

# Water is Life

## Student Art Contest

...for 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students

### 2011 High School Grand Prize Award

Joseph Marshall, Grade 12  
Leuzinger High School,  
Hawthorne

Sponsored by West Basin Municipal Water District  
Co-sponsored by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

## Grand Prize wins a new MacPro laptop computer!

Looking for a fun, simple way to help your students learn about water?

Participate in West Basin Municipal Water District's Student Art Contest and celebrate May 2012 as Water Awareness Month!

This project will inspire your students to learn about conserving our precious water resources while thinking of creative ways to promote the contest theme, "**Water is Life.**" Students may visit our web site at [www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org) for additional water-related information and see last year's art entries.

Entries will be accepted in various media including crayons, markers, pencils, paint, pastels, cut paper, and fabric. Sorry... photography or computer generated artwork is not permitted.

One Grand Prize winner will be awarded in each of the elementary, middle and high school categories.

Please complete the attached entry form and affix it to the back of each submitted entry. Parents/guardians must sign the "Student Artwork Rights/Approval" section for each submission. **Each artwork submission must identify a teacher sponsor who must submit the artwork to West Basin.**

Send Artwork To: West Basin Municipal Water District  
ATTN: Darryl Ramos-Young  
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210  
Carson, CA 90746-1296

**Deadline for entries is Friday, March 9, 2012**, including postmarked submissions. For further information, contact Darryl Ramos-Young at (310) 660-6216 or [darrylr@westbasin.org](mailto:darrylr@westbasin.org).

## 2012 “Water Is Life” Student Art Contest

The rules listed below apply to all entries. In fairness to all, these rules are important and must be followed in order for the artwork to be considered as a winner.

### “Water is Life” CONTEST RULES:

1. Contest is open to students currently in grades 3-12, attending a school located in **one of the five West Basin service divisions** (see attached map and division boundaries and school list). Artwork from students outside of the West Basin service area will not be accepted.
2. Artwork must be sent in a flat, sturdy box or package **(NO TUBES... and please do not fold artwork)**.
3. Each submitted entry to West Basin Municipal Water District **MUST** have a completed and signed entry form attached to the back of the artwork. **Here’s the process for entries (new this year!):**
  - A. Conduct your own contest in your classroom.
  - B. Select the top three winning art work submissions from your class.
  - C. Mail these top three winning artwork submissions only to West Basin.
  - D. Include in the mail package a list of all participating students’ first and last names so each student can be recognized and receive a certificate of participation and thank you package.
  - F. (optional) Include in the mail package completed Water Is Life Electronic Scavenger Hunt. All participants are eligible to win a \$50 gift card to Michaels Arts and Crafts Store.
4. The **DEADLINE** for submitting your classes’ three finalist artwork is **March 9, 2012**.

#### **Send Your Three Entries To:**

West Basin Municipal Water District  
ATTN: Darryl Ramos-Young  
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210  
Carson, CA 90746-1296

5. Art must be submitted on **12” X 18” WHITE** poster board or WHITE drawing paper, with a **one-inch white or blank border left on all four sides of the art, resulting in a final illustrated surface area of 10” X 16”**. (Oversized and undersized artwork, as well as artwork without a one-inch border, will not be accepted)

6. Artwork must be drawn **horizontally**. (Vertical artwork will not be accepted)
7. Artwork should depict various water uses and/or wise water use...
  - a. inside or outside of the home or school
  - b. in industries or business
  - c. in the environment
  - d. in agriculture
  - e. in recreation
8. "Water Is Life" is the theme. A "short" water awareness or water conservation phrase must be written on the artwork (but not necessarily *water is life*). The less words written, the better. Keep it simple.
9. Words must be spelled correctly. Please check spelling and punctuation. Incorrect grammar or spelling will not be accepted.
10. **BOLD, BRIGHT, BRILLIANT** colors show up the best! Students may use the following art media: crayons, markers, pencils, paints, watercolors, chinks, cut paper or fabric.
11. Artwork must be **ORIGINAL** (no traced, trademarked, or copyrighted characters and slogans, i.e. Mickey Mouse, Sponge Bob, etc.) Also, no copycat ideas of artwork from past years.
12. A short poem about the illustrated water awareness or water conservation topic may be written by the artist and recorded on the submitted entry form, or on an additional 8 ½ "x 11" sheet attached to the back of the artwork. Written submissions will be evaluated as part of the judging process. Poems are encouraged, but **not required** for student submissions.

