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## **WEST BASIN ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE “BEING WATER WISE IS...” STUDENT ART CONTEST**

*Students from Hawthorne, Rancho Palos Verdes, and Inglewood honored with ceremony and prizes*

**CARSON, Calif.** – A new wave of students is being recognized and rewarded for creating thought-provoking artwork that demonstrates the importance of water conservation. The West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Board of Directors is proud to announce the grand prize winners and honorable mentions of the 2024 “Being Water Wise Is...” art contest.

Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade in the West Basin service area put their minds to work and brought their ideas to life by designing eye-catching artwork with a mission-driven purpose of spreading awareness about using water efficiently in their homes, schools, and communities. Out of more than 650 submissions, one grand prize winner and up to four honorable mentions were selected in each of the elementary, middle, and high school categories for their ingenuity and unique approach to depicting the crucial impacts of water consumption and conservation methods.

“We were incredibly impressed by the caliber of artwork submitted by these student artists and we appreciate the passion of these young advocates to promote water sustainability,” said West Basin Division III Director and Board President Desi Alvarez. “Their pieces not only showcased their talents but also conveyed powerful messages about the significance of helping to protect one of our planet’s most vital resources.”

West Basin’s new art competition theme “Being Water Wise Is...” focuses on conservation and practical uses of water in everyday life and includes different mediums like 3D sculptures, computer-generated, photography, fabric, watercolors, chalk, pencils, crayons, and more.

### **2024 Grand Prize Winners**

- Elementary School: Pranay Pandya, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Aviation Elementary School, Hawthorne
- Middle School: Siyou Kim, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Ridgecrest Intermediate School/Seoul Arts Academy, Rancho Palos Verdes
- High School: Evelyn Perez, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, Morningside High School, Inglewood

These students were recognized for their work at the West Basin Board Meeting on Monday, April 22, 2024. Please find the full list of awardees, artwork gallery, and photos from the ceremony at [www.westbasin.org/artcontest](http://www.westbasin.org/artcontest).

The “Being Water Wise Is...” art contest is a collaborative partnership between West Basin and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan). The winning entries from West Basin’s local contest will advance to Metropolitan’s regional competition, with a chance to be featured in the agency’s 2025 student artwork calendar. Each winner is awarded a new Apple iPad, with Grand Prize winners additionally receiving a digital stylus pen and a \$25 Apple Store gift card.

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*West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is a wholesale water agency that serves nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. West Basin provides imported drinking water, recycled water, and conservation and education programs. Through its Water for Tomorrow Program, West Basin is committed to protecting, diversifying, and securing our water supply for the future while continuing a history of innovation and industry leadership. Visit [www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org) to learn more.*