



DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAII

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**NEWS RELEASE**

## **Winners, Runners-Up Announced for Water Supply's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Keiki Water Conservation Poster Contest**

**HAWAII ISLAND** – The Department of Water Supply (DWS), County of Hawaii, congratulates the nearly 500 Hawaii Island schoolchildren who entered the Department's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Keiki Water Conservation Poster Contest held earlier this year.

Open to K-6 students, the contest drew entries from 13 public and private schools located around the island, along with one homeschooler. This year's theme was "*Our Water, Our Future, Conserve It*" to emphasize how using water wisely and reducing wasteful water use helps preserve the island's finite supplies of safe drinking water. Participants created original artworks, and the entries were judged on poster originality, visual artistry, and depiction of the contest theme.

Prizes were awarded for the winning and runner-up entries for each grade, except for first grade, which drew only one entry. A YETI® water bottle customized with the DWS' logo was the main prize.

DWS thanks all the students and their teachers for embracing drinking water education. Teaching keiki about the water they drink in fun, engaging ways will help to create water stewards best equipped to manage and protect our most precious resource – safe drinking water.

All poster entries can be viewed under the "Community" tab on the Department's website, [www.hawaiidws.org](http://www.hawaiidws.org).

Mahalo to the following young artists for sharing their amazing works and water-conservation knowledge:

### **Kindergarten:**

**Winner: Josie Davis**, Standing Springs Academy  
Teacher: L. Mei-Lan Sharpe

**Runner-Up: Keala Hall**, Standing Springs Academy  
Teacher: L. Mei-Lan Sharpe

*... Water, Our Most Precious Resource... Ka Wai A Kāne...*

The Department of Water Supply is an Equal Opportunity provider and employer.



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**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:**

**Winner: Jack Olson**, Homeschooler  
Teacher: Patricia Olson

**Runner-Up: No entry**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:**

**Winner: Hi'ila'i Laeda**, Keaukaha Elementary School  
Teacher: Karlie Lewis

**Runner-Up: Paisley Kalani-Royston**, Keaukaha Elementary School  
Teacher: Kevyn-Bren Inouye

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:**

**Winner: Elle Mochida**, E.B. deSilva Elementary School  
Teacher: Kari Maikui

**Runner-Up: Luciana Balzotti**, E.B. deSilva Elementary School  
Teacher: Kristen Doolittle

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

**Winner: Olivia Williams**, E.B. deSilva Elementary School  
Teacher: Tracie Yamashita

**Runner-Up: Jaeden Like**, E.B. deSilva Elementary School  
Teacher: Jaimie Lynn Himalaya

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

**Winner: Ella Rubio**, Waiākeawaena Elementary School  
Teacher: Lane Matsuura

**Runner-Up: Gemma Bassetti**, Waiākeawaena Elementary School  
Teacher: Lane Matsuura

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

**Winner: Keirah Wong**, E.B. deSilva Elementary School  
Teacher: Christopher Curry

**Runner-Up: Brooklyn Kim**, E.B. deSilva Elementary School  
Teacher: Breanna Nelson

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