



ACTION FOR NATURE

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

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Dallas Student Among 2020 International Young Eco-Hero Award Winners

Local Child Receives Top Honor for Contributions to Solving Environmental Problems

San Francisco – Lily Kay, a 10 year-old from Dallas, Texas, 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.

Lily received an honorable mention in the 8-12 year-old age category for her project, Free Texas State Parks for Fifth Graders.

Lily Kay noticed that a financial barrier meant not every kid and family could enjoy Texas' state parks. She worked with state legislators to pass a bill that waived the park fee for all Texas fifth graders. While this is a step in the right direction, Lily continues to fight to remove financial barriers so that all Texas children and their families can access state parks.

"Kids like Lily 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 Lily are shaping the world around them and inspiring other young people to take action to protect our Earth."



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“Kids and people of any age can make a difference. Don’t be afraid to speak up. If you don’t ask, you’ll never know. Never stop trying, even if you get discouraged, are scared, or things get hard. Dream big!” said Lily Kay.

To read more about Lily’s work, visit actionfornature.org/eco-hero-awards/2020-awards/#lily.

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.