

# NEWS RELEASE



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## PHOTO ADVISORY

### UPPER DISTRICT ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 2017 “WATER IS LIFE” STUDENT ART CONTEST

MONROVIA, CA, -- On July 18, 2017, the Board of Directors for the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District) honored 20 San Gabriel Valley students who submitted award-winning entries to Upper District’s annual “*Water is Life*,” student art contest.

Upper District’s “*Water is Life*” art contest helps raise water conservation awareness while educating students on the importance of preserving our most precious natural resource. This year, Upper District received a total of 123 entries from 30 schools located across the district’s service territory. All eligible art entries were displayed at Upper District to allow Board members, staff, and members of the public the opportunity to vote by ballot for their top choices in each student category. Art contest entries are divided into four award categories: Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grades, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades, 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades, and 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades. Within each of these award categories, the art entries with the highest votes are designated as 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place.

The top 5 student artists within each of the four grade-level categories and their families were invited to last Tuesday’s Board meeting, where each winning student was presented with a congratulatory certificate. Upper District’s winning entries will now go on to compete in the “*Water is Life*” student art contest hosted by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The winners of Metropolitan’s contest are usually announced in late autumn. The winners of Upper District’s 2017 “*Water is Life*” art contest are as follows:

#### K- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Fiana Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Angie Li, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Weihao Luo, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Claire Heyler-Erickson, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Marengo Elementary School
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place: April Vong, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, LA Art Academy

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grades

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Sunny Xu, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Lena Huang, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Cathy Jialu Gu, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Eric Gu, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place: Belle Bao, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Christ Lutheran School

## 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Shang Ying Wu, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Iris Xu, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, LA Art Academy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Bianca Villeda, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Madrid Middle School
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Nikki Ma, 8<sup>th</sup> Place, Madrid Middle School
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place: Savannary Phan, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Sierra Vista Middle School

## 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Emily Chan-Diaz, 9<sup>th</sup> grade, Rosemead High School
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Setthinan Joy Siridachanon, 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Rosemead High School
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Natalie Ayala, 11<sup>th</sup> grade, La Puente High School
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Natalia Jacobo, 9<sup>th</sup> grade, La Puente High School
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place: Manuel Ponce, 10<sup>th</sup> grade, La Puente High School



(Photo Caption: Upper District Board of Directors, Alfonso Contreras, Bryan Urias, Ed Chavez, Dr. Anthony Fellow and Charles Trevino with the winners of the 2017 “*Water is Life*” art contest.)



(Photo Caption: Families of the 2017 “Water is Life” art contest, gather at Upper District’s Board of Directors meeting for the “Water is Life” awards ceremony.)

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*Upper District’s mission is to provide a reliable, sustainable, diversified and affordable portfolio of high quality water supplies to the San Gabriel Valley; including water conservation, recycled water, storm water capture, storage, water transfers and imported water. Upper District services nearly one million people in its 144 square mile service territory. Governed by a five member elected board of directors, Upper District is a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Annually, more than 78 billion gallons of water is used in Upper District’s service area. For more information about Upper District, please visit our website [www.upperdistrict.org](http://www.upperdistrict.org) or call 626-443-2297.*