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HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Student Artists Inspire Harford County to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink

BEL AIR, Md., (Dec. 18, 2014) - Harford County government, in partnership with Harford County Public Schools' Resource Conservation Program, is pleased to honor participants in the fifth annual Conservation and Stewardship Poster Contest. The poster contest challenges students from all grades to create original artwork inspiring others to efficiently use and reuse our resources.

This year's theme was entitled Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink. Four winners were selected from over 360 poster entries received. The posters were judged on artistic merit, creativity, and interpretation of the assigned theme. The four winning posters will be reproduced and displayed in Harford County government offices, Harford County Public Library and Harford County Public Schools.

The four winning student artists will be profiled on Harford Cable Network's "Harford Kids TV News" program, airing in winter 2015, to share the inspirations for their posters. The students were also honored for their achievements by their families and teachers on December 8 at the Eden Mill Nature Center. Eden Mill is a Harford County park comprised of 117 acres nestled along Deer Creek in the northern area of the county.

The four winning artists were Maeve Acerno, a first grader from Fountain Green Elementary School; Livia Earl, a fourth grader from Ring Factory Elementary School; and Ashley Chan and Katrina Burbey, both seventh graders from Mrs. Hott's class at Southampton Middle School.

Attending the ceremony were Miss Acerno's mother, her teacher, Mrs. Nandalal, and Mrs. Alison Donnelly, principal at Fountain Green Elementary School. Miss Acerno enjoys reading, writing, gym, art, singing, dancing and cooking.

Supporting Miss Earl at the ceremony were her parents and two brothers, along with her teacher, Mrs. Oakley, and Ring Factory Elementary School Principal Earl Gaskins. Speaking of her plans for the future, Miss Earl said that when she becomes "president", she will "get companies to sell green products and protect animals."

Miss Burbey was accompanied at the ceremony by her father. Her goal is to become a zoologist.

Miss Chan was joined at the celebration by her parents and brother. She said that her artwork was inspired by crafting with creatively repurposed items.

The enthusiasm of these students, along with all of the student artwork submitted, inspire each of us to re-evaluate ways we can efficiently use and reuse our resources.

To learn more about the poster contest or to request a poster to display in your office, please contact Harford County Sustainability Coordinator Erin Ferriter, Ph.D., at eferriter@harfordcountymd.gov or 410-638-4707.



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