

NEWS RELEASE

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For more information, contact:

Martial Haprov, *Community Relations and Education Specialist*

760.245.1661, ext. 3002 • mhaprov@mdaqmd.ca.gov



May 28, 2019

STUDENTS IN ADELANTO, PHELAN WIN BICYCLES IN CLEAN AIR POSTER CONTEST

Winners to receive prizes at awards ceremony in June

Two local students will soon be riding around on new sets of wheels thanks to their participation in the 2019 Clean Air Month Poster Contest, hosted by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District.

Fourth-grader Natalie Tamayo, a student at George Visual and Performing Arts School in Adelanto, and Gabriel Lopez, an 11th-grader at Chaparral High School in Phelan, were randomly drawn from the hundreds of submissions in the contest. Contest cosponsor Victor Valley Transit Authority supplied the new bikes for the winners.

MDAQMD holds the contest annually in recognition of Clean Air Month (May). This year's contest theme, "A Flair for Clean Air," prompted student artists to create hand-drawn posters depicting small changes people can make in their every-day routines to reduce air pollution and protect air quality.

The District received hundreds of submitted posters in which students conveyed numerous ideas for air pollution reduction. Judges representing the Mojave Water Agency, Daily Press, MDAQMD and contest cosponsors VVTA, Mojave Environmental Education Consortium and Air & Waste Management Association, Mojave Chapter of the West Coast Section, carefully viewed the scores of submissions before selecting 12 winners across four grade-based categories.

Those 12 winners will be announced at an awards ceremony scheduled for June 5 and will receive cash prizes along with their posters being featured in the official 2020 MDAQMD Calendar. Natalie and Gabriel will also receive their bicycles at the ceremony.

"Educating our younger generations means cleaner air for everyone in the future," said Brad Poiriez, MDAQMD Executive Director. "The more we can get them involved through programs like our annual poster contest, the better for all of us."

MDAQMD also expresses gratitude for its contest cosponsors who are instrumental in spreading the word about the District's various engagement programs.

MDAQMD is the air pollution control authority and permitting agency for the High Desert portion of San Bernardino County and the Palo Verde Valley in Riverside County. It's governed by a board of 13 members representing nine incorporated municipalities and two counties within its boundaries. Visit mdaqmd.ca.gov or follow @MDAQMD on social media.

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MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

BRAD POIRIEZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

14306 Park Avenue, Victorville, CA 92392-2310 • 760.245.1661 • Fax 760.245.2022 • www.MDAQMD.ca.gov • @MDAQMD