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San Jose Student Among 2020 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners

Local Teen Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems

San Francisco – Adarsh Ambati, a 15 year-old from San Jose, California, 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.

Adarsh received the Innovator Award for his project, Smart Community Sprinkler System.

Adarsh Ambati noticed that while harsh drought conditions have existed in his area for several years, many of his neighbors had automatic sprinklers dispersing precious and expensive water, regardless of weather conditions. In response, he developed a smart, low-cost, community sprinkler alert system that would conserve water that is often wasted during general-purpose landscape irrigation. Adarsh began working on his prototype in 2016, conducted a two-month pilot with 10 neighboring households, and found that these 10 homes had the potential to save 50,000 gallons of water over two months.

"Kids like Adarsh 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 Adarsh are shaping the world around them and inspiring other young people to



take action to protect our Earth."

To read more about Adarsh's work, visit <u>actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#adarsh</u>.

To learn more about this year's International Young Eco-Hero Award winners, visit <u>actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards</u>.

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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.