



February 2, 2017

Amy Rocha, Communications Manager
310-660-6218 | AmyR@westbasin.org

Water is Life Art Contest Deadline is March 17

Annual West Basin Education Program Challenges Students to Portray the Importance of Water

CARSON, Calif. – The Water is Life student art contest is an education program of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), a regional water provider whose member agencies include the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin). West Basin, the local water wholesaler for the coastal cities of Los Angeles County, implements the Water is Life contest each year. This annual education program inspires and challenges students to portray the importance of water and water efficiency using creative slogans and original artwork.

West Basin's 2017 Water is Life art contest is now accepting artwork from 3rd-12th grade students in the District. Select entries may win an iPad Air 2 tablet, advance to Metropolitan's regional competition and potentially become featured in the 2018 calendar and art show. The submission deadline is March 17, 2017.

"West Basin encourages students in our service area to participate in this year's Water is Life contest," said West Basin President Harold Williams. "We are proud of the beautiful artwork that represents the district in this year's Water is Life calendar, and hope our students will continue to inspire and remind us to be responsible water stewards."

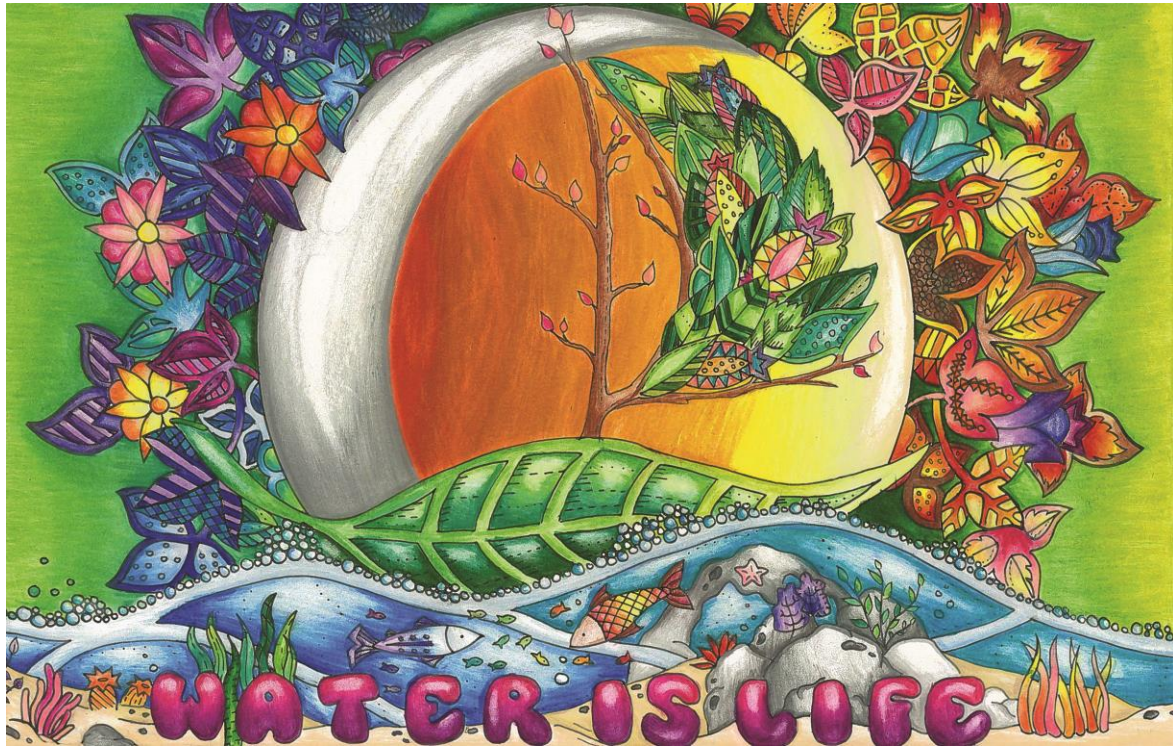
During last year's competition, El Segundo Middle School student Nayeli Soon (then in 6th grade) and Lunda Bay Elementary School student Minji Kang (then in 5th grade) were recognized among 15 winners in West Basin's local Water is Life art contest in April 2016. As a result, in June 2016, both award-winning artwork was forwarded to Metropolitan's regional Water is Life art contest. Of the 472 participating regional schools and over 14,900 participating student artists, Soon and Kang's artwork were chosen as one of 36 art pieces to be reproduced in Metropolitan's annual Water is Life calendar. Soon's piece was then selected as the cover for the 2017 calendar.

