



For Immediate Release:

July 12, 2011

Contact:

Noelle Collins, Media & Public Information
310-660-6217 noellec@westbasin.org

LOCAL STUDENTS AWARDED WATER RELIABILITY SCHOLARSHIPS

CARSON, Calif.—Two students from the Palos Verdes Peninsula have been awarded college scholarships to help further their interest in water careers by West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin). \$1,000 each has been awarded to Danielle Swenson from Palos Verdes High School and Kelly Govenar from Palos Verdes Peninsula High School toward tuition and books.

Board President Ronald C. (Ron) Smith said, “We are fortunate to have motivated, high achieving young people in our communities who clearly deserve recognition for their dedication to water issues and their desire to pursue a career in the water industry or related field.” Smith continued, “These two hard working young ladies have demonstrated their commitment to helping others and following through on important issues and we’re proud to support their next step toward a water-related career.”

Danielle Swenson has been a Girl Scout, member of the National Honor Society and CA Scholarship Federation, Surfrider Foundation beach cleanup team, lifeguard, swim teacher, member of her high school’s swim team, and volunteers at the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy to help restore native habitat. Danielle’s essay focused on water quality and using water efficiently.

Kelly Govenar has been involved with Heal the Bay, Brown Environmental Leadership Lab, member of the high school volleyball and soccer teams, and served as French Club/Honor Society Co-President, Volunteered at Providence Little Company of Mary Hospital, National Charity League Thrift Shop, and Pediatric Therapy Network. Kelly’s essay focused on water pollution and water quality.

This year’s scholarship recipients were graduating high school seniors living in, or attending, a school within the West Basin service area and have been accepted into a trade school, junior college, or university. The scholarship program recognizes academic achievement and community service and requires an essay about the applicant’s interest in water as a study or profession. The goal of the program is to nurture the next generation of water professionals.

###

West Basin Municipal Water District is reducing its dependence on imported water through the Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean-water to our portfolio by the year 2020. Partnering with community organizations, businesses and other public agencies keeps West Basin lean and strengthens its programs. West Basin is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area.