



NEWS RELEASE

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

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HESPERIA CLEANS UP IN DRAWING FOR NEW BICYCLES

Students at Juniper, Rancho to receive new wheels at awards ceremony in June

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HESPERIA, CALIF. — Two Hesperia Unified School District students will be sporting some new wheels soon thanks to an annual contest hosted by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District.

MDAQMD's annual Clean Air Month Poster Contest draws in submissions from students in grades K-12 throughout its district – more than 20,000 square miles. This year's contest, themed, "Back to the FutAir," invited students to create original drawings that illustrated ways to protect air quality for future generations.

As part of the annual contest, two entrants are randomly drawn from the entire pool of submissions to receive new bicycles, provided by Victor Valley Transit Authority, one of the contest cosponsors.

This year's bicycle winners include Esai Lopez, a fifth-grader at Juniper Elementary School, and Isabella Carlon, a seventh-grader at Rancho Middle School, both of Hesperia. MDAQMD staff surprised the students in their classrooms on Tuesday with the news they'd been selected as the bicycle winners and certificates congratulating them on the win.

The winners will receive their bicycles at MDAQMD's Clean Air Month Poster Contest Awards Ceremony and Reception on June 6.

This year's contest sponsors also include the Mojave Desert Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association, the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium and the Daily Press.

In total, MDAQMD received more than 420 submissions in this year's poster contest, the highest amount ever received in the many years of the contest's existence.

The record number is all the more appropriate this year: MDAQMD will celebrate 25 years of service to its region on July 1, 2018.

"Few things are more important than finding fun ways to educate our next generation of leaders on the importance of air quality and environmental stewardship," said Brad Poiriez, Executive Director of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District. "I'm thrilled that as we celebrate our 25th anniversary as a district, this program continues to grow in popularity."

As the second largest Air District in California geographically, MDAQMD is committed to attaining and maintaining healthful air quality while supporting strong, sustainable economic growth in our communities. We do believe "Clean Air is Everybody's Business" and with continued community collaboration we plan to protect your desert air for generations to come.

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.

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