More than 10,000 2017 calendars have been printed and distributed across the region. All winning artwork is reproduced in promotional and informational materials locally and regionally during the year. In addition, all 36 original student art pieces travel the region as part of the annual Water is Life Student Art Show hosted by Metropolitan member agencies.

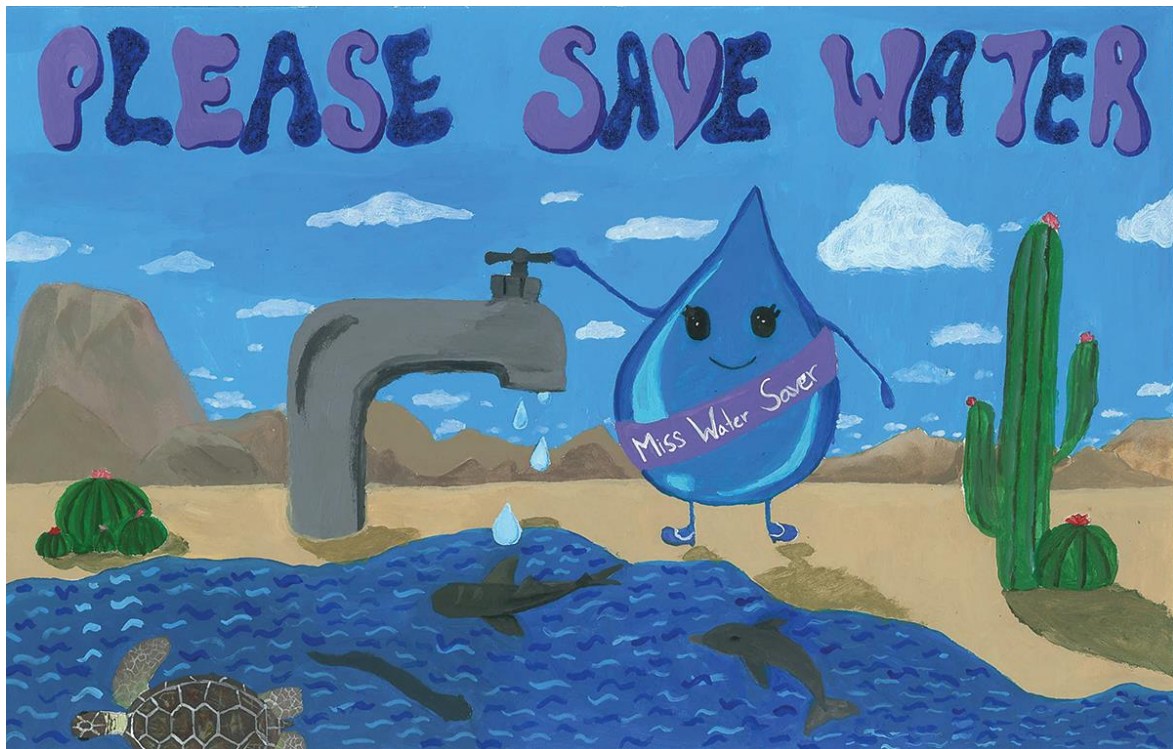
For more information on the Water is Life art contest, please visit <http://www.westbasin.org>.

###

West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is a wholesale water agency that provides imported drinking water to nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. West Basin is an industry leader in water recycling, conservation, and water education. West Basin is currently implementing a Water Reliability program to reduce the agency's dependence on imported water and develop drought-proof local water supplies. The program includes water recycling, water conservation, groundwater desalting and ocean water desalination. Visit www.westbasin.org to learn more.



Water is Life 2017 Calendar Cover Artwork by Nayeli Soon, El Segundo Middle School, El Segundo, Calif. Courtesy of West Basin Municipal Water District. The deadline for this year's Water is Life art contest is March 17, 2017.



Water is Life 2017 Calendar Artwork by Minji Kang, Lunada Bay Elementary School, Palos Verdes Estates, Calif. Courtesy of West Basin Municipal Water District.