



## **ACTION FOR NATURE**

*We encourage young people to take personal action  
to protect the environment on which all life depends*

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### ***Cape Town Student Among 2020 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners***

#### ***Local Teen Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems***

San Francisco – Jade Bothma, a 14 year-old from Cape Town, South Africa, is one of seventeen young environmental activists from across the globe honored by Action for Nature (AFN) as a 2020 International Young Eco-Hero, an award that recognizes eco-conscious youth aged 8 to 16 for their creative initiatives aimed at tackling critical environmental challenges.

Awarded annually, these outstanding young people from across the globe are selected by a panel of independent judges, including experts in environmental science, biology, and education. For the past 17 years, the International Young Eco-Hero Awards have honored global youth in two categories – 8 to 12 years old and 13 to 16 years old – who are taking important steps to solve tough environmental problems. Since 2003, Action for Nature has recognized more than 275 young people from over 30 countries and 25 U.S. states.

Jade won first prize in the 13-16 year-old age category for her project, Oceano Reddentes.

Jade Bothma founded Oceano Reddentes, meaning “the ocean revives,” at the age of 12, which has removed more than 8,000 pounds of waste from beaches around Cape Town, recycling some 3,300 pounds and diverting it from polluting the ocean and from landfills. In addition to cleaning up beaches, Jade is also pioneering the use of discarded plastic for home building bricks and is currently working with Stellenbosch University to develop her “eco-bricks” concept with the goal of building one of the first eco-brick homes in South Africa.

“Kids like Jade have shown that the next generation is refusing to simply stand on the sidelines but instead is turning its passion for helping the planet into projects that have tangible, positive impacts on the environment now,” said Beryl Kay, president of Action for Nature, an international non-profit organization that encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for Earth’s natural resources and to take personal action to better their environments. “Young activists like Jade are shaping the world around them and inspiring other young people to take action to



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protect our Earth.”

“Oceano Reddentes has taken me on a journey like never before. It has shown me how much the world needs our help and has deepened my love for the ocean. It has shown me that the world is the most beautiful place and that we need to protect it,” said Jade Bothma.

To read more about Jade’s work, visit [actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#jade](https://actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#jade) or check out the project website at [oceanoreddentes.org](https://oceanoreddentes.org)

To learn more about this year’s International Young Eco-Hero Award winners, visit [actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards](https://actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards).

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*Action for Nature (AFN) is an international non-profit organization based in San Francisco, California, that encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for Earth’s natural resources and to take personal action to better their environments.*