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For Immediate Release

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STUDENT ARTISTS RECOGNIZED IN ANNUAL WATER AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST

CALABASAS, CA, May 11, 2016— Twelve local students have been recognized as finalists in Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD)'s annual Water Awareness Poster Contest at a ceremony held during the District's Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2016.

The honored posters were selected from more than 2,500 entries created and submitted by elementary school students from schools within the LVMWD service area. Artworks were created using different types of media, including watercolors, pastels, markers and crayons—all centering on the importance of water in our daily lives.

Families, teachers and school officials joined the student finalists at the recognition ceremony. Each student was presented with a personalized Certificate of Recognition and T-shirt, featuring their artwork.

The Ann Dorgelo Water Awareness Award, a perpetual traveling trophy, was presented to the school of the top finalist. Named for a long-term LVMWD board member in recognition of her commitment to excellence in education, the trophy will be proudly displayed at Bay Laurel Elementary in Calabasas for the coming school year. The top finalist is **Delara Barahman**, a 4th grader in Ms. Kodama's class. Her "Water is Life" poster reminds us that water is essential to all living things.

The 11 other finalists in this year's contest are:

Chris Lee, a 3rd grader in Mrs. Seideman's class at Sumac Elementary in Agoura Hills.

Julia Mahoney, an 11th grader in Ms. Boyd's AP environmental science class at Westlake High School in Westlake Village.

Ryan Arnold, a 4th grader in Mrs. Church's class at Willow Elementary in Agoura Hills.

Elisa Kim, a 5th grader in Ms. Parker's class at Willow Elementary.

Riley Krane, a 5th grader in Miss Gilani's class at Bay Laurel Elementary.

Luna Altshuler, a kindergartener in Miss Hyman's class at Round Meadow Elementary in Hidden Hills.

Anya Ahuja, a 3rd grader in Ms. Tulbure's class at Chaparral Elementary in Calabasas.

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Nichole Yamauchi, a 4th grader in Mrs. LaChapelle's class at Lupin Hill Elementary in Calabasas.

Addison Abrar, a 4th grader in Mrs. Church's class at Willow Elementary.

Bailee Klein, a 4th grader in Mrs. Ekizian's class at Sumac Elementary.

Sera Collis, a 3rd grader in Mrs. Carlson's class at Yerba Buena Elementary in Agoura Hills.

The top twelve posters can be viewed at: www.LVMWD.com/2016-poster-contest-finalists. These posters will also join those of past finalists on display at LVMWD headquarters on Las Virgenes Road.

LVMWD's annual Water Awareness Poster Contest is one of the district's many educational programs designed to instill lifelong water conservation practices in young people, which is very important in this naturally arid region that must import 100% of its drinking water supplies.

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District provides potable water and wastewater treatment services to residents of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village and adjacent unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County including the Santa Monica Mountains and Chatsworth.

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