



Environmental Nature Center  
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# Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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***Youth, ages 4 – 18 will have the opportunity to exhibit their “Drought” themed art at the ENC’s Spring Faire on May 15, 2016***

**NEWPORT BEACH, Calif., April 14, 2016-** The Environmental Nature Center (ENC) is presenting a “Drought” themed Youth Art Exhibit on May 15, 2016 from 10am-3pm. Youth, ages 4 – 18 have the opportunity to exhibit their art at the Environmental Nature Center’s Spring Faire. The exhibit is sponsored by Mesa Water District and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. For more info visit [encenter.org](http://encenter.org)

"The theme of the showcase is California's drought," said ENC Outreach Director Sama Wareh. "Artists can submit pieces exploring issues and solutions relating to the drought including but not limited to global climate change, population growth, landscaping with drought tolerant native plants, and water conservation."

A panel of judges will judge for the following:  
Ages 4 – 7 (1st, 2nd, 3rd place winner)  
Ages 8 – 10 (1st, 2nd, 3rd place winner)  
Ages 11 – 13 (1st, 2nd, 3rd place winner)  
Ages 14 – 18, High school Category, 1 winner  
Special Needs Category, 1 winner, Ages 4 – 18

"I love the theme of this year's Art Exhibit." said ENC Education Director Lori Whalen. "Having the opportunity to create art that sends a message is so empowering to youth, who often feel like their voices and opinions are not acknowledged by adults. This exhibit gives them a chance to help make real change by positively influencing others."

The deadline for submission is May 9th. Winners will be announced at the Spring Faire on May 15th, 2016. The first place prize in each category is a \$50 Art Supply Warehouse gift card. The second place prize in each category is a \$25 Mi Casa gift card. The third place prize in each category is an Art Supply Kit donated by Saddleback College Fashion Program. To view past winners visit <http://encenter.org/visit-us/spring-faire/childrens-art>

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**About the ENC**

Founded in 1972, the ENC is a fascinating combination of 15 California native plant communities, wildlife habitat, walking trails, and sustainably designed, LEED Platinum certified learning center. For 40 years, the ENC has been shaped and caressed into a 3.5 acre landscape for learning, a sanctuary from life's pressures and a place of preservation and instruction. Serving over 21,000 students and thousands of visitors annually, the ENC is recognized as a leader in science and social science education providing opportunities for increasing our community's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

The ENC recently purchased property to develop a nature play area, and construct our community's first nature based preschool. With a mission of providing quality education through hands-on experience with nature, the ENC inspires all generations to protect the natural world by serving as our community's foremost authority on ecological responsibility, sustainable practices and environmental education. The ENC is a non-profit 501(c)-3 public benefit corporation. For more information call 949-645-8489, or visit [www.ENCcenter.org](http://www.ENCcenter.org). The ENC is located at 1601 16th Street in Newport Beach.

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