

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Earth Science Week 2016 Contests Announced

Alexandria, VA - In celebration of Earth Science Week 2016, the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is sponsoring four contests honoring this year's theme, "Our Shared Geoheritage." This year's competitions will feature the traditional photography contest, visual arts contest, and essay contest -- as well as a new video contest.

Students, geoscientists, and the general public are invited to participate in this year's photography contest, "Our Heritage in Earth Systems." Entries must be composed of original, unpublished material, and show geoheritage in your community.

This year's visual arts contest, "Seeing Earth Heritage," is open to students in grades K-5. Can you create a picture that shows how Earth systems have interacted over time to shape our world? Use artwork to show "Earth heritage" in the world around you.

Students in grades 6 through 9 may participate in the essay contest. This year's essays must address the idea of "Sharing and Caring for Our Geoheritage." Focusing on one geoheritage site, explain why it is designated and managed the way it is.

In addition, AGI invites educators and their students to form teams to enter the "One Shared Place" video contest. Teams will work together to submit a brief video that tells viewers about an outdoor place that is special to them, including relating the place to elements of geoheritage and geoscience.

Selected winners will be awarded for their submissions. For guidelines and details, please visit 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 2016 will be celebrated October 9-15, 2016. To learn more, please visit www.earthsciweek.org. To order Toolkits, please visit 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.