



## 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 13<sup>th</sup> birthday by September 26, 2026).

**Senior Division** Children ages 13 to 16 years (contestant may not have passed his/her 17<sup>th</sup> 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)***

**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 4<sup>th</sup>, 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):

<b>Junior Division (Ages 12 &amp; Under)</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Laptop	US \$3,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Touchscreen device	US \$1,500
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Touchscreen device	US \$1,000
<b>Senior Division (Ages 13 to 16)</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Laptop	US \$3,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Touchscreen device	US \$1,500
3 <sup>rd</sup> 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!