit one essay written in English, 500 words in length, on the following topic:

"What are a few unique things a cruise passenger can enjoy only when visiting my destination?"

- Essays will be judged on the following criteria: content/subject, creativity, style/structure and grammar.
- Each entry must be accompanied by the following information on the form provided:
 - ✓ Country
 - ✓ Name of Student (in CAPITALS)
 - ✓ Student's Date of Birth
 - ✓ Address of Student
 - ✓ Student's Telephone Number
 - ✓ Name of School
 - ✓ Address of School
 - ✓ Name of School Principal
 - ✓ School Telephone Number
- The competition will be conducted in three rounds:

Round 1 Competition will be conducted in schools throughout the Caribbean, Mexico, Central and South America. Each individual entry must be submitted through the contestant's school.

FCCA Member Lines

*AIDA Cruises • Carnival Cruise Line • Celebrity Cruises • Costa Cruises • Cunard Line • Disney Cruise Line • Explora Journeys
Hapag-Lloyd Cruises • Holland America Line • MSC Cruises • Margaritaville at Sea • Norwegian Cruise Line • Oceania Cruises • P&O Cruises • Princess Cruises
Regent Seven Seas Cruises • Royal Caribbean International • Seabourn • SeaDream Yacht Club • Silversea Cruises • TUI Cruises • Virgin Voyages • Windstar Cruises*

Two winners from each school, one from each age category, will be selected by the teachers and staff/selection committee of that school.

Each school must submit their entries, one from each age category, to their country's selection committee (Ministry of Tourism) no later than Friday, October 23rd, 2026.

Round 2 Each country's selection committee is to choose one winner from each age group from the entries received to represent the country.

Each country is to submit the original essays **written in English** for their two winners **(one from each age category)** to the FCCA no later than **Friday, November 20th, 2026.**

You can e-mail us the essay winners while we await the originals by mail.

Round 3 The FCCA's Selection Committee will determine a first, second and third place winner for the two age categories from the essays submitted by all participating countries. The committee's decision is final.

The FCCA will notify all winners by **Friday, December 4th, 2026.**

The FCCA reserves the right to use the entrant's name and photograph for promotional purposes. All entries, including all rights to publish or reproduce the **essays** (using the entrant's name), become the property of the FCCA.

PRIZE AWARDS

First place winners from each destination will advance to the final FCCA competition, where they will compete for the overall prizes (laptop or touchscreen devices):

Junior Division (Ages 12 & Under)	Student	School
1 st Place	Laptop	US \$3,000
2 nd Place	Touchscreen device	US \$1,500
3 rd Place	Touchscreen device	US \$1,000
Senior Division (Ages 13 to 16)	Student	School
1 st Place	Laptop	US \$3,000
2 nd Place	Touchscreen device	US \$1,500
3 rd Place	Touchscreen device	US \$1,000

To reward students for their efforts, all finalists submitted by their countries will receive US \$200.00, except for those who place first, second, or third in each category.

Thank you and good luck!

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