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COUNCIL

American Samoa Education & Outreach Report
159th Council Meeting
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Tuesday, March 18th, 2014

Lunar Tide Calendar Art Poster Contest

The American Samoa Department of Education assisted the Council in getting the schools to have students submit artwork for the poster contest. The contest theme was Suiga o le Tau ma Nofoga Talafa'asolopito: O aiā Tatau ma Matāfaioi, or in English – Climate Change and Traditional Places: Rights and Responsibilities. The contest was open to all students from preschool to high school seniors at both public and private schools on Tutuila, Aunu'u, and Manu'a. The winning middle school art will be featured at the July 2014 **First Stewards Symposium** and **Living Earth Festival** at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC. The deadline for all poster entries was December 10, 2013. Submissions were judged on a scale of 1-5 in the following criteria: originality, elements of art, degree of difficulty, and connection to the theme. Three local judges were selected to critique the submissions – Mr. Alex Zodiacal, Art teacher at ASCC, Mrs. Tilani Ilaoa, Administrator of the Native American Samoa Advisory Council, and Mr. Mark Ashley Faulkner, renowned local traditional artist.

Fifteen winners were selected from the submissions. The top three win fishing equipment from the Council while the other 12 winners will receive gift items. All winners will receive calendars and certificates recognizing their accomplishments. The top three winners' art was featured on the calendar's front and back covers.

High School Photo Essay Contest

Local students from grades 9-12 have begun work on a photo essay contest sponsored by the Council. They will take a photo of a place or object of historical significance, and will conduct research of public or private sources for an old photo featuring a traditional place in American Samoa. The student will conduct an interview with a family or community elder to discuss the rights and responsibilities associated with that traditional place. The student will write a brief 300 word essay on what was learned during the interview and site visit. The theme of the competition is **Suiga o le Tau ma Nofoga Talafa'asolopito: O aiā Tatau ma**

Matāfaioi (Climate Change and Traditional Places: Rights and Responsibilities).

Submissions must tie into this theme. The winner will be provided an opportunity to present their work at the July 2014 **First Stewards Symposium** and **Living Earth Festival** at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, in Washington, DC.

The deadline for this contest is March 31st, 2014. The announcement and contest details were given to the American Samoa Department of Education's Office of Instruction and Curriculum and also shared at the monthly meeting of the school principals. The island coordinator will be visiting the individual schools and speaking with English teachers to promote this contest and make sure that the guidelines are understood.