

## Students Invited to Write Valentines to Mother Earth

An AUSD parent and environmental advocate is inviting students from across Alameda to create “Valentines for Mother Earth” this month. The local initiative is part of her work with the East Bay Climate Restoration Circle, a relatively new local non-profit organization that aims to bring multiple companies, organizations, and individuals together to take action on climate change.

“My goal is to celebrate our love for Mother Earth, to engage people, to inspire passion and joy and the love around the planet starting here in sweet Alameda,” says Sheila Jacobs, a local therapist whose two sons have gone through AUSD from kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Students of all ages are encouraged to create Valentines for the planet in any visual or performing art form (including drawings, paintings, collages, photographs, prose, songs, dances, and skits) and then post photos or videos on social media with the hashtag #ValentinesforMotherEarth and/or #climaterestoration. Possible themes



include: “What do you love most about the planet?” and “What do you wish for the planet?”

The non-profit is also encouraging families to let their families and friends across the country (and in other countries!) know about the campaign. “We want this Global Valentine to be like the Ice Bucket Challenge,” Jacobs says. “We want it to go viral! The idea is for all of us to come together on Valentine’s Day 2019. And it makes sense to start in Alameda because we are the only city in the Bay Area that is entirely surrounded by rising waters.”

You can learn more about the Climate Restoration Circle on its [Facebook page](#) and on the [Healthy Climate Alliance website](#). And you can read more about AUSD’s environmental literacy and green programs on [our website](#).