**WEF-logo-color         [Insert MA Logo]**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Date

**Local Student to Represent [State] in Prestigious Water Science Competition**

[City, State]–[insert student name], a student at [insert school name] in [city, state], has been selected as a state winner of the 2016 Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP) competition—the most prestigious youth award for water-related research. **Selected for [his or her] project, [*insert project title*]**, [insert student first name] will represent [insert state] at the national competition, June 17-19, 2016 at the [location TBD].

The purpose of the SJWP program is to increase students’ interest in water-related issues and research and to raise awareness about global water challenges. The competition is open to projects aimed at enhancing the quality of life through improvement of water quality, water resources management, water protection, and water and wastewater treatment.

In the United States, the Water Environment Federation (WEF) and its Member Associations (MAs), including [insert MA name], organize the regional, state, and national SJWP competitions with support from Xylem Inc.

[Insert MA quote, example: “The state winner’s study was very timely and relevant to issues facing the water quality community”, said [Member Association president’s name]. As a professional association of water quality experts, we are extremely proud to send [student last name] to the national competition.

The U.S. winner will receive $10,000 (USD) and an all-expenses-paid trip to Stockholm, Sweden where he/she will represent the United States at the international competition during [World Water Week](http://www.worldwaterweek.org), Aug. 27-Sept. 2, 2016. The Bjorn von Euler Innovation in Water Scholarship Award, a $1,000 scholarship sponsored by Xylem Inc., will be also awarded to the SJWP state winner who demonstrates a passion for education, spirit of creativity, and innovation.

To learn more about the program and competition, visit [www.sjwp.org](http://www.sjwp.org).

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**About WEF**

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization of 36,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world. Since 1928, WEF and its members have protected public health and the environment. As a global water sector leader, our mission is to connect water professionals; enrich the expertise of water professionals; increase the awareness of the impact and value of water; and provide a platform for water sector innovation. To learn more, visit [www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org).

**[Insert MA Blurb here]**