

3rd I to present a platter of green movies

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San Francisco, Calif.

3RD I, the San Francisco-based non profit organization, is set to present 3rd I's *Green Eye*, a series of films and con-

versations about the environment. For an organization that tries to promote diverse images of South Asia through independent films, the upcoming series will focus on how the environment is changing and how it is impacting human beings — as seen through a

South Asian lens.

On June 13, 3rd I's Green Eye Day will have programs about the soil that produces food to sustain humans presented at the ATA, 992 Valencia at 21st Street in San Francisco.

The event will begin at 5 p.m. with a walking tour of a number of urban farms in the Mission District, led by MyFarm, a local collective that runs a decentralized urban farm, growing vegetables in backyard gardens throughout the city. The walking tour is free, though spots are limited to 15 per tour.

This will be followed at 6.30 p.m. by a screening of *Dirt! The Movie* (Bill Benenson/Gene Rosow, USA, 2009, 90 mins) — a critically acclaimed documentary coming straight from the Sundance Film Festival. Possessing both a cosmic perspective that reaches into the vastness of time and space, and the kind of warm, earnest energy that inspires small revolutions inside human hearts,

Dirt! The Movie offers an important and timely look at the vital relationship between those of us on Earth and something that is easy to take for granted — that with the soil upon which we tread.

At 8.15 p.m., there will be a talk and book-signing by renowned scholar and activist Raj Patel, author of *Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System*, who is a visiting scholar at UC Berkeley's Center for African Studies and a fellow at The Institute for Food and Development Policy, also known as Food First.

The co-presenters of the event with 3rd I are Global Exchange, California Food and Justice Coalition and the Ecology Center.

Details 3rd I's Green Eye Day

When: June 13, 2009

Where: ATA, 992 Valencia at 21st Street

Cost: \$7 (for film or lecture only); \$10 (for both film and lecture); walking tour is free.

Perky kids wow audience at speaking contest

WINNERS

Ages 3 to 4

1st Place - Sanah Bhardwaj
2nd Place - Abhinav Joshi
3rd Place - Deeta Ganapathy

Ages 4 to 5

1st Place - Siri Basavaraj
2nd Place - Rachana Aithal
3rd Place - Abhay Acharya

Ages 5 to 7

1st Place - Lara Panda

2nd Place - Viraj Verma

3rd Place - Rithika Susarla

Ages 7 to 10

1st Place - Rahul Joshi
2nd Place - Sanjana Aithal
3rd Place - Sarnesh Raj Arul

Ages 10 to 12

1st Place - Anisha Upadhyia
2nd Place - Sohil Kshirsagar
3rd Place - Madhukar Muralidhara
Abhay Varshney

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audience to invest in her company, while tiny Gabriella (3) barely reached over a table as she demonstrated her favorite recipe, as did Manas Korimilli a three-year-old who amazed the audience with his reading skills as he reviewed his notes on the importance of being healthy- a popular topic.

Three-year-old Abhinav Joshi won second place in category 2, smiling and giggling as he talked about the African elephant, an endangered species and Lara Panda (6) and Siri Basavaraj (4) took the first place trophies for a second year in a row in their respective categories.

The judges expressed their amazement at the confidence and ease of the participants and at the intensity and content of the speeches. In particular one contestant, eight-year-old Rahul Joshi who was later placed first in category 5, stole the show with his relaxed spirit and confidence as he took the microphone and engaged the audience on how films impact lives and overall perception.

All participants received certificates of participation and t-shirts



Gabrille Ip recounting her favorite recipe

from Pannu Dental, one of the sponsors for the event. First and second place winners were awarded trophies sponsored by Supriya Patel, New York Life.

During tabulation, a high-energy dance choreographed by Sudha Binani entertained the audience.

Dhillon concluded by addressing the importance of overcoming the fear of speaking in public as being as important as academics.

Dhillon is a professional emcee and trained public speaker and has hosted several global, national and local events, as well as produced and hosted TV talk shows and radio programs.

