



Barron Prize Honors Young Environmental Leaders

Boulder, CO, September 5, 2007 – **The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes'** winners include dozens of young people who have worked hard to protect our environment. Their leadership and courage make them true heroes – and inspirations to us all. “Everyone *can* make a difference in defense of the environment,” says winner Bethany.

- 1) Carter, age 16, of Colorado, who led a group of students that worked with local and state government to protect 185 acres along the Yampa River.
- 2) Barbara, age 16, of Texas, who created the Don't Be Crude motor oil recycling program, a project that has expanded to seven Texas counties and collected over 60,000 gallons of used motor oil.
- 3) Joying, age 10, of South Carolina, who rid local beaches of cigarette butt litter through her clean-up campaign called No Butts on the Beach.
- 4) Bethany, age 18, of Ohio, who saved a six-acre wetland on her family farm from destruction by a multi-billion dollar petroleum company.
- 5) Matthew, age 16, of North Carolina, who created the Woodland and Wildlife Restoration Committee, a non-profit group that has planted over 1,000 trees.
- 6) Stefanie, age 18, of Texas, who created the first paper recycling program in her small town and who has donated nearly \$10,000 from the sale of the recycled paper to her local library and animal shelter.
- 7) Whitney, age 18, of New York, who for two years organized the Stream Team in her seaside community, leading over 50 volunteers in cleaning up local freshwater streams.
- 8) Renee, age 12, of Ohio, whose battery recycling initiative has yielded 3,000 pounds of batteries and now serves as the model for her county's battery recycling program.
- 9) Amir, age 18, of Minnesota, who led an air quality campaign that resulted in a new Minnesota state law that greatly reduces children's exposure to diesel emissions from school buses.
- 10) Emily, age 18, of Washington, who designed a renewable energy system to replace the gasoline-powered one at a global warming research station in Alaska.
- 11) Kristen, age 17, of Ohio, who has organized numerous Plant a Row for the Hungry projects, teaching over 200 people to garden and donating 1,300 pounds of produce to area food banks.



Celebrating today's young heroes



- 12) Tanielle, age 17, of Alaska, who serves as chairperson for Alaska Youth for Environmental Action and lobbies legislators about protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
- 13) Kevin, age 18, of Texas, who created the Sustainable Development Committee at his high school and has resurfaced the school roof in energy-saving reflective material.
- 14) Ryan, age 11, of Ontario, who created Ryan's Well Foundation, a non-profit group that has raised nearly a million dollars to provide clean water wells for over 160 African villages.
- 15) Erin, age 18, of Connecticut, who has taken the lead in promoting her community's pesticide management policy, educating children and adults about environmentally-friendly pest control.
- 16) Gina, age 17, of British Columbia, who invented a new, highly effective type of road-paving material made largely from recycled plastic bottles.
- 17) Shawn, age 18, of New York, who created Garden Angels, a non-profit group that has transformed a trash-filled vacant lot into a park and community garden.
- 18) Ebbie, age 13, of Pennsylvania, who led students in conducting water quality tests along the Delaware Canal and convinced state lawmakers to take action to improve the Canal's health.
- 19) Beth, age 18, of California, who founded the Arcata High School Conservation and Renewable Energy project, which has received over \$30,000 in grants to install solar panels at the school.
- 20) Lindsey, age 17, of Missouri, who invented a water-saving irrigation device that doubles crop growth, and who has donated 20,000 pounds of surplus produce to families in need.
- 21) Washo, age 14, of Oregon, who has led a group of students in greatly improving the quality of life for primates at the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center.
- 22) Shannon, age 17, of Utah, who has tackled the problems of invasive non-native species and poor water quality in the desert near her hometown.
- 23) Erika and Kayla, age 18, of California, who created the Annual Salmon Run Relay to increase awareness of the plight of the salmon and its importance to the health of the Hupa, Yurok, and Karuk tribes of Northern California.
- 24) Phebe, age 17, of Vermont, who founded Change the World Kids, a non-profit student group that has raised over \$100,000 to purchase and protect rain forests in Costa Rica.
- 25) Evin and Angela, age 16, of Ohio, who co-founded Save Our Stream to educate others about the threatened native Ohio brook trout.
- 26) Smitha, age 15, of Arizona, who leads a group of students committed to water conservation and whose annual walk-a-thons have raised over \$4,000 to fund water purification systems for more than 3,000 children in India.
- 27) Zander, age 16, of Florida, who created Turtle Talks, an interactive program he has presented to thousands of students in an effort to save endangered loggerhead sea turtles.

- 28) Savannah, age 14, of Florida, who founded Pump 'em Up, a non-profit organization that encourages drivers to conserve gas by properly inflating their tires.
- 29) Kelydra, age 18, of West Virginia, who has invented a test that removes a potential carcinogen from contaminated drinking water in her hometown along the Ohio River.
- 30) Evan, age 11, of California, who formed the Red Dragon Conservation Team to encourage children to become stewards of nature through the purchase and protection of rainforests and coral reefs.
- 31) Carly and Molly, ages 13 and 15, of Pennsylvania, who founded Hives for Lives, a non-profit organization that sells honey and honey products, and donates all profits to the American Cancer Society – \$22,000 to date.
- 32) Nick, age 19, of District of Columbia, who developed Stop e-Waste in D.C., a program that has recycled over 40,000 pounds of computers, printers, cell phones, and other electronics