

Entries in tsunami poster competition tell of fear, hope and compassion



# The human face of a tragedy



THE POSTER BY *Leela Deechaiyaset* of *Satree Wittaya School*, top left, won first prize in the secondary-school category of the competition, while the entry from *Parinya Chanawatee* and *Chaityat Sukhawarotai* of *Chulalongkorn's Faculty of Fine Arts*, above, won first prize in the university category.

## ■ The Nation

WHILE MANY young artists of varying skill levels and artistic backgrounds participated in the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre's (ADPC) poster competition, their perceptions of the great tragedy expressed similar themes.

Hope, compassion and the human spirit, along with the understandable presence of devastation and tears, factored into most of the works submitted by students for the competition to mark the one-year anniversary of the tsunami.

In a ceremony to announce the winners held yesterday at Chulalongkorn University, ADPC executive director Suvit Yodmani said the contest would go a long way in helping his organisation raise public awareness concerning disaster preparedness.

The first prize in the secondary-

school category went to Leela Deechaiyaset of Satree Wittaya School.

"There's a hand of an adult that covers the little hand of a child, signifying the compassion of people all around Thailand. It shows that people who suffer from this disaster are not alone," read the judges' assessment.

Parinya Chanawatee and Chaityat Sukhawarotai of the Faculty of Fine Arts at Chulalongkorn University won first prize for their tandem effort, which featured

messages written inside of large teardrops.

"The poster shows that even when people are in tears because of the disaster, there is the outpouring of support from other people's hearts that comes to their aid," the judge's decision said.

ADPC and cosponsors of the event said they wanted a vision of the tsunami event from young minds that they could then use to remind the public that human beings need one another in such a difficult time.

The ADPC is a non-profit organisation which aims to support the advancement of safer communities and sustainable development through knowledge-dissemination programmes and training projects, as well as cooperation with governments.

Winners of the poster contest receive between Bt5,000 and Bt80,000. The event drew scores of entries from across the country.

Early warning system tested ■ 4A

