



Environmental Network News

Newsletter: Issue 7 1

Spring 2011



EarthTeam Teens Lead the Way!

The Green Screen multimedia program lets teens teach teens

EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON, 15 IMPASSIONED teenagers from San Francisco's East Bay Area gather in Richmond, California. These students have come together out of a common interest in the environment and the technology that allows them to communicate their message with their peers, their community, and the world. The students acquire skills in multi-media production, largely focusing on video but also including audio and music, graphic design, and print media. They use their abilities to create an environmental television show, made by and for teens, that is shown throughout the Bay Area on local cable access station KCRT as well as on the Internet via their YouTube Channel. **The students are part of EarthTeam's Green Screen TV**, a yearlong

after school program that provides students with the skills necessary to produce multimedia projects that highlight environmental issues in their communities and beyond, showing

the significance of environmental stewardship.

GREEN SCREEN STUDENTS BUILD THE foundations of their environmental knowledge by researching events, organizations, and individuals that are making a positive environmental impact in the Bay Area. This spring, the Green Screen profiled efforts by many organizations, including EarthTeam, and invigorate the Richmond greenway as a functional, beautiful, open space in Richmond.

To read more about Green Screen TV, see videos, and find out how you can help, go to:

www.thegreenscreentv.net

To make a secure contribution:

www.earthteam.net



“Green Screen has expanded my horizons and given me something to do about the issues.” - Tyler Jolley, grade 12, West County Community HS, Richmond

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Inspires Teens · Supports Teachers · Enriches Communities

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Leadership and Environmental Action Forum gives students the tools they need to be environmental leaders

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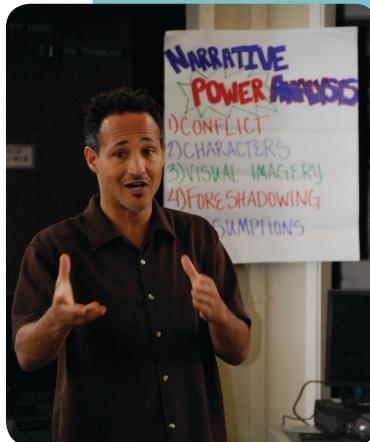
EACH YEAR, MIDDLE AND HIGH school students from all over the Bay Area come together to share, to learn, and to inspire one another. When Harpreet Kaur, a student at John F Kennedy HS, in Fremont, came to EarthTeam's Leadership and Environmental Action Forum (LEAF) in November, he perceived himself as a poor communicator. He looked outside of himself for leadership. His experience at LEAF convinced Harpreet of his leadership potential, empowering him to join his local environmental action club, Fremontians Enabling Real Change in the Environment (FIERCE). Harpreet's involvement in LEAF also helped him to find his own voice, "Now I am not afraid to do anything when I get up in front of my classes." In November, Harpreet was joined by 39 students from nine East Bay schools at a one day LEAF event held at Hayward High School. Students learned from one another and participated in workshops led by Bay Localize, the Ecology Center, StopWaste.Org, Toastmaster's International, and the Sustainable Peralta Initiative. Students also had the opportunity to tour Hayward High's Ecology Center Farm (below). Students new to LEAF left the event feeling inspired and "with a

ton of fantastic, new ideas," noted one teacher.

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS THAT ARE eligible to partici-

“Never before had I realized how many people my age were interested in the kind of work I did to promote awareness. Now I know that I am part of a larger community of people pushing to make change for the better."

- Myra Espinoza, grade 12, JFK HS



Dave Room, of Bay Localize, guides students through the elements of storytelling for social change

cate in LEAF are part of the Service Learning Waste Reduction Project (SLWRP), a network of teens and their teachers interested in reducing the waste stream in the Bay Area. In May, EarthTeam and StopWaste.Org will host the 9th annual Spring LEAF event at Camp Arroyo, which will highlight schools' successful projects from the 2010-11 academic year, as well as showcase outside resources from local environmental organizations. The two-day event is a time when students and teachers from within the SLWRP network gather together, providing a wonderful mix of outside expertise and the students' own best practices and creativity.

To see more pictures from this year and prior LEAF events, check out www.earthteam.net



Hayward High School teacher Theo Hartman leads students on a tour of Hayward High's award winning Ecology Garden

EarthTeam's Youth for Clean Air go to Sacramento!

ON DECEMBER 17, 2010, the students of EarthTeam's Youth for Clean Air program traveled to Sacramento to speak at the California Air Resources Board, urging the State to move forward with tighter regulations on diesel trucking emissions. Students from Richmond High School and Mandela High School, in Oakland, traveled along with EarthTeam's Liz Morán and the Rose Foundation's Jill Ratner, to read statements they had written regarding their own experiences with air pollution in their communities. They urged the board not to delay action on diesel emissions.

