



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR BEST STUDENT VIDEOS FEATURING SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Martinez, Calif. – What is a special district? You tell us! Better yet, show us, and perhaps win a scholarship.

The Contra Costa County Special Districts Association (CCSDA) is hosting a local student video contest in conjunction with the [Districts Make the Difference](#) statewide competition. The video contest for high school and college students challenges would-be filmmakers to produce a 60-second video that tells the story of a special district or districts in Contra Costa County. The goal of each video is to increase public awareness and understanding of California's special districts and the services they provide to residents.

The competition gives entrants an opportunity to practice film-making with the potential to win a local and statewide scholarship while learning about perhaps the most enigmatic arm of local government – often unsung special districts that provide a wide range of specialized, focused services throughout California. Contestants may choose to tell the story of a local sewer and sanitation district, fire or public safety district, water district, or even a cemetery or park district. Contestants may work alone or in a team effort. Some may zoom their cameras in on something as specific as a mosquito abatement, airport, or healthcare districts. Others may choose to explore a complement of special districts that together and provide a network of essential, specialized services to their community.

Entries may be submitted between August 27 and September 30. Local contest winners will be selected by the Contra Costa County Special Districts Association and announced in October. Students have the opportunity to win \$500 (1st place), \$300 (2nd place), and \$100 (3rd place). Videos will then be eligible for the statewide competition and prize money. Finalists for the statewide competition will be announced November 1 and winners will be revealed in December after a month-long period of public voting.

The statewide video contest is organized by Districts Make the Difference, the public outreach campaign launched by the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) to highlight the important work of the almost 2,000 special districts in California. The Contra Costa County Special Districts Association is an affiliated chapter of CSDA and this is the first year CCSDA is hosting a local contest.

“We are excited to be hosting this local contest for the students in our community,” noted Stanley Caldwell, President of the Contra Costa County Special Districts Association. “This is a great opportunity for students to learn about special districts, express their creativity, and possibly win a scholarship all at the same time.”

High school and college students are encouraged to visit local special districts when creating their videos. A list of all of the special districts within Contra Costa County may be found on the Contra Costa County Special Districts Association's website: <https://contracostasda.specialdistrict.org/>.

For more information about the contest and to review the [application](#) and [rules](#), visit <http://districtsmakethedifference.org/video-contest>.