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NEWS RELEASE

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Water Spots Videos Need Your Vote!

High School Videos Showcase Creativity, Humor

SACRAMENTO-- Clever narrative, humor and even some animation--those are some of the ingredients found in the nearly 90 videos submitted in the Water Spots video contest, sponsored by the Regional Water Authority (RWA), Sacramento Bee Media in Education and local water providers.



From raps and jingles to serious messages about water scarcity, Sacramento-area high school students showed off their creativity in 30-second public service announcements on outdoor water efficiency.

Celebrity judges narrowed the videos down to 11 finalists, **now it's the public's turn to vote for their favorite by Wednesday, April 25, 2012** at www.sacbee.com/mie or <http://guide.sacbee.com/2012/04/10/5247/water-spots-voting.html>.

The finalists and grand prize winner will be unveiled on **Sunday, April 29, at 12:25 p.m.** on Raley Field's Jumbotron before the Sacramento River Cats game. Winning students and teachers will also get cash prizes. The grand prize winner's spot will become part of RWA's 2012 Blue Thumb water efficiency campaign, which encourages Sacramento-area residents to earn their Blue Thumb by using water efficiently outdoors.

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In addition to celebrating Water Spots finalists, the Regional Water Authority will launch its 2012 Blue Thumb pledge drive at the April 29 game. Three lucky fans will be selected for a garden hose limbo contest on the field, and one will win a wheelbarrow of gardening equipment and starter plants by taking the Blue Thumb pledge.

Water Spots finalists include:

- Bobby Cary, Woodcreek High School (Mark Hajewski, teacher)
- Riley Murtagh, Woodcreek High School (Mark Hajewski, teacher)
- Gerald Snow, Woodcreek High School (Mark Hajewski, teacher)
- Bailey Jensen, Woodcreek High School (Mark Hajewski, teacher)
- Ryan Hodgens and Justin Gamboa, Whitney High School (Ben Barnholdt, teacher)
- Sebastian Douglass, Woodcreek High School (Mark Hajewski, teacher)
- Angela Polizzi, Center High School (Vernon Bisho, teacher)
- Jamie Geiger and Venessa Smith, Center High School (Vernon Bisho, teacher)
- Jordan Chavolla and Drue Just, Center High School (Vernon Bisho, teacher)
- Jeremy Knapp, Center High School (Vernon Bisho, teacher)
- Lawrence Simon and Christopher Simon, Jesuit High School (Vito Ferrante, teacher)

Judges included Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, Kathleen Dodge of the Tahoe Film Commission, Jim Metropulos of the Sierra Club, Laura Skirde of KOVR 13, Leo Winternitz of the Nature Conservancy and Monica Woods of News 10. Finalist videos were selected based upon creativity, entertainment value, accuracy, originality and incorporation of the water efficiency topic.

For more information about free water-efficiency services and rebates, and to take the Blue Thumb pledge, visit the Be Water Smart Web site at bewatersmart.info.

About the Regional Water Authority: RWA is a joint powers authority representing 24 water providers and affiliates in the greater Sacramento area. Its primary mission is to help its members protect and enhance the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources.

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