



Gabis Arboretum at



Trail of Scarecrows

REGISTRATION FORM

Section I: Group/School/Family Information	Date: _____
Group/School Name/Family Name: _____	
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	
Phone: (_____) _____	
Leader/Teacher/Parent/Guardian Name: _____	
Leader/Teacher/Parent/Guardian Phone Number: (_____) _____	
Leader/Teacher/Parent/Guardian Email: _____	

Section II: Group/Class Information
Grade Level (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Kindergarten <input type="checkbox"/> 1st <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4th <input type="checkbox"/> 5th <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Name of Group/Class/Family (<i>i.e. Mrs. Smith's 3rd Grade Class</i>): _____
Age range of student participants: _____
Book Title: _____ Author name: _____

Section III: Signature
By signing this registration form, I hereby agree to the guidelines and entry rules listed on this form.
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Gabis Arboretum at Purdue Northwest presents: Trail of Scarecrows Contest K-5: Scholastic Scarecrows

- Registration & Essay due:** **Monday, September 21, 2020** (Registration and Essay **must** be approved prior to scarecrow drop off)
- Drop Off Time:** **Scarecrows are due by September 30, 2020 at noon. Scarecrow voting starts Monday, October 5, 2020.**
- Pick-up/Drop-off location:** **Drop off scarecrows at the Depot Visitors Center.** This building is through the main entrance that leads to the Railway Garden. A staff member can assist with your scarecrow.
450 West 100 North
Valparaiso, IN 46385
- Virtual Award Ceremony:** **Saturday, October 24, 2020.** Details about this ceremony will be emailed to the email listed on the registration form in October.
- Scarecrow pick-up:** **October 26 through October 30th, 10am – 4pm. Scarecrows not picked up by November 2 will be discarded.** Consider pick up a recycling opportunity. Remember, your scarecrow will not be in great shape after a month in the arboretum and teardown.

Guidelines & Entry Rules

- Any K-5 school class, K-5 group, or family is welcome to participate. We are allowing families to participate this year. Entries must be original and not pre-made.
- Each entry must include a book title, scarecrow, scarecrow name and 150 to 200-word essay about the scarecrow. Scarecrows may not be dropped off until registration is approved by Gabis Arboretum staff.
- Steel posts will be provided by the arboretum and will be capable of supporting the scarecrow in a freestanding or seated manner. **All scarecrow submissions must be backed by a 2x4 piece of wood to attach the base.** Scarecrow base will not exceed 3.5 ft in width or length. Height is limited to 6 ft tall.
- Three top winners will be chosen by popular vote from the public. Pictures of the scarecrow will be posted on Facebook and likes will count as votes.
- Gabis Arboretum reserves the right to remove any scarecrow that deteriorates to an unacceptable level during the month. **Please make your submission as weather-proof and indestructible as possible!**
- Gabis Arboretum is not responsible for loss or damage to scarecrows while on display or in the drop-off/pick-up areas. Please do not use valuable materials/objects as the scarecrows will not be monitored.
- Gabis Arboretum will provide identifying signage for your scarecrow and install all scarecrows.

- Do not include live plant material, mulch, Tiki torches, flammable objects or gas/electric powered generators with your entries.
- No handouts, promotional material or free giveaways can be associated with your entry.
- Gabis Arboretum reserves the right to use photographs, school names, contact names and scarecrow names for publicity purposes.
- Entries must be suited for viewing by small children. Entries that are controversial, commercial, political or graphic (sexual/gory/scary) in nature will not be accepted.

2020 Theme: Diversity and Inclusion

Choose a book from your current curriculum. As a class/group/family, build a scarecrow and write an essay based on the chosen story or its characters. Your essay should reflect how your scarecrow represents the chosen story, characters and/or theme.

What to do:

1. Choose a book to read and decide how your scarecrow will represent the story
2. Collect items from your community to use to build your scarecrow
3. Start building the scarecrow and developing an essay
4. Finalize the 150 to 200-word essay describing the scarecrow and how it best reflects the chosen story
5. Register & submit the essay to Gabis Arboretum by **September 21, 2020** by filling out the Trail of Scarecrows registration form. These can be emailed to gabisarboretum@pnw.edu or mailed to: 444 W 100 N, Valparaiso IN 46385
6. Registration and Essay **must** be approved by Gabis Arboretum Staff prior to scarecrow drop off
7. Finish your scarecrow and drop it off to the arboretum by noon **September 30, 2020**.

HELPFUL HINTS

- Scotchgard© works to protect clothes against mildew.
- Stuffing can be made from many materials. Plastic bags & bubble wrap work well. Newspaper is not suggested.
- Scarecrows are outdoors and exposed to the elements for a full month. Please avoid water soluble glues and paints.
- Use weather-resistant material, like nylon & polyester.
- Ideas for the head: stuffed pillow case, gourd, milk jug, ball, or wood
- Ideas for hair: shredded plastic, dried moss, old mop, yarn
- Scarecrows stay outside in the arboretum, so make sure everything is secure. Sewing works best, but large safety pins or staples will work.
- A great resource: *Scarecrows: Making Harvest Figures and Other Yard Folks* by Felder Rushing



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- Scarecrows will be outdoors in the elements for a full month. Please avoid use of water soluble glue and paint. We suggest using plastic bags rather than paper for stuffing scarecrows.
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