

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Students Receive Awards for Artwork that Promotes Clean Water

An award ceremony honoring 16 young people from kindergarten through 12th grade for their artwork will be held at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, 2nd and Walnut Streets, on Tuesday, April 16 at 4 p.m.

The Clean Water Begins and Ends with You drawing contest shows how Philadelphians can help prevent stormwater runoff pollution. The contest also provided students with a better understanding of how stormwater runoff pollution adversely affects our local waterways.

Award presenters include officials from the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary and the Philadelphia Water Department. Those invited include Philadelphia public, private and parochial school students and their families.

The drawings of the students receiving first place prizes will be used to promote the stormwater runoff pollution prevention message on SEPTA buses in celebration of the 32nd anniversary of Earth Day, April 22, 2002. In addition, the 16 winning students will have their work featured in a special 15-month calendar entitled Clean Water Begins and Ends with You.

Stormwater runoff carries motor oil, fertilizers, pesticides and litter off of the land and into either storm drains or directly to local streams and rivers, which eventually flow to the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers, the sources of Philadelphia's drinking water supply.

Winners were selected in four different categories, according to grade: K to second grade, third to fifth grade, sixth to eighth grade and ninth to twelfth grade.

First place winners receive \$200 savings bonds, second place prizes are \$150 savings bonds, third place prizes are \$100 savings bonds, and honorable mentions receive \$50 savings bonds. All winners will also receive an art supply kit.

The first place winners are Clifford Fair II, Northeast High School; Rahel Teklegiorgis, St. Francis de Sales School; David Mao Ye, Greenfield School; and Grace Meredith, Germantown Friends School.

Second place winners are Brandon G. White, Chestnut Hill Academy; Kitakiya Dennis, St. Francis de Sales School; Olivia Gee, St. Francis de Sales School; and Kristen Kelly, Germantown Friends School.

Third place winners are Sarah Cortes, Springside School; Nellya Nikulina, Baldi Middle School; Zoey Toy, Greenfield School; and Bari Gilbert, Germantown Friends School.

Honorable mention goes to Jonathan Rodriguez, Northeast High School; Ronald Williams, Daroff Elementary School; Julie Brunwasser, Solis-Cohen Elementary School; and Julia Murray, Solis-Cohen Elementary School.

The contest is open to all Philadelphia public, private and parochial schools. It is sponsored by the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary and the Philadelphia Water Department.

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