



ACTION FOR NATURE

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

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San Luis Potosi Student Among 2020 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners

Local Pre-teen Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems

San Francisco – Sofia Molina, a 11 year-old from San Luis Potosi, Mexico, 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.

Sofia won second prize in the 8-12 year-old age category for her project, Cococu.

Sofia Molina developed a program called "Cococu," named in Spanish for the initial syllables of her three main actions, COncientizar (to raise awareness), COnocer (to know), and CUIdar (to care). This effort – which she launched at age 7 – gives kids the tools they need to carry out small actions for sustainable development and to care for the environment. Since its founding, Sofia has organized more than 1,000 children to participate in a variety of conservation projects, and secured 30,000 acres for voluntary protection of ecosystems and sustainable use of resources.

"Kids like Sofia 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 Sofia are shaping the world around them and inspiring other young people to take action to



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protect our Earth.”

“If children can fulfill our dreams, there will be a better world!” said Sofia Molina.

To read more about Sofia’s work, visit

actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#sofia or check out the project website at www.cococu.org.

To learn more about this year’s International Young Eco-Hero Award winners, visit

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.