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ENGLEWOOD'S JOSH KAUDERER WINS GLORIA BARRON PRIZE FOR YOUNG HEROES



Author T.A. Barron believes that today's youth can make a difference in the world. To inspire young people, he created the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, a national award. Englewood's Josh Kauderer was among 25 outstanding young leaders, ages 8 to 18, who were chosen to receive the prize of \$5,000 to support their service work or higher education. At 14, Kauderer founded his nonprofit, Elephant Highway, to increase awareness of the threats elephants face from poaching and to raise funds to protect them. He speaks at schools and community events about the plight of the African elephant, letting others know that poachers kill approximately 30,000 elephants each year – a rate that, if continued, could spell extinction for the species in 20 years. Kauderer has raised more than \$15,000 for elephant conservation groups by selling custom designed T-shirts and African crafts at street fairs and events throughout New York City. The crafts are made by artists in villages where poaching is prevalent. In selling these artists' wares, he gains their support in protecting the elephants and provides them with a means outside of poaching to support their family. He began his work following a trip to Kenya, where poachers killed an elephant near the lodge where he and his family were staying. He chose the name Elephant Highway in tribute to a special Maasai elder he met who used the phrase to describe the paths elephants make in the bush. "Together, we can turn the tide and save these exceptional animals," Kauderer says. "We can show the world that we care and that we stand with the elephants."