



Barron Prize Announces 2002 National Winners

Boulder, CO, October 1, 2002 -- The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, an award that honors outstanding young leaders who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet, announces its 2002 national winners.

The 2002 winners of the Barron Prize represent great diversity from all across the country. Each winner will receive a \$2,000 prize to be applied to their higher education or to their service project. The 2002 winners are:

- 1) Kyle, age 16, of Oklahoma, who created Project READ (Reading Encourages All Dreams), a reading mentorship program based in his town's public library.
- 2) Joying, age 10, of South Carolina, who has rid local beaches of cigarette butt litter through her clean-up campaign called "No Butts on the Beach."
- 3) Barbara, age 16, of Texas, who created the "Don't Be Crude" motor oil recycling program in her rural town, a project that has expanded to seven counties.
- 4) Erin, age 18, of Connecticut, who has taken the lead in promoting her community's pesticide management policy, educating children and adults about controlling pests in environmentally-friendly ways.
- 5) Lauren, age 18, of Oklahoma, who serves as chairperson for the Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis and has raised over \$200,000 for cystic fibrosis research.
- 6) Rebecca, age 17, of Colorado, who organized "United We Sing," a benefit concert featuring 1,000 youth choir members that raised over \$23,000 for the American Red Cross following the tragic events of September 11, 2001.
- 7) Ryan, age 11, of Ontario, Canada, who created Ryan's Well Foundation, a non-profit group that has provided clean drinking water wells for over 70 African villages and has raised a half-million dollars for the cause.
- 8) Bethany, age 18, of Ohio, who saved a six-acre wetland on her family farm from destruction by a multi-billion dollar petroleum company.
- 9) Niko and Theo, age 15, of California, who work tirelessly to reduce gun violence in and around Los Angeles.
- 10) Nina, age 18, of West Virginia, who is founder and president of American Cancer Society Teens, a nationwide network of youth volunteers working to fight cancer through education, advocacy, fundraising, and service.

The Barron Prize was founded by author T.A. Barron, and was named for his mother, Gloria Barron.