Canadian Students Win International Recognition for Environmental Journalism Competition

News

Toronto, ON - Two groups of Canadian students from British Columbia and Ontario have won international recognition for their skills in environmental journalism. "Slipping down the drain" by Diya Dhaliwal and Anika Dass won first place in the Single Photo Reportage, 11-25 age

category while Antoine Martig & William Weist took first place in the Video Reportage, 15-18 age category for their short film, "Warehouse vs. Wetland".

Young Reporters for the Environment is an international environmental journalism competition hosted in 31 countries around the world. This year, over 454,000 students participated in the YRE programme, producing over 19,000 pieces of environmental journalism for national YRE competitions.

EcoSchools Canada hosts the <u>Canadian national</u>
<u>YRE</u> competition each year, seeing hundreds of submissions from youth across the country, showcasing their skills in writing, photo, and video journalism. Industry professionals including the Water Brothers, Planet in Focus, Level Studio, and



members of the EcoSchools Canada team make up the <u>jury panel</u>, sending first place submissions to compete on the international stage.

The entries awarded this year showcase YRE students' superb journalistic talent and a deep understanding of the complex environmental issues affecting their local communities. The International Jury has based their assessment on the students' topic selection, their reflections on how the topic connects to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and their overall journalistic skills. The awarded entries represent some of the top youth environmental journalism in the world today.

"With so many students learning from home this year, the YRE competition was a great opportunity to give students an opportunity to be creative and learn new journalistic skills outside of the classroom. EcoSchools Canada is proud of all this year's competitors and

congratulate our international winners on this incredible achievement." Ryan Dyment, YRE Canada Coordinator

"This year's YRE entries continue to demonstrate the challenges and hopeful solutions youth from around the world are addressing in their communities. The pandemic's impact was apparent, and the urgency needed to address the climate crisis was resonant, as captured in the photo of the year. It is never an easy task to select winners from the thoughtful entries received. All of the YRE students deserve to be recognized for their passion and dedication and encouraged to continue to raise awareness and take action." — Anne-Vela-Wagner, Executive Director of Mars Wrigley Foundation and YRE Jury Member.

Students at Seaquam Secondary School in Delta, B.C. are very familiar with the YRE competition, with students historically taking top awards in various categories. This is the first year students from École Secondaire Ronald-Marion in Pickering, ON have participated in the competition and placed first in both YRE Canada and YRE International competitions.

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Visit https://ecoschools.ca/yre/ for more information. For interviews please contact:

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