

Xiuhtezcatl Martinez, Youth Environmental Activist

12-year-old Xiuhtezcatl Martinez, from Boulder, Colorado, came into the world through the Aztec culture on his father's side, and an environmental activist on his mother's side. Giving his first speech at a climate change rally when he was six, Xiuhtezcatl is the youth voice for the Earth Guardians, a non-profit environmental group for youth. He has mobilized a following of youth and adults and has been involved in helping to organize and speak at a myriad of rallies, actions, events, including City Councils, a delegation of five youth to Washington DC to meet with representatives from all three branches of government, and numerous international fora. Xiuhtezcatl was the youngest, and called by the media globally one of the most inspired speakers at the Rio+20 United Nations Summit in Rio Brazil 2012. He is called upon on a regular basis to provide the youth perspective and voice on issues at conferences locally, nationally, and globally bringing his message of hope, inspiration and the importance to act NOW. Xiuhtezcatl's story was featured in "Trust Colorado", a short film Documentary co-produced Our Children's Trust WITNESS, and it won 2012 Best Environmental Film Documentary of the Year which can be viewed [here](#).