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## NEWS RELEASE

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# 2016 Water Spots Winners Announced

**SACRAMENTO**—Joshua Eddington, Sydney Cook and Ashanti Knox from Franklin High School in Elk Grove took top honors in the 2016 Water Spots Video Contest, sponsored by the Regional Water Authority, local water providers and The Sacramento Bee News in Education Program.



Eddington, Cook and Knox won the "Judge's Choice" first place award, while Cassidy Hildebrand from Center High School in Antelope took home the "People's Choice" award for receiving the most online votes. Winning videos can be viewed on Be Water Smart's YouTube channel at [YouTube.com/BeWaterSmartinfo](http://YouTube.com/BeWaterSmartinfo).

Their videos were among the 35 submitted by middle and high school students from throughout the Sacramento region. Videos conveyed thoughtful and clever messages focused on the 2016 contest theme: *BE A DROUGHT CHAMP: Conserve Water.*

Celebrity judges narrowed videos down to 10 finalists and then selected the top three winners for "Judge's Choice" awards. The public then voted for their favorite to receive the "People's Choice" award.

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The finalist videos and winners were unveiled April 17 on Raley Field's Jumbotron before a Sacramento River Cats game. Winning students and teachers also received cash prizes.

Other winners included:

- "Judge's Choice second place: **Charlie Pierce and Will Barr**, Whitney High School in Rocklin (Benjamin Barnholdt, teacher)
- "Judge's Choice" third place: **Spencer Bennett and David Cameron**, Whitney High School in Rocklin (Benjamin Barnholdt, teacher)

Water Spots finalists included:

- **Leina Chin**, Franklin High School in Elk Grove (Brad Clark, teacher)
- **Ambreen Singh and Julianna Bingham**, Whitney High School in Rocklin (Benjamin Barnholdt, teacher)
- **Jacob Sullivan**, Franklin High School in Elk Grove (Brad Clark, teacher)
- **Alyssa Young and Kat Buisson**, Whitney High School in Rocklin (Benjamin Barnholdt, teacher)
- **Teigen Johnson and Angelica Ballesteros**, Merryhill Middle School in Sacramento (Aaron Zaragoza, teacher)
- **Jaida Sandu, Sarah Karver and Sammy Shelton**, Whitney High School in Rocklin (Benjamin Barnholdt, teacher)

Judges included Kathleen Dodge from the Tahoe Film Commission; Monica Woods from ABC10; Rita Schmidt Sudman from the Water Education Foundation; and Brett Salmi from the Roseville Utility Exploration Center. The selections were based on creativity, entertainment value, accuracy, originality and incorporation of the 2016 water efficiency message.

For more information about finding and fixing leaks, as well as free water-efficiency services and rebates, visit [BeWaterSmart.info](http://BeWaterSmart.info).

***About the Regional Water Authority:*** RWA is a joint powers authority representing two dozen 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.