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NEWS RELEASE

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2018 Water Spots Video Contest Winners Announced

Franklin High School, Will Rogers Middle School and Whitney High School Take Top Honors

SACRAMENTO—The Regional Water Authority is pleased to announce the winners of the 2018 Water Spots Video Contest:

JUDGE’S CHOICE FIRST PLACE AND GRAND PRIZE—*earns \$500 split 50/50 between student and sponsoring teacher and a premier and screening at local movie theaters this summer*

- **“Aqua Saviors” by Gabriel Shane Aguirre** (Brad Clark, teacher), Franklin High School in Elk Grove,

PEOPLE’S CHOICE (with 2,308 online votes)—*earns \$500 split 50/50 between student and sponsoring teacher*

- **“Hydro Hero” by Jasmine Isidoro** (Wendy Esquivel, teacher), Will Rogers Middle School in Fair Oaks

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JUDGE'S CHOICE SECOND PLACE—*earns \$300 split 50/50 between students and sponsoring teacher*

- **“Water-Saving Woman” by Camille Baldovino and Jillian Madden** (Ben Barnholdt, teacher), Whitney High School in Rocklin

JUDGE'S CHOICE THIRD PLACE—*earns \$200 split 50/50 between students and sponsoring teacher*

- **“The Hero in You” by Amanda Mendoza and Mikayla Ayala** (Ben Barnholdt, teacher), Whitney High School in Rocklin

TOP SCORING VIDEO FROM EACH SCHOOL—*earns a \$50 Amazon gift card*

- **“Water Spots Sketch PSA” by Catie Ross** (Matt Rowland, teacher), Arden Middle School in Sacramento
- **“Splash Splash” by Michaela Amoult and Camden Branson** (Rebecca Long, teacher), California Middle School in Sacramento
- **“Be a Water Hero” by Emmy Harmon, Madison Jones, Emely Ramirez and Sloan Woods** (Vernon Bisho, teacher), Center High School in Antelope
- **“Sink Superheroes” by Jayson Ventura** (Brad Clark, teacher), Franklin High School in Elk Grove
- **“H2O Hero Everyone” by Savannah Evans, Talyn Lair and Leila Rasheed** (Jason Cummings, teacher), Rio Linda High School in Rio Linda
- **“You Can Be An H2O Hero” by Bethany Oh and Alyssa Pearce** (Ben Barnholdt, teacher), Whitney High School in Rocklin
- **“Water Power” by Leo Bell, Jason Nyachhayon and Michelle Hernandez** (Wendy Esquivel, teacher), Will Rogers Middle School in Fair Oaks
- **“Heroes Don't Need Capes” by Jacob Lynch and Mikko Gonzales** (Mark Hajewski, teacher), Woodcreek High School in Roseville

Winning videos were among the 100 submitted by middle and high school students from

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throughout the Sacramento region. Videos explored what it means to be an *H2O Hero*, the contest's 2018 theme. Expert 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.

Expert judges included Kathleen Dodge from the Tahoe Film Commission and Rita Schmidt Sudman, senior consultant for the Water Education Foundation and author of the book *Water: More or Less*. The selections were based on creativity, entertainment value, accuracy, originality and incorporation of the 2018 water efficiency message.

In addition, three teachers that submitted the most videos will be presented with Amazon gift cards. These include Matt Rowland of Arden Middle School in Sacramento (25 videos), Jason Cummings of Rio Linda High School in Rio Linda (19 videos) and Brad Clark of Franklin High School in Elk Grove (14 videos).

The Water Spots Video Contest is sponsored by the Regional Water Authority and local water providers. Now in its seventh year, the contest challenges students to create videos focused on a select water efficiency theme. Learn more about the Water Spots Video Contest, water-wise tips and information about free water-efficiency services and rebates at BeWaterSmart.info.

All of the top scoring videos can be viewed on Be Water Smart's YouTube channel at YouTube.com/BeWaterSmartinfo

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. RWA was awarded the national 2016 WaterSense® Excellence in Education and Outreach Award for its outstanding efforts to educate Sacramento-area residents about water efficiency and the WaterSense brand.*

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