

Anniversary Contest

Theme “SEA-Land-Scape



250 jaar
Zeeuwsch
Genootschap

The Royal Zeeland Society of Sciences will be celebrating its 250th Anniversary in 2019. For the first 150 years of its existence, the Society regularly held contests to promote scientific inquiry on a variety of topics. With the support of the Hurgronjefamily Fund, the Society would like to revive this old tradition for the anniversary celebration in 2019. For this reason, the regional newspaper (PZC) asked its readers, in the Autumn of 2017, to suggest a topical question for a new contest. The Society chose from these submissions the topic presented by Marius Vrijlandt, landscape architect from the town of Borssele.

The Society would like now to present the following anniversary essay contest question:

The Royal Zeeland Society of Sciences invites contestants to submit an essay of 6000 to 8000 words describing their vision of the theme “Sea-Land-Scape.”

This theme refers to the unique location of Zeeland (Sealand) as a place surrounded by the sea. Since the Middle Ages this continually changing relationship between land and sea has had a deep impact on the population, the inhabitants, the way of life, the infrastructure, economy, and culture of Zeeland, its environment--and even for a short time, the world.

The contestants are asked to reflect creatively on how the inhabitants of Zeeland can together develop a “Sea-Land-Scape” for this delta region. “Sea-Land-Scape” represents a way of life where climate change, the rising sea level, the salinization of agricultural soil, changes in demographics and migration and other factors such as housing, work, recreation, and nature conservation connect in a sustainable way. “Sea-Land-Scape” also means that this lifestyle can serve as an example for similar developments in other (delta) regions on our planet. The essay theme can be approached from more than one perspective or discipline.

All entries are strictly anonymous and should be submitted **before February 1st 2019**, using a slogan or proverb to characterize contents of the essay . The entries should be addressed to: Koninklijk Zeeuwsch Genootschap der Wetenschappen, Kousteensedijk 7, 4331 JE, Middelburg with the notation “Contest” on the envelope. In order to ensure a fair evaluation of the essays, the name and address of the author **MUST NOT** be put on the envelope or essay. Instead, the name

of the author should be in a separate sealed envelope with on the outside the title of your essay and the slogan or proverb.

For more information, please contact M.M. Steenbeek, 06 2225 8079 or per e-mail:

jubileum@kzgw.nl

The essays will be evaluated by the following expert judges:

Professor Jan Peter Balkende, Erasmus University Rotterdam, chair
Roelof (Ro) Koster, architect, partner RO-AD Architects, Society member
Professor Barbara Oomen, University College Roosevelt, Middelburg, Society member
Dr. Marleen van Rijswijk, , University of Utrecht, Society member
Maarten M. Steenbeek, Society member



The jury will announce the winner on the 15th of June 2019, the day of the 250th Anniversary Celebration. The winning essay will be published as a booklet and also put on the website of the Society. In addition, the winner will also be awarded a silver medal designed after the medal given at the first contest of the Royal Zeeland Society of Sciences in 1770.