

News Release

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San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To:

Local News and Features Editors

(Note: Electronic files of student artwork and photos are available upon request. Please contact Brenda Turner.)

Valley Air District Distributes 2009 Calendar Featuring Artwork by Valley Children

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's 2009 Healthy Air Living Kids' Calendar has been distributed to schools, community groups, healthcare facilities, churches, civic organizations and non-profit groups throughout the Valley. The District prints 20,000 copies of the calendar, which is given free to groups to promote Healthy Air Living throughout the year.

The educational wall calendar features 14 original works of art from children in the eight-county Valley Air District. Their creative and colorful artwork features a clean-air message for each month presented in both English and Spanish.

Several hundred entries were received for the 2009 calendar, which is open to all San Joaquin Valley students from kindergarten through high school. This year's winning artists are:

- Jousa Xiong, a senior at Sunnyside High School in Fresno, whose artwork is featured on the cover of the 2009 calendar.
- Matthew Alvarez of Corcoran, a student at John C. Fremont Elementary School
- Bishop Boatman, who attends Chawanakee Academy at Lighthouse in Madera
- Megan Butler, a student at Hume Lake Charter School
- Gerardo Cuevas of Earlimart, who attends Delano High School
- Yajaira De Aquino, a student at Parlier Junior High School
- Saira Delgado, who attends Sanger Academy Charter School (last year's cover artist)
- Jake Envia, a student at Julien Elementary School in Turlock
- Karen Joselyne Gomez and Nico Grossi, both students at Gustine Middle School
- Audriana Peñaloza of Arvin, a student at El Camino Real Elementary School
- Daniela Rodriguez, who attends Elliott Education Center in Modesto
- Shree Vijayaraj of Mountain House, a Wicklund Elementary School student
- Mai Nhia Yang, a student at Fresno's Central High School

For information about other kids' programs sponsored by the District or how to enter the 2010 calendar contest (the deadline is in October each year), see our website at www.valleyair.org/kids/kidsidx07.htm. The Valley Air District covers eight counties, including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the Valley air basin portion of Kern.