EARTH GUARDIANS

2021 GLOBAL VISION AND PLANS

for the next seven generations
Earth Guardians formed in response to thousands of youth who are feeling the weight of inheriting some of the most pressing issues we face as a global community, with an emphasis on social, environmental, and climate crises.
OUR MISSION

INSPIRE | INFORM | ENGAