



**CITY OF DURHAM**  
Office of Public Affairs  
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DURHAM, NC 27701

## News Release

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## Durham Celebrates Drinking Water Week

### *Local Student-Artists Honored for Water Conservation Posters*

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham is asking residents to take a moment this week to recognize the City employees who work each and every day to provide clean, safe, and an adequate supply of drinking water to all who call Durham home.

In honor of 2016 National Drinking Water Week, Mayor William V. “Bill” Bell issued a proclamation at last night’s City Council meeting, declaring May 1-7 as Drinking Water Week in the City of Durham. The proclamation acknowledges the contributions of water plant operators, lab technicians, and other water industry professionals for their roles in providing drinking water to residents.

As part of the City’s annual celebration of Drinking Water Week, Mayor Bell and the City Council also recognized nine student-artists from local schools who created winning interpretations in the [City’s 2016 Water Conservation Poster Contest](#). The contest, coordinated by the City’s Water Management Department Conservation Program, is a part of the City’s annual celebration of Drinking Water Week.

Winning entries in the grades K-2 division were:

- First Place – Grace Pressinger (Creekside Elementary)
- Second Place – Avery Perkins (Creekside Elementary)
- Third Place – Lea Clark (Kestrel Heights Elementary)

Winning entries in the grades 3-5 division were:

- First Place – Ama Mensah-Boone (Durham Academy)

- Second Place – Xiomara Rivera-Soria (Bethesda Elementary)
- Third Place – Allison Hall (Durham Academy)

Winning entries in the grades 6-8 division were:

- First Place – Amy “Rosie” Scott-Benson (Voyager Academy)
- Second Place – Lauren Steiner (Voyager Academy)
- Third Place – Makenzie Harvey (Voyager Academy)

These winning entries represented Durham in a statewide contest sponsored by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Water Works Association/Water Environment Association. Competing with student-artists from across the state, the City is pleased to announce that the following student-artists won at the State Level:

State Level K-2 division winner were:

- First Place – Grace Pressinger (Creekside Elementary)
- Second Place – Avery Perkins (Creekside Elementary)

State Level 3-5 division winners were:

- First Place – Ama Mensah-Boone (Durham Academy)
- Second Place – Xiomara Rivera-Soria (Bethesda Elementary)
- Third Place – Allison Hall (Durham Academy)

State Level 6-8 division winners were:

- First Place – Amy “Rosie” Scott-Benson (Voyager Academy)
- Second Place – Lauren Steiner (Voyager Academy)
- Third Place – Makenzie Harvey (Voyager Academy)

To view the [winning entries](#), or for more information on drinking water and water conservation, contact the City’s water efficiency and conservation program staff at (919) 560-4381 or visit the department’s [Web page](#).

**About the City of Durham Water Management Department**

The [Water Management Department](#) is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Durham's water supply, water treatment and water reclamation (wastewater treatment) facilities, the collection and distribution systems (including meter reading), and customer billing services. The department has a wide variety of support divisions and programs to maintain the existing infrastructure that provide these integral services and strive to be a responsible steward of the City's physical assets. For information, visit the [Web page](#), like on [Facebook](#), and follow on [Twitter](#).

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