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| Carroll County Youth Invited to Participate in Art Contest Promoting Tobacco-Free, Vape-Free Adventures**Westminster, MD, Thursday, January 30, 2025** – Carroll County Public School middle and high school students are invited to showcase their creativity in an exciting art contest, **"Ignite Potential, Embrace the Outdoors: Tobacco-Free and Vape-Free Adventures."** This contest aims to raise awareness about the health risks associated with tobacco and vaping while encouraging youth to embrace a healthy, active lifestyle.Students are encouraged to submit original artwork reflecting the theme: "Your Life, Your Health, Your Choice." The contest features two categories: Middle School (grades 6-8) and High School (grades 9-12).The Carroll County Health Department awarded the Youth Serving Community Grant to the Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks allowing the department to award one winner in each category a $200 award.  The winning pieces will be featured in public awareness campaigns to educate the community about the dangers of tobacco and vaping and the benefits of a tobacco-free, vape-free lifestyle.**Contest Details:*** **Theme:** Ignite Potential, Embrace the Outdoors: Tobacco-Free, Vape-Free Adventures – Your Life, Your Health, Your Choice
* **Eligibility:** Open to Carroll County Public School middle and high school students
* **Categories:** Middle School (grades 6-8) and High School (grades 9-12)
* **Prizes:** $200 award for one winner in each category
* **Submission Deadline:** Friday February 21, 2025.

For more information about the contest, including submission guidelines and deadlines, please visit the Recreation and Parks web page by clicking this [link](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/directory/recreation-parks/recreation-parks-news//1/01010194b87a6359-412b0df8-12e1-4367-a62f-d9810f8628af-000000/WcjauRQozBqqpmhnRZ-M-3cx-TZQ4xCslGZN5mIum1g%3D390).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact: Lisa Carroll, Bureau ChiefRecreation410-386-2103 |

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| The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email ada@carrollcountymd.gov as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event. |

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