



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 25-00273

Agenda Date: [Publish Date]

Agenda Item Name:

2025 “Saving My Alachua” Environmental Art Contest Winners Recognition

Presenter:

Steve Hofstetter, Environmental Protection Department Director, 352-264-6811

Description:

The Board of County Commissioners will recognize winners of the 2025 “Saving My Alachua” Environmental Art Contest and Calendar

Recommended Action:

Recognize winners of the 2025 “Saving My Alachua” Environmental Art Contest and Calendar

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

N/A

Strategic Guide:

Environment

Background:

In December 2024, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) launched the twelfth annual “Saving My Alachua” Environmental Art Contest, open to all Alachua County students from Kindergarten through 12th Grade. Students were asked to submit artwork reflecting their interest in the local environment and addressing one of the following topics: water conservation, stormwater pollution prevention, natural habitat protection, wilderness and wildlife protection, and proper disposal of toxic waste. The Department received 639 entries from 29 Alachua County schools and centers. 41 winners were selected for this year’s awards, including 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place in each grade category, as well as “Calendar Selection” awards for those entries that will be featured in a 2026 “Saving My Alachua” calendar. Due to increased participation by older students in recent years, this is the first year we have expanded the contest to recognize winners from every grade, rather than bundling all high school level entries into a single category. Winners will be recognized at the April 22, 2025 Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) evening meeting. The contest promotes civic engagement and interest in the local environment. Recognizing winners at the Commission meeting fosters participation in local environmental issues by Alachua County’s emerging citizens.