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## Los Angeles Student Among 2020 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners

## Local Child Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems

San Francisco – Justin Sather, a 9 year-old from Los Angeles, 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.

Justin won third prize in the 8-12 year-old age category for his project, For Love of Frogs.

Justin Sather founded For Love Of Frogs. Through this initiative he organized wetland cleanups, studied frogs with herpetologists worldwide, worked with companies that turned plastic waste into treasures, and raised over \$22,000 to conserve land, reduce plastics, and improve water quality for frogs and beyond. Now, he is focused on a new project: raising the funds needed to purchase land to protect rainforests in Ecuador that are home to thousands of frogs and other critically endangered animals and plants.

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



protect our Earth."

"Every small act of kindness can make a big impact on the environment. We all have to pitch in to be kind to our planet," said Justin Sather.

To read more about Justin's work, visit <a href="mailto:actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#justin">actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#justin</a> or check out the project website at <a href="mailto:ForTheLoveOfFrogs.com">ForTheLoveOfFrogs.com</a>.

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.