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Long Beach Teen Among 2023 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners

Local Student Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems

San Francisco – Genesis Butler, a 16 year-old from Long Beach, CA, United States is one of seventeen young environmental activists from across the globe to receive a 2023 International Young Eco-Hero Award, announced Action For Nature today. This award honors eco-conscious youth ages 8 to 16 who are taking crucial steps to solve tough environmental problems. Genesis won an Honorable Mention in this year's competition.

Winners of the International Young Eco-Hero Award are selected by a panel of independent judges, including experts in environmental science, biology, and education. For the past 20 years, Action For Nature has recognized 339 Eco-Heroes from 27 countries and 32 U.S. states.

During the COVID-19 pandemic when attending protests wasn't an option, Genesis founded Youth Climate Save – an online youth organizing space – in order to stay engaged in activism and to address the impact of animal agriculture on climate change. With 73 chapters in 22 countries, the youth-led movement promotes plant-based diets to save animals and create a healthier environment.

"Genesis and all of this year's young climate champions are proving one thing loud and clear: the next generation of leaders has arrived, and they're unleashing their power on a global scale to tackle the climate crisis head-on," said Beryl Kay, president of Action for Nature. "The incredible accomplishments of Genesis and our other winners are more than just isolated projects – they're changing lives and transforming communities for the better."

"You can make a change at any age, and I am very proud of my work to motivate youth to be activists and to make a difference," said Genesis Butler.

For high-resolution photos of Genesis and to learn more about all of this year's International Young Eco-Hero Award winners, visit <https://actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2023-winners>.

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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 protect the environment.