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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT ANNOUNCES STUDENT CONTEST WINNERS**

*High school seniors awarded scholarships and fourth-grade students receive water awareness poster contest awards.*

Vista, CA—

Vista Irrigation District has awarded college scholarships to seven high school seniors and selected three fourth-grade students from the local community as winners of two separate district-sponsored contests.

Emilie Taylor from Rancho Buena Vista High School received a \$2,500 scholarship, Samantha Bailey from Rancho Buena Vista High School received a \$2,000 scholarship, and Abigayle Paliotti from Rancho Buena Vista High School received a \$1,500 scholarship as winners of the Vista Irrigation District 2022 scholarship contest. Mateo Sulejmani, Jennifer Galan and Kenneth Morales Reyes all from Rancho Buena Vista High School and Grace Koumaras from Mission Vista High School each received \$1,000 as runners-up in the scholarship contest.

Sophia Puckett, a fourth grade student from Empresa Elementary, received first place honors from the district for her entry in the 2022 Water Awareness Poster Contest. She received a \$100 award. Stevie Jones from Casita Center received a second place award of \$50 and Valeria Martinez from Hannalei Elementary received a third place award of \$25 for their entries in the contest.

The purpose of the scholarship contest, which is open to high school seniors living or attending school within the district's service area, is to increase the knowledge and awareness of water related issues impacting Vista Irrigation District. The district received twelve applications this year.

The poster contest, which targets students in the fourth-grade, is designed to promote understanding of water issues in elementary schools. This year's theme was "Love Water, Save Water." The three winning posters were selected from 176 entries based upon their depiction of the theme, artwork, originality, and poster design. Sophia's poster will appear in the 2023 Water Awareness Calendar, which will be available free of charge at the district's office in November 2022.

Vista Irrigation District is a public agency governed by an elected five-member board. The district provides water service to roughly 133,000 people in the city of Vista, and portions of San Marcos, Escondido, Oceanside, and unincorporated areas of the county of San Diego.

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