Visit the following web pages for additional poetry resources...

Different types of poetry for kids:

**[www.kathimitchell.com/poemtypes.html](http://www.kathimitchell.com/poemtypes.html)**

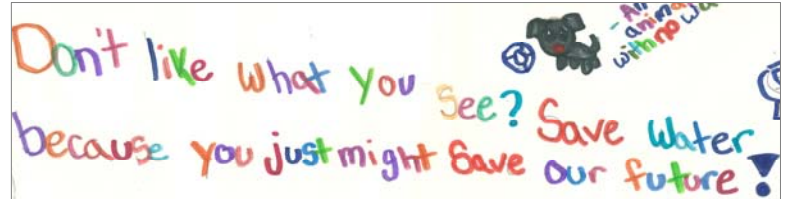
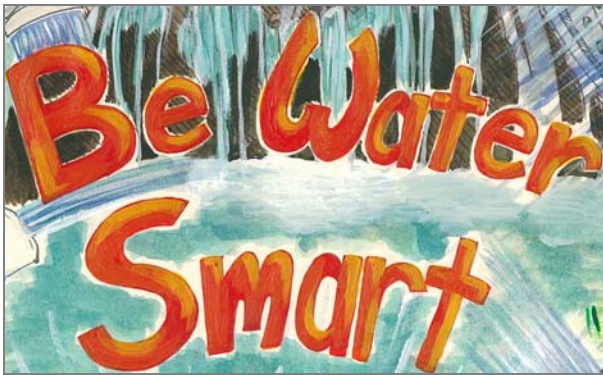
Winning water related student poetry from The River of Words program:

**<http://www.riverofwords.org/poetrytips.html>**

Thank you for your participation in the contest and your cooperation with regard to these contest rules. If you have any questions, contact Darryl Ramos-Young at (310) 660-6216 or at [darrylr@westbasin.org](mailto:darrylr@westbasin.org).

# Helpful Tips: What makes an award winning art piece?

1. Keep the water slogan brief, using a type font that is LARGE and simple.



2. Ensure a strong water slogan that demonstrates the student's understanding of the importance of water and/or the need to practice wise water use.

Strong Water Slogan



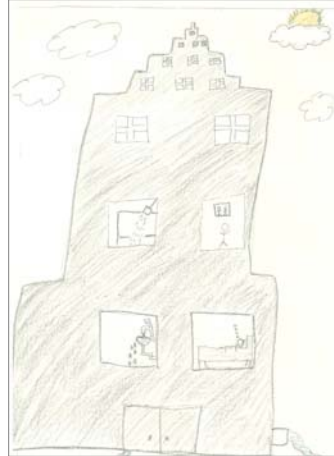
Weak Water Slogan



3. Keep illustration simple and characters large. Reproduced artwork will be reduced to 95% to fit on bookmarks.



4. Encourage student artist to use media that provides consistent, broad coverage in **bright, bold, rich** colors. If crayons are used, the artist must press hard on the paper for dark, rich colors. Pastels do not reproduce well.



5. Ensure a 1-inch border around artwork to allow framing. Many award quality art submissions have been rejected because the border was missing.



With Border...YES!

