



CITY OF VENTURA
NEWS RELEASE

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Ventura Water announces 5th Annual Water: Take 1 Online Short Film Festival

Ventura, CA -- Last night, Ventura Water celebrated the launch of the 5th annual **Water:Take 1 Online Short Film Festival** with a kick-off reception emphasizing efforts in water protection, conservation and sustainability taking place on the local, national and global level. The Film Festival highlights our relationship with water, through the powerful medium of film, and draws attention to the growing challenges facing our water supply locally and internationally.

Filmmakers of all ages, around the world, are encouraged to submit their work (up to 5 minutes in length) via direct upload at the contest site – www.watertake1.com - and must address the topic of water in any genre including animation, comedy, documentary, drama, experimental or sci-fi. Films will be posted online and a jury of entertainment and environmental experts will vote to award prizes in categories such as the Grand Jury Prize, Ventura Vision Award and Best Student Short Film. The public is also encouraged to take part in the Audience Choice Award by voting online for their favorite film. The deadline for film submissions is December 14, 2016 with voting for the Audience Choice Award open through January 14, 2017. The winning films will be showcased at an Awards Celebration in March of 2017.

“Ventura Water is pleased to showcase the topic of water protection, conservation and sustainability to like-minded individuals and organizations in such a creative and engaging way. With the drought uppermost in the minds of Californians, this Short Film Festival brings together our local, national and global conversations,” said Shana Epstein, Ventura Water General Manager.

Ventura Water also welcomed new partner, The Palmdale Water District, which came on board this year as a sponsor of the Palmdale Vision Award, recognizing films which best represent the mission of the Palmdale Water District. “I was very excited to learn that we had the opportunity to be a sponsor this year,” said Vincent Dino, Board member for the Palmdale Water District. “Ventura Water has found an exciting way to bring the stewards of water together and creatively share an extremely important message about the value of water.” Returning sponsors for the festival include Carollo Engineers, Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach, Hopkins Groundwater Consultants, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, and Nossaman LLP.

This release is available on the City of Ventura website www.cityofventura.net. ###