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Home > Earth Science Week 2020 Contest Winners Announced

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## Earth Science Week 2020 Contest Winners Announced

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) congratulates the winners and finalists of this year's Earth Science Week art, photo, essay, and video contests, whose creative submissions addressed the Earth Science Week 2020 theme of "Earth Materials in Our Lives." Organized by AGI, Earth Science Week is an annual celebration and public awareness campaign reaching millions of people worldwide each year with information about geoscience.

Justin Xu of Sugar Hill, Georgia, won first place in the visual arts contest. Finalists were Teagin Costanzo of Mauldin, South Carolina; Everett Lee of Fargo, North Dakota; Elizabeth Xu of Sugar Hill, Georgia; and Nathan Xu of Clyde Hill, Washington. Students in grades K-5 made two-dimensional artworks illustrating how Earth materials play a role in their lives.

Alex Xu of Clyde Hill, Washington, won first place in the photo contest. Finalists were Evan Costa of Chepachet, Rhode Island; Ella Giguere of San Carlos, California; Tori Judy of Belmont, California; and Jessica Malkin of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Submissions illustrated the theme "Earth Materials in My Community."

Akhshith Rengaraju of Aurora, Illinois, won first place in the essay contest. Finalists were Korina Cortezano of Virginia Beach, Virginia; Archelaus Paxon of El Paso, Texas; Rachel Xu of Gainesville, Florida; and Clara Zabik of Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Students in grades 6-9 wrote essays of up to 300 words exploring ways people can develop practices and policies that allow them to derive practical value from raw materials while maintaining community values.

Isabella Van Deman and Faith Qin (team) of Virginia Beach, Virginia won first place in the video contest. Finalists were Achyut Balaji of Hillsboro, Oregon; Shreya Dhanala of Folsom, California; Jeremiah Johnson-Reynolds of Blythewood, South Carolina; Sri Utami of Pamukkale, Denizli Province, Turkey. Individuals and teams created brief, original videos that show how people of various backgrounds around the world make the most of Earth materials.

Congratulations to the winners, finalists, and hundreds of students and others who entered. Each first-place winner receives \$300 and an AGI publication. Entries submitted by winners and finalists are posted online at <http://www.earthsciweek.org/contests/2020>.

### About AGI

The American Geosciences Institute (AGI), a federation of scientific and professional associations representing over a quarter-million geoscientists, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community and addressing the needs of society. AGI headquarters are in Alexandria, Virginia.

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