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Water is Life Student Art Contest Seeks Entries, Due March 9, 2012

CARSON, Calif. — West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) announces its "Call for Entries" for the much anticipated 2012 *Water is Life* student art contest. The *Water is Life* student art contest encourages 3rd through 12th grade students in the West Basin service area to learn about using water resources efficiently while thinking of creative ways to depict wise uses of water at home, school, industry or business, the environment, agriculture or recreation.

Students in West Basin's service area should check with their teacher, read the guidelines and prepare their artwork in various media including crayons, markers, pencils, paint, pastels, cut paper, and fabric to submit to their teacher. No photography or computer generated artwork is permitted for this contest. Teachers will then choose the top three works of art from their class to submit for judging by West Basin's panel of judges. West Basin staff will select the finalists, with West Basin's five directors deciding which work will be the one grand prize winner in each of the elementary, middle, and high school categories.

Each grand prize winner will receive a new Mac Pro laptop computer and be recognized at the award recognition ceremony held at West Basin's Donald L. Dear headquarters building in Carson. Honorable mentions will also be recognized for their artwork. Some works may be displayed in West Basin's newsletter, on its website, and produced into bookmarks, posters or other outreach materials.

Education is a key component to increasing water efficiency in homes, businesses, and public places and the *Water is Life* art contest helps bring awareness and move West Basin one step closer to achieving the goals of its Water Reliability 2020 program. Water Reliability 2020 aims to reduce our dependence on imported water by 50 percent by the year 2020. To learn more, visit <u>www.westbasin.org</u>.

Deadline for entries is Friday, March 9, 2012. Guidelines are available for download from West Basin's website at <u>www.westbasin.org</u>. For water-related information or to see last year's entries, visit the Education section of West Basin's website.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area. West Basin 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. <u>www.westbasin.org</u>