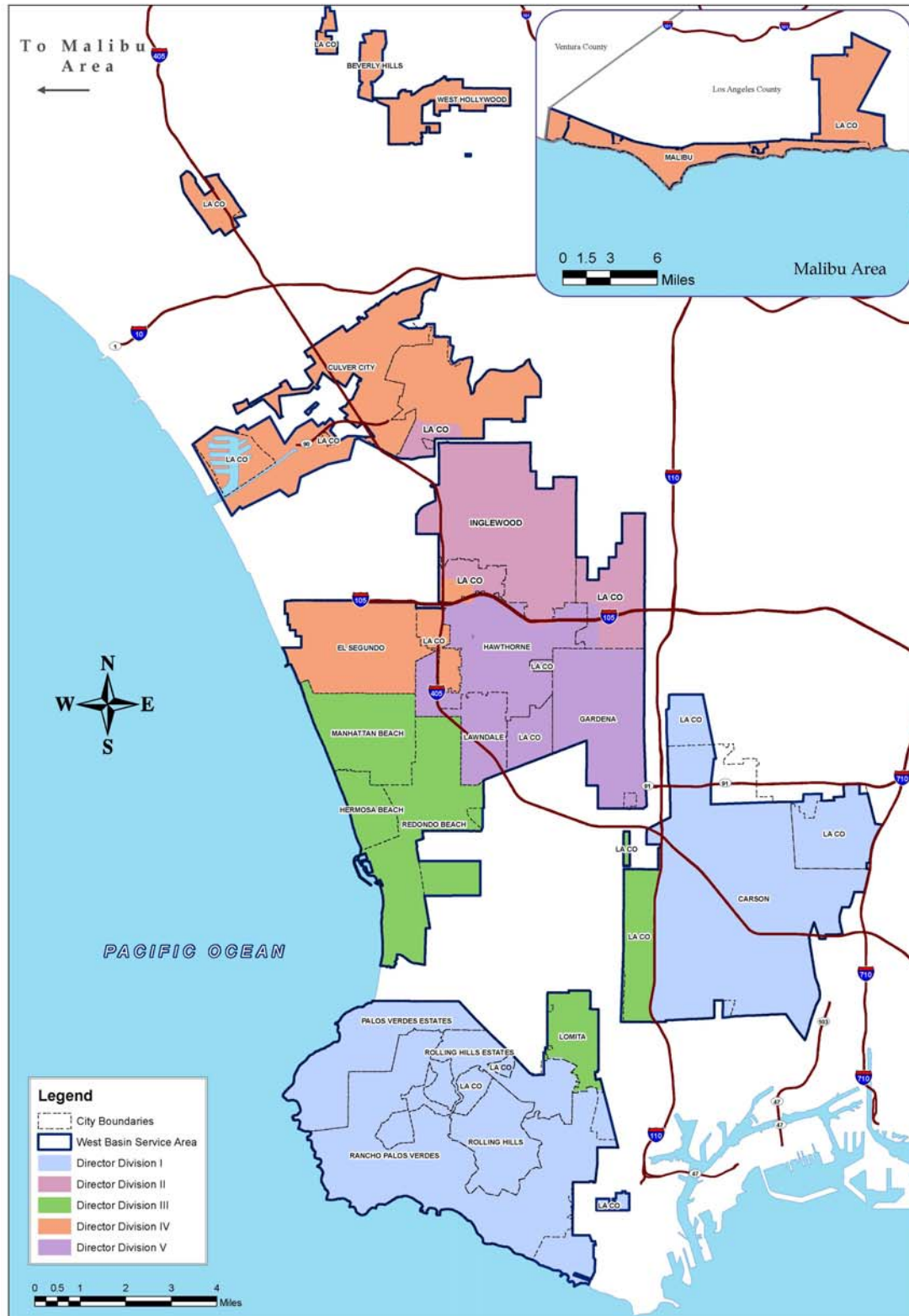


Without Border.....NO!





## West Basin Municipal Water District Director Divisions



### Service Area Divisions

#### Division I:

Carson  
Palos Verdes Estates  
Rancho Palos Verdes  
Rolling Hills  
Rolling Hills Estates  
San Pedro

#### Division II:

Inglewood  
Lennox,  
Athens  
Howard  
Ross-Sexton

#### Division III:

Hermosa Beach  
Lomita  
Manhattan Beach  
Redondo Beach  
Torrance

#### Division IV:

Culver City  
El Segundo  
Malibu  
West Hollywood  
Lennox  
North Ladera Heights  
Del Aire  
Topanga  
View Park  
Windsor Hills

#### Division V:

Gardena  
Hawthorne  
Lawndale  
El Camino Village

For further information regarding school or student eligibility, please call (310) 660-6216 or email

[darrylr@westbasin.org](mailto:darrylr@westbasin.org) with your school name and address.