

Barron Prize Announces 2010 National Winners

Boulder, CO, *September 28*, 2010 – **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 2010 national winners. The 2010 slate of winners represents great diversity from all across the country. Winners each receive \$2,500 to be applied to their higher education or to their service project. The 2010 winners are:

Erich, age 17, of Florida, who developed a biodiesel production facility at his high school that converts used vegetable oil into fuel that powers the school's lawn equipment.

Jaclyn, age 16, of New York, who created Friends of Jaclyn, a non-profit foundation that has paired more than 200 children fighting brain cancer with college athletic teams as a way to support young cancer patients and improve their healing process.

Cole, age 9, of North Carolina, who rallied his entire elementary school to sign and send 2,250 postcards he designed to the heads of fast-food companies, asking them to increase their use of recycled products and decrease their reliance on paper made from endangered North Carolina coastal forests.

Chloe, age 17, of Maine, who founded the Climate Action Club to help local residents fight global warming and whose student-led reusable bag campaign was recently adopted as the model for a similar statewide program.

David, age 18, of Wisconsin, who created Job-Link Racine, which has connected hundreds of homeless and low-income teens with part-time job opportunities.

Sarah Jo, age 16, of Texas, who designed and built a carbon neutral, 800-square-foot environ-mental education center for Girl Scouts constructed entirely from green materials. Sarah has also developed a new environmental challenge badge for Girl Scouts worldwide.

Michala, age 13, of Kentucky, whose Beading to Beat Autism project has raised over \$300,000 for autism treatment by involving hundreds of volunteers who create and sell beaded bracelets.

Heidi, age 18, of Vermont, who created a free magazine to educate residents in her rural town about environmental and humanitarian issues. The magazine's ad sales generate funding (over \$12,000 so far) for Change the World Kids, a group of youth activists working in Vermont and around the world to protect the environment and help others.

Shannon, age 16, of New Jersey, who founded SHARE (Shannon's After-School Reading Exchange), an initiative in Tanzania that has stocked four libraries with over 20,000 books and is giving girls after-school and weekend support with reading.

Alec, age 15, of California, who created Kids vs. Global Warming to educate his peers about climate change and who is using technology, social media, and inspiring presentations to rally them to action.

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