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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Enrique Arcilla Wins Student MWA Essay Contest Student to be featured at April 13th Water Summit

Apple Valley, CA—Enrique Arcilla of Apple Valley emerged as the winner of the MWA Student Essay Contest following a final presentation before a panel of judges March 21. Arcilla will be among the featured speakers at the 2016 High Desert Water Summit on April 13th at the Barstow Community College Performing Arts Center.

The 15-year-old winner is a sophomore at the Academy for Academic Excellence in Apple Valley. He will present his essay titled, “The Path to Sustainability” at the April 13 event. As the winner, Arcilla will receive a \$5,000 scholarship.

Other finalists include Raeven Jones from Granite Hills High School in Apple Valley; Nolan Serumaga from University Preparatory School in Victorville; Emilia Cloutman from Sultana High School in Hesperia; and Geng-Wei Lee from Barstow who attends the University of California in Los Angeles. All four finalists will receive a \$1,000 scholarship during the program.

Beverly Lowry, MWA Board President said the theme, “Predicting Our Future by Our Own Design,” was intended to generate community discussion and action to continue to ensure water reliability for the High Desert region.

Among the featured speakers at the event is Christopher Thornberg, founding partner of Beacon Economics based in Los Angeles. He will provide an economic and population profile of the region. Also speaking is Ellen Hanak, Senior Fellow and Director of the Public Policy Institute Water Policy Center in San Francisco. Hanak is one of the principle authors of “Allocating California’s Water: Directions for Reform.” She will present recommended statewide initiatives.

Discussing the current and future local water supply and demands is Lance Eckhart, MWA Director of Basin Management and Water Resources. He will present, for the first time, the latest water forecast derived from the current Regional Urban Water Management Plan update.

The Water Summit will run from 7:15 to 11:30 a.m. on April 13 at the Barstow Community College Performing Arts Center. The campus is located at 2700 Barstow Road.

Cost for the event is just \$10 and includes a full breakfast buffet. Reservations must be made online at <http://www.mojavewater.org> and then click on the link for the High Desert Water Summit to register. Proceeds from the event will help fund student scholarships. College students may attend free of charge, but must register with Gloria Golike at ggolike@mojavewater.org. For more information, contact Yvonne Hester at 760-946-7067.