

Lehigh County Conservation District Poster Contest, 2017: "Healthy Soils are Full of Life!"



The Lehigh County Conservation District's "Healthy Soils Are Full of Life" Middle School Poster Contest First Place Winner was Kiran Kadewari of Springhouse Middle School.

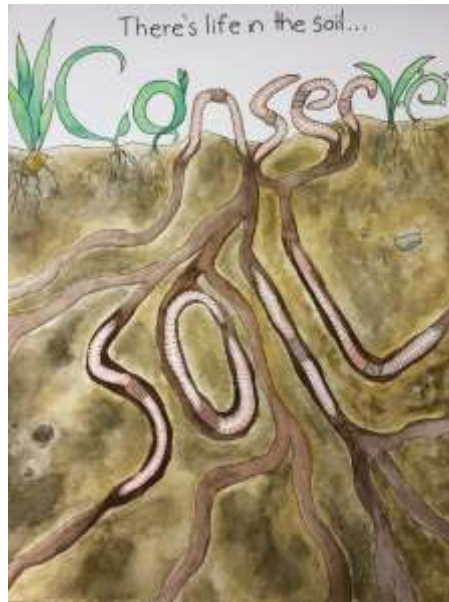
In mid-May, the Lehigh County Conservation District (LCCD) was pleasantly surprised to receive more than 150 poster submissions related to this year's Conservation District Poster theme: "Healthy Soils are Full of Life". The many presented works of art, depicting curvy worms spelling out "SOIL" and magnified microbes extolling merits of healthy soil, are evidence that conservation and creativity is alive and well understood among art and science students in the Lehigh Valley!

Eight LCCD staff judges and four community experts had the difficult task of judging each poster. When this process was complete, the Lehigh Valley Health Network kindly exhibited the art and allowed the conservation district to host an awards ceremony in their beautiful Kasych Family Pavilion Corridor on the eve of May 24th. Making the night even more special was the fact that all fourteen of the contest winners and their families were present to receive recognition for their excellent work.

High school winners (in order of first to third) included Emily Peralta, Jonathan Funk and Khadijeh Namons. Middle school winners were Kyran Kadewari, Shaiyan Feisal and Nicholas Golovanov. Eight honorable mention awards were also given to Katelyn Batista, Balthazar Belman, Jeishla Crespo, Rysha Jimenez, Ethan Kramer, Andrew LoChiatto, and Lauren Michelette, Morgan Newbury.

This first-time poster event was generously sponsored by five conservation-minded community businesses. Keystone Consulting Engineers, Inc., Maser Consulting PA, and Retteww Associates, Inc. sponsored at the "Golden Shovel Level". Architerra, PC sponsored at the "Silver Shovel Level". Additionally, Blick Art Materials of Allentown donated amazing art supply gift bags to each first place winner. Thanks to these sponsors and participating students and teachers from Parkland High

School, Spring House Middle School and Allentown Arts Academy Charter School, this creative conservation contest is now slated to be an annual affair.



The LCCD "Healthy Soils Are Full of Life" High School Poster Contest First Place Winner was Emily Peralta of Parkland High School.