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## **Colombia Student Among 2021 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners**

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

San Francisco – Jacobo Rendón, a 13 year-old from Antioquia, Colombia, is one of 25 young environmental activists from across the globe honored by Action For Nature (AFN) as a 2021 International Young Eco-Hero, an award that recognizes eco-conscious youth ages 8 to 16 who are taking crucial steps to solve tough environmental problems.

Winners of the International Young Eco-Hero Award are selected by a panel of independent judges, including experts in environmental science, biology, and education. Since 2003, Action For Nature has recognized more than 300 Eco-Heroes from over 30 countries and 25 U.S. states.

Jacobo won 3rd Place in the 8-14 year-old category for his project, an Illustrated and Photographic Guide of Urban Birds of El Carmen de Viboral.

Jacobo Rendón lives in El Carmen de Viboral, Colombia, a region known for its natural beauty and its many diverse birds. After the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Jacobo decided to make an illustrated and photographic guide for his community to raise awareness about the diversity of birds in El Carmen de Viboral and the importance of preserving them.

“Kids like Jacobo have shown that the next generation of leaders is here, and they are refusing to wait to solve the world’s most pressing environmental challenges,” said Beryl Kay, president of Action For Nature, an international non-profit organization that encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for the Earth and to take personal action to improve the environment. “The projects that these young people created will not only have real, positive impacts on their communities, they will also help solve global climate challenges and inspire others – no matter what age – to consider what they can do to help.”

“Birds are my passion, and I want to transmit my knowledge about birds to others, so that they realize that their community is not only rich in culture, crafts, and art, but that it also has a great invaluable natural wealth that is worth knowing and protecting,” said Jacobo Rendón.

To read more about Jacobo’s work, visit [facebook.com/Las-Aves-de-mi-Pueblo](https://facebook.com/Las-Aves-de-mi-Pueblo).

To learn more about this year’s International Young Eco-Hero Award winners, visit [actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2021-awards](https://actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2021-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.*