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Alexandria, VA - In celebration of Earth Science Week 2017, the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is sponsoring four contests honoring this year's theme, "Earth and Human Activity." This year's competition will feature contests in photography, visual arts, essay writing, and video production.

Students, geoscientists, and the general public are invited to participate in this year's photography contest, "Earth and Human Activity Here." Entries must be composed of original, unpublished material, and show ways people affect, or are affected by, Earth systems in their local communities.

This year's visual arts contest, "People and the Planet," is open to students in grades K-5. Can you create a picture that shows how human activities shape, and are shaped by, Earth systems? Use artwork to show "people and the planet" in the world that you know.

Students in grades 6 through 9 may participate in the essay contest. This year's essays must address the idea of "Human Interaction With Earth Systems." Focusing on one area of human life, explain how geoscience helps us to make the most of opportunities and manage challenges.

Finally, AGI invites educators and their students to enter the "Earth Connections" video contest. Individuals or teams will submit a brief, original video that tells viewers how people affect Earth systems, or how Earth systems affect people, in your part of the world.

Selected winners will be awarded for their submissions. For guidelines and details, please visit <http://www.earthsciweek.org/contests>.

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Reaching over 50 million people annually, Earth Science Week has been led by AGI in cooperation with its sponsors and the geoscience community since 1998. Earth Science Week 2017 will be celebrated October 8-14, 2017. To learn more, please visit [www.earthsciweek.org](http://www.earthsciweek.org). To order Toolkits, please visit [www.earthsciweek.org/materials](http://www.earthsciweek.org/materials). You may also call AGI Publications to place your order at 703-379-2480.

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The American Geosciences Institute is a nonprofit federation of geoscientific and professional associations that represents more than 250,000 geologists, geophysicists and other earth scientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in the profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources, resiliency to natural hazards, and interaction with the environment.

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*AGI represents and serves the geoscience community by providing collaborative leadership and information to connect Earth, science, and people.*

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