



EMB-DENR HOLDS AN ON-THE-SPOT PAINTING CONTEST IN CELEBRATION OF EARTH DAY 2023

“Investing in our planet is investing in our youth,” Head Executive Assistant Isagani Potes of the Office of the Director shared in his welcome message to the participants of the 2023 Earth Day On-the-Spot Painting Contest. With the theme, Invest in Our Planet, the contest intends to highlight the effects of climate change on the planet through a campaign that can resonate with your Filipino artists.

Held last April 22, 2023, at the Environmental Research and Laboratory Services Division, this contest is composed of students ages 15 - 18, hailing from different schools in the National Capital Region, Region III, and Calabarzon. Thirty individuals competed in three categories namely Solid Waste Management, Climate Action, and Water Conservation and Protection. Participants were given 3 hours to finish their artwork and another 30 minutes to come up with a title and a short description for their work.

The evaluation of the artworks was led by Mr. AG Saño, a renowned Filipino muralist, conservationist, photographer, and environmental activist. He is a founding member of DAKILA and co-founded the Humpback Whale Research and Conservation Project. Also part of the panel is Ms. Anne Canceran, a contemporary visual artist featured in the Singulart Gallery and International Art Caravan; and Mr. John Paul Tigno, Head of the Environmental Education and Information Unit of the Environmental Management Bureau NCR. Entries were judged

according to the Relevance to the Theme/Interpretation (40%), Originality (30%), Design, and Creative Elements (30%).

Althea Jhane Payawal of San Francisco High School won first place in the Solid Waste Management Category, followed by second place winner Kheidee Salvador of San Francisco High School, and third place winner Johnella Margaret Pinque of FEU Roosevelt Rodriguez.

The Climate Action category is won by Bea Marie Corpuz from Las Piñas City National Senior High School CAA Campus. Coming in second and third place are Carl Vincent Leonen of San Francisco High School and Javee Camince of Dee Hwa Liang Academy.

Avril Leaño of the Regional Lead School for the Arts Angono bested the Water Conservation and Protection category, followed by King Villena of Batangas Province High School for Culture and Arts, and Renaldy Abenojar of Nick M. Joaquin Senior High School.

The Gender and Development Award went to Abenojar and Salvador who received PHP 2,500 each. Winners received cash prizes of PHP 10,000, PHP 8,000, and PHP 5,000, respectively. All winners are awarded a plaque of recognition and all participants are given a certificate of participation.

EMB Director and Concurrent Assistant Secretary for Field Operations Engr. Gilbert C. Gonzales also highlighted that through partnership and collaboration, the national government and the youth can take the positive path towards climate action and resiliency.##