



Marine Industries Association
of South Florida
Since 1961

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kelly Skidmore
(954) 524-2733

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**MARINE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA ANNOUNCES
43rd BROWARD COUNTY WATERWAY CLEANUP TRASH TOTALS, VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION
AND SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Fort Lauderdale, FL – On March 7th approximately 1,200 volunteers participated in the 43rd Broward County Waterway Cleanup, the county’s largest and longest-running environmental event. Presented by the Florida Inland Navigation District (F.I.N.D.) and National Marine Suppliers and organized by the Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF), the Broward County Waterway Cleanup resulted in the collection of nearly 25 tons of trash and debris from 35 sites across the county. Volunteers, ranging in age from nine months to 81, participated on land and in water with 120 vessels, including boats, kayaks, and paddleboards.

“We had beautiful weather, dedicated volunteers, and a great time,” noted MIASF Event Coordinator, Nicole Hoekstra, “The annual Waterway Cleanup is a perfect day to celebrate all that Broward County has to offer, while taking part in keeping it clean,” she said. Following the cleanup, volunteers were invited to attend the Trash Bash Thank You party at MIASF Headquarters, where participants were treated to live music, free food and beverages, and more than a dozen raffle prizes.

In addition to the Waterway Cleanup, MIASF hosts middle school and high school recycled-art, essay, and short-story contests each year. Multiple scholarships are awarded during the Trash Bash, and this year’s winners are:

- \$500 Essay Contest Winner: **Bria Weisblat, Western High School**
- \$250 Short Story Contest Winner: **Miles D’Errico, New River Middle School**
- \$250 High School Recycled-Art Contest Winners: **Destiny Pantoja, South Broward High School**
- \$250 Middle School Recycled-Art Contest Winner: **Riley McClanahan, New River Middle School**

Sponsors of the Broward County Waterway Cleanup included 4Ocean, Bluewater Yachting (USA), Boatsetter, Broward County, Carefree Boat Club, City of Fort Lauderdale, Cliff Berry, Coastal Tank, Coral Springs Improvement District, CRYC Sailing & Water Sports Foundation, Derecktor Shipyard, Dometic, Dumpster King, Environmental Marine, Florida Inland Navigation District, Gold Coast Marine Distributors, Harbour Towne Marina, IsoFlex, JM Family Enterprises, Land and Sea, Lauderdale Isles Water Management District, Margate Waterfront Foundation, National Marine Suppliers, National Save the Sea Turtle Foundation, City of Oakland Park, Resolve Marine Group, Rush Roll-Off, The Chappell Group, Trac Ecological, Water Taxi, and Wright Maritime Group.

Mark the calendar for next year’s cleanup on Saturday, March 6, 2021! For more information, visit www.waterwaycleanup.org.

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The Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF) is the largest trade organization in the Southeast United States dedicated to promoting, protecting, and growing the 111,000 middle class jobs in Broward County and 142,000 jobs regionally driving the economic output to \$12 billion regionally. Created in 1961, the not-for-profit trade group is focused on the sound growth of the marine industry in the South Florida Region to benefit its members and their customers, communities, and the environment. The Association has over 500 members in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach counties and is the owner of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

221 SW 3rd Avenue · Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312
954.524.2733 · www.miasf.org