Local charity launches ecoart contest

Environmental charity Central Scotland Forest Trust (CSFT) is urging schools and nurseries in West Lothian to sign up to an Eco-Art competition aimed at encouraging creativity and increasing awareness of the environment in today's society. The contest encourages school children to get creative with a variety of environmentally friendly materials.

The competition's Green Fingers category provides the perfect opportunity for schools and nurseries to enhance their green credentials and engage pupils in learning about the environment, by encouraging them to produce a piece of artwork using natural gathered materials such as leaves and bark.

The Ready to Recycle category offers educational establishments the chance to teach pupils about the importance of recycling in today's society, by encouraging them to collect recycled materials to produce their eco-friendly creative designs.

Simon Rennie, Chief Executive of CSFT, said:- "In addition to planting trees and increasing woodland cover in the Central Scotland Forest area, CSFT aims to engage communities in protecting their local environment. Our Eco-Art competition provides a valuable learning resource for local schools and nurseries, and also gives pupils the opportunity to expend some creative energy using a number of diverse environmentally friendly materials."

The winning school or nursery in each category will win £100 of vouchers for Hobbycraft to spend on art materials. The winning entries will also be displayed in the CSFT tent at the Royal Highland Show from 20th to 23rd June 2013.

The competition is easy to enter. Schools and nurseries simply

have to send their pupils' pieces of artwork from one of the chosen categories to CSFT. Individual entries or a collective class collage entry are acceptable.

The deadline for entering the competition is Friday 17 May 2013. Competition entries should be submitted by post to CSFT Competition, The BIG Partnership, 5 Park Circus Place, Glasgow, G3 6AH.

For further information on the Eco-Art competition, please contact csftcompetition@bigpartnership.co.uk

For further information about Central Scotland Forest Trust please visit http://www.csft.org.uk. You can also follow CSFT on Twitter and become a fan on Facebook. Ends

Submitted by <u>CENTRAL SCOTLAND FOREST TRUST</u>