KAMI BAKER, A SENIOR AT Richmond High School, tells of her own experience with air pollution, and how she is able to advocate for change in her community with the support of YCA.

"GROWING UP IN AREAS WITH a lot of air pollution, I have always felt that the conditions around me are bad...and honestly, they need to change.

"I ACQUIRED BRONCHITIS AT a young age due to living in an area highly impacted by fumes and air pollutants. Once I had chronic bronchitis myself, I knew that others were also being exposed to this disease and I felt obligated in some way to make sure no one else got bronchitis. Being a young person, I know it seems impossible to make a change, but I refuse to believe I can't make some impact in my community.

“I was able to give a speech to the state’s bureaucracy for air quality and felt that for once, change was in my hands. How many teens my age can say they have done this or felt this way?”

"I JOINED YOUTH FOR CLEAN Air this year and since day one, I felt involved and could see that I was going to make a difference. At one of our first meetings we studied the air quality of our area, which showed us how surrounded we are by diesel truck routes. This made the group realize that it's no wonder we have high levels of air pollution, we are enclosed by these routes, forcing us to breathe in diesel toxins. On Dec. 17, 2010 we traveled to Sacramento to the California Air Resources Board hearing, where we were the only youth group to speak in front of everyone encouraging the board to not delay anymore on truckers meeting the deadlines for diesel truck standards that were ruled in 2007. I was able to give a speech to the state's bureaucracy for air quality and felt that for once, change was in my hands. How many teens my age can say they have done this or felt this way? In my opinion, there are only few programs that do this... Youth for Clean Air and EarthTeam definitely fit this criteria."

Kami Baker is a senior at Richmond HS. She is a member of EarthTeam's Youth for Clean Air, an afterschool program that engages students in environmental inquiry and advocacy activities. Youth for Clean Air is a project of EarthTeam and the Rose Foundation.



Kami Baker, a student at Richmond HS, speaks before the California Air Resources Board

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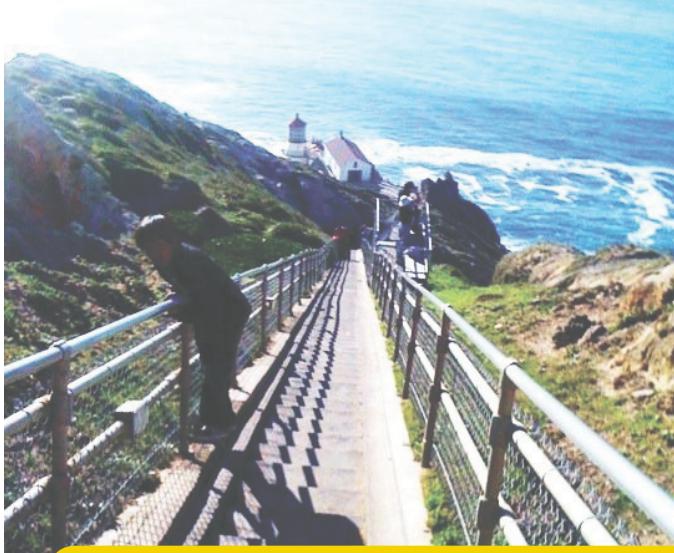
*Submissions are welcome
throughout the year!*

A look at the Green News Student Editorial Board

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"A Walk Down Into the Sea," by Rebecca Rashid, grade 11, Dougherty Valley HS, San Ramon, CA

“[The Green News] makes me feel that I am not alone on the fight to save the earth.” -Stephenie Huynh, Green News Student Editorial Board, grade 12, San Lorenzo HS

THE GREEN NEWS, EARTHTeam's TEEN literary magazine focused on environmental issues is curated by a student editorial board consisting of students at Bay Area high schools. These students submit work and comment on the work of others, engaging in an open reflection of their creativity and views on the environment.

“THE REASON I ENJOY BEING on the Student Editorial Board (SEB) is all the liberty it gives me. The Green News focuses on a large spectrum of student work, like art, poetry, debate, columns, articles, and videos. The things we can submit are flexible and having so many options and mediums helps students best express the story or concept they are trying to portray. The SEB also requires me to comment on and check out other student work, something I otherwise wouldn't do with such frequency. By checking out other work, I can appreciate and learn from different styles of writing. Working on the Green News is like a community; it helps everyone who gets and gives feedback on their work and helps us reflect on the pieces we've had published. Since it's such a professional organization, it gives students who submit to the site and work on the SEB a little more credibility.”

-Kim Mejia-Cuellar, grade 11, Fremont HS, Media Academy, Oakland, CA

"You Can Be Her Everything"

by Stephanie Hang, grade 11, Oakland HS

She needs attention, you can give her that attention.

She needs care, you can give her that care she longs for.

She needs love, you can give her your heart.

Oh yes, you are able to give her what she needs.

