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Young Local Artists Recognized in Annual Water Awareness Poster Contest

(Calabasas, CA - May 14, 2013) Twelve local students have been recognized as finalists in annual Water Awareness Poster Contest, sponsored by Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) during ceremonies held at the Board of Directors meeting held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

The posters were selected from more than 2,300 entries by elementary-school students attending schools within the LVMWD service area. The artwork encompasses a wide range of artistic approaches— including watercolors, mixed-media, and crayon creations -- all centering on the importance of water in our daily lives.

Families, teachers and school officials joined the students at the LVMWD Board meeting for recognition and celebration. Each finalist was presented with a personalized Certificate of Recognition and a T-shirt showing their artwork.

The Ann Dorgelo Water Awareness Award, a perpetual traveling trophy, will be presented to the school of the top finalist. Named in honor of a long-term member of LVMWD's Board of Directors in recognition for her commitment to excellence in education, the trophy will once again be proudly displayed at Bay Laurel Elementary School in Calabasas for the coming year. The top finalist, Liane Lee, a 5th grader in Miss Gilani's class, has won this honor for her school three consecutive years. Her poster, a masterful watercolor, depicts a koi pond and states, "Fix a Leak and Save a Creek!"

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The 11 other finalists in the LVMWD contest are:

- **Shea Franklin**, is from Ms. Echt's 5th grade class at Bay Laurel Elementary School in Calabasas. Shea's poster states "Don't Be a Drip" in bold words with an eye-grabbing illustration of a faucet.
- **Katelyn Pool**, from Ms. Kodama's 4th grade class at Bay Laurel Elementary School, cleverly shows the planet Earth in conversation with the planet Venus. Katelyn was also a finalist last year as a 3rd grader.
- **Kylee Mellick**, is a 3rd grader in Ms. Wood's class at Round Meadow Elementary School in Hidden Hills. Her attractive poster states "The Best Things Need Water" and shows a variety of plants in a colorful garden. Kylee was also a finalist last year as a 2nd grader.
- **Riley Jackson**, is in Ms. Fleischman's 2nd grade class at Round Meadow Elementary School. Riley illustrates a water drop super hero, demonstrating several ways to "Conserve Water Every Day". In addition, Riley has been a top finalist for the past two years.
- **Roxanne Chevalier**, is a 5th grad student in Ms. Pope's class at Willow Elementary School in Agoura Hills. Roxanne's poster strongly urges the viewer to "Use Your Power ~ Take Shorter Showers!" A masked water drop hero illustrates "the power."
- **Sheva Linick**, attends 5th grade in Mr. Janton's class at Willow. Her poster uses the image of a tree with its roots embracing the Earth to boldly encourage the viewer to "Water the World Wisely".

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- **Gloria Tibbets**, is a 4th grader in Mrs. Church's class at Willow School. Her artwork shows a sink and faucet with happy water drops embedded on a rainy day scene and states, "Every single drop counts!"
- **Clara Polsky**, attends 3rd grade in Mrs. Yongmaneeratana's class at Mariposa Global Education School in Agoura Hills. With a bird's eye view, Clara depicts how "Water is a reflection of life" as a tiger and a small animal peacefully share a drink from a stream as their faces are reflected back from the water's surface.
- **Tyler Proud**, a 2nd grader in Mrs. Godinez's class at Lupin Hill Elementary School in Calabasas uses colorful and bold lettering, in an eye-catching poster that states, "Turn off the water when you brush".
- **Amelie Wilcox** is a 1st grade student in Mrs. Finigan's class at Yerba Buena Elementary School in Agoura Hills. With colorful flowers and the Earth and Sun showing how everything is connected to water, Amelie's poster states, "Water gives birth to the Life on Earth".
- **Sophia Imhof**, a 5th grader in Mrs. Kallman class at Yerba Buena submitted a poster with a dramatic view of the world without water, showing sand dunes and a stranded sailboat with dead fish as it simply asks, "Got Water?"

The selected posters will join the artwork of past finalists on display at District headquarters on Las Virgenes Road and are also available for viewing at the District's website, www.LVMWD.com. LVMWD's annual Water Awareness Poster Contest is one of the District's many educational programs helping to instill lifelong water conservation practices in young people.

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Water conservation is very important in our arid region that has no native potable water supply; we must import 100% of our drinking water.

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District serves residents of the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, and Westlake Village, and surrounding unincorporated areas of western Los Angeles County.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos of the students at the awards ceremonies are available in digital format; contact Deborah Peters at: dpeters@lvmwd.com or 818-251-2125.