



Stockholm Junior Water Prize Testimonials

"I enjoyed the experience so much last year: I appreciated the small number of students because the science competition felt much more personal; I loved how the judges were not intimidating; and I made friends who I am still in contact with today." **Ayushi Sinha, Tennessee State Winner 2014 & 2015**

"I am extremely grateful for the Stockholm Junior Water Prize and the entire science fair process for enabling me to explore my scientific interests and for reaffirming my passion for the research process year after year." **Natalie Ng, California State Winner and National Runner-Up 2012**

"This competition is a great opportunity to decide what you might want to do after college. I had no idea what I wanted to do before I started my project; but after, I realized I really enjoyed the topic I chose and hope to continue with this through college." **Amber White, Alaska State Winner**

"The Stockholm Junior Water Prize does more than just honor students who've performed research in water; it also helps to set a foundation in science education and foster relationships between the next generation of engineers and scientists that will one day tackle the problems of tomorrow." **Kushal Kudakia, Texas State Winner**

"I believe that all of the wonderful opportunities and experiences that I've had in my academic and professional career wouldn't have been possible without my SJWP experience. It is what opened doors for me and helped me realize what I was passionate about in engineering and science. I am so grateful to have been part of the SJWP experience. It was both a fun and educational experience that shaped my future in engineering. I am very proud to be an SJWP alumnus." **Demetra Tsiamis, NY State Winner, 2007**

"As an educator, I have to say that I am always extremely pleased with the way the competition committee focuses on providing students with the best experience they can get. I brought a younger student this year who was worried about, "fitting in." After the first "getting to know you" session, I never saw him in a situation where he wasn't talking with some group of students or another. On the flight home he was already scheming on how to get back again next year ... it seems that he made quite a few new friends in science. That is what it is all about." **Jonathan Smith, Science Teacher, Juneau-Douglas High School**

"...seeing the various projects completed by the other finalists gave me inspiration. Even as high school students, we possess the ability to make an impact with our findings. Everyone's project was incredible. All of us were working towards improving water quality and, consequently, improving the lives of many people. We were all supportive of each other, and I heard nothing but positive words throughout the weekend. I thank everyone for giving me such an amazing experience. I will definitely work hard in the years to come in hopes of becoming a finalist again." **Himabindu Vinnakota, South Carolina State Winner**

"Thank you very much for the opportunity for my student from Ovey Comeaux High School to represent Louisiana at the U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize Competition. Your support and generosity was greatly appreciated. Both of us came back with more knowledge than what we left with and so much to share with students for the upcoming school year. We both came back with a strong desire to inspire and increase students' interest in water-related issues and research and to raise awareness about global water challenges." **Lisa Ranney, Teacher, Ovey Comeaux High School, LA**

"Thank you again for offering this amazing opportunity for young scientists to get a glimpse into many career fields and to present their work in order to get professional feedback." **Taylor Murdock, Utah State Winner**

The level of planning and student exposure to Water Environment professionals and the diverse professions possible within this arena was truly awesome." **Kathy Borges, Representative of Senior High School, MT**

"The events and arrangements of the weekend were beyond my expectations." **Marcia H. Richter, Upper School Science Instructor, Breck School, MN**

"I had the pleasure of attending US Stockholm Junior Water Prize National Competition at Charlotte, North Carolina (June 18th, 2016).

At the fair it felt one could breathe. There is no hustle-bustle you would typically see with science fairs at this level. Judges have specific time they visited each student. I had a chance to discuss the projects with about 20 students. I was impressed by every one of them. There is sincere love for the environment and water. Everyone had an ingenious idea or a novel method they showed. All the students felt like a family. They were cheering for one another and making new friendships – which I am sure, will last for the rest of their lives.

Stevi announced each state and the winner as they received their medal one by one. It was like seeing at the Olympics opening ceremony each country and its flag bearer being introduced. When the US winner Nishita Sinha was announced – every one stood and applauded – reminiscent of a Fields Prize or a Nobel Prize. The organizers made all the State Winners feel proud and there was not a hint of jealousy. This to me is a greatest testimony to the SIWI and US-SJWP for the most meaningful undertaking of connecting these passionate young people and giving them tools and professional assistance they need to explore their ideas and collaborate. In a meeting like this open-minded conversations and ideas bouncing off of each other can only generate sparks of intellectual electricity – that will solve issues with the most precious resource we have on earth – that which is the reason of our existence – Water!" **Sai Tallavarjula, Ph. D (Nuclear Engineering)**