No, she doesn't care what you look like, she isn't shallow.

No, she doesn't care about what you wear, she's not into physical things.

What she cares about is your beauty,

She focuses on your genotype, not your phenotype

She loves the little things you do for her,

Like recycling those paper scraps you had left over from your art project

Like recycling those water bottles you had drunken out of

Like turning the light off when you are not in a room

Like turning off the faucet when not in use

She loves you for all the things you have done for her

Just a little effort made her life a whole lot cooler

Yes, mother nature appreciates all you have done.



"Mariquita," by Devina Miller, grade 12, Oakland School for the Arts

See more student art and poetry, as well as prose, debate, and journalism at www.thegreennews.net

Aqua Team Spreads the Word on Litter in Richmond

EarthTeam's Aqua Team Take on Litter Prevention Service Learning Project at School and in the Community

BY JESSICA LOZANO, GRADE 11, Richmond High School

THROUGH THE YEAR 2010-2011, AQUA Team has been on several outings. Some of the outings we have done recently were going to creeks and planting native plants. While we plant we also make sure that the creek is clean.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT projects we have done in this program has been to make a video. This video was made for our peers to show them how to prevent people from throwing trash on the ground. Also this video shows and explains how people can stop harming wild life. We also organized three other groups to represent schools, businesses, and communities. The group for school makes sure to have a survey before and after they have shown the video. The business group makes sure that they are aware of their surrounding. The community group makes sure to explain and give both parents and children a survey to see how much they know about the consequences of littering. By doing this project we will see the difference that people have made, as well as see our neighborhood and community clean.

EarthTeam's Aqua Team program engages students in a weekly afterschool program, investigating creeks and oceans, watersheds and shorelines, in an effort to understand the connections we have as a community to our watersheds. The student's afterschool programming is supplemented by weekend field trips, which give students opportunities to explore the Bay Area's abundant natural areas, engage in restoration projects, and carry out service projects of their own design. This Winter, the Aqua Team at Richmond High School decided to take on litter in their community, after learning about how litter originating in Richmond can wind up in the waterways, storm drains, and the ocean. Check out the Green Screen's YouTube channel for the video feature.



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“The work to conserve and repair our environment has a long ways to go. We humans have so much to learn in order to survive as a species and thrive in a healthy Earth Community. I continue to contribute to EarthTeam because I believe it's one of the best models we have for growing new leaders, spreading the awareness of our role in the environment to young people, and providing support for the many outstanding teachers we have in the East Bay who are committed to this work.” - Cindy Spring, EarthTeam Co-founder and continuing supporter



Photo: Stu Selland

Take Action! What can you do to empower youth?

ATTEND an event

EarthTeam's events bring supporters and program participants together to learn about the programs and raise much needed funding to keep them running.

GO SOLAR

EarthTeam has partnered with solar leasing company Sungevity to offer no money down, and free monitoring, maintenance, and cleaning on a new solar installation. For more information, go to sungevity.com/earthteam or call 866-SUN4ALL and tell them EarthTeam sent you!

VOLUNTEER

Have experience and some time you would like to lend? Contact us and let us know what you do, and we'll match you up with a volunteer opportunity.

HOST a house party!

Think you know some folks who would be interested in what we do? You provide the place and some interested friends, and we'll provide the program, including appearances by students and staff.

DONATE to EarthTeam

Online - www.earthteam.net

By mail - Using the adjacent form.

We depend on contributions from dedicated individuals who want to support the next generation of environmental leaders.

JOIN our board!

EarthTeam is looking for talented people with diverse backgrounds to join our board.

YOU'RE INVITED

Friday, May 20 - Green on the Green Golf

Tournament and fundraiser - Join us at Tilden Golf Course for golf, an auction, and an end of year celebration! Volunteers, sponsors, and auction items are still needed! Visit www.earthteam.net/golf for more information.

For more information, including event details, visit our website at www.earthteam.net, call us at **510-704-4030**, or email us at

info@earthteam.net

**EarthTeam would like to thank the following supporters
for their commitment to our youth and the environment, and for making our projects and events possible.**

The following list represents donations received since July 1, 2010.

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or by tearing out and mailing in this form.

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Signature: _____

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Please mail to: EarthTeam Environmental Network, 2525 10th Street, Unit B, Berkeley, CA 94710

Thank you for your support! EarthTeam is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

EarthTeam seeks to create a new generation of environmental stewards and leaders by introducing into the classroom and the community environmental experiences that inspire dedication to a healthy environment.



Check out EarthTeam on facebook at
www.facebook.com/EarthTeam
or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/etnetwork

Students at EarthTeam's Leadership and Environmental Action Forum in October, at Hayward High School's Ecology Center Garden



EarthTeam Environmental Network

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Web: www.earthteam.net

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for teens and the environment!**