



For Immediate Release:
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WEST BASIN RECOGNIZES STUDENT WINNERS OF LOCAL WATER-THEMED ART CONTEST
More than 470 entries portrayed vital water conservation messages

CARSON, Calif. – Fifteen local art contest winners whose artwork highlighted the importance of conserving water were recognized by the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Board of Directors on April 28, 2014. As part of West Basin’s program to foster the awareness of water conservation, particularly during a time of drought, the 2014 Water is Life Student Art Contest encourages third through twelfth grade students to create a water conservation message and illustrate it with original, hand-created artwork.

This year, more than 470 entries were received from 41 public and private schools throughout coastal Los Angeles and winning art pieces were chosen based on the creativity of students’ portrayal of water conservation messages coupled with their artistic skill. Three grand prize winners were awarded an iPad2, stylus, \$25 App Store gift card and a Top 10 list of art apps for kids while 12 honorable mention awardees received an iPad2 and Top 10 list of art apps for kids – all of whom were recognized at the Water is Life Awards Ceremony on April 28, 2014 in Carson.

To support the drought, winning artwork will be featured on bookmarks and posters at the winners’ schools and local public libraries and will be available beginning May 2014 to further convey the importance of water conservation.

“The artwork and accompanying messages are really timely as we are experiencing a drought and remain committed to educating our students and the community on the need to conserve water,” said Donald L. Dear, West Basin Board Vice President. “We’d like to thank all the participants of the 2014 Water is Life Student Art Contest who took the time to illustrate these meaningful water conservation messages.”

Sponsorship for the 2014 art contest came from The Law Offices of Lemieux O’Neill, the Water Replenishment District of Southern California, and United Water. Grand prize winners from this year’s Water is Life Art Contest include:

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1. Elementary School Grand Prize Winner – Matthew Setlich, Grade 4, Crestwood Street Elementary School, Rancho Palos Verdes
2. Middle School Grand Prize Winner – Kaiya Bouey, Grade 6, South Bay Faith Academy, Redondo Beach
3. High School Grand Prize Winner – JiEun Jeong, Grade 11, Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, Rolling Hills Estates

Winning artwork of the grand prize winners and honorable mention awardees are featured on the [West Basin website](#). For more information about the Water is Life Student Art Contest and to learn more about West Basin's various education programs, please visit www.westbasin.org.

Photo Attached: West Basin Municipal Water District's Board of Directors, sponsor representatives from Lemieux and O'Neill and United Water and grand prize winners and honorable mention awardees at the Water is Life Student Art Contest Awards Ceremony on April 28, 2014.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area. West Basin is reducing its dependence on imported water through its Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean water to its portfolio by the year 2020. Visit www.westbasin.org to learn more.