



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
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ENTRIES SOUGHT FOR STUDENT ART AND ESSAY CONTEST ABOUT THE RIO GRANDE AND WATER ISSUES

The Texas Clean Rivers Program (CRP) for the Rio Grande of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) is sponsoring a drawing and essay contest for students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. The contest is an opportunity for the children of the basin to express what the Rio Grande means to them, focus attention on the importance of freshwater, and advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

The CRP is seeking student artwork and essays about the Rio Grande or the importance of water. Winning entries will be published in the 2014 CRP Rio Grande Basin Highlights Report. The contest is open to all schools within the Rio Grande Watershed in Texas. All submissions must be turned in by a teacher. There will be at least three winning entries, one in each of the following age groups: kindergarten–grade 4, grades 5-8, and grades 9-12. All participants will receive a copy of the report. The winning drawings for each category will make up the cover of the report and winning essays will be published in the report. The report is scheduled to be printed at the end of May 2014.

Students are encouraged to draw or write how water is important to them, how the Rio Grande is important to them, or how they enjoy the river. A committee will judge the entries based on creativity, representation of the Rio Grande, or representation of the importance of water.

The deadline for entries is December 6, 2013. Complete contest rules are available at: http://www.ibwc.gov/CRP/documents/Student%20Drawing_Essay%20Contest%202013.pdf or by contacting Lisa Ramirez at lisa.ramirez@ibwc.gov.

The goal of the Texas Clean Rivers Program for the Rio Grande is to maintain and improve the quality of water in the river basin in Texas through an ongoing partnership involving the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, other agencies, regional entities, local and state governments, industry, and citizens. The program uses a watershed management approach to identify and evaluate water quality issues, establish priorities for corrective actions, and work to implement those actions. Because of the international nature of the Rio Grande, the State of Texas contracted with the USIBWC to implement the CRP for the Rio Grande in its 1,254-mile international boundary section.

For more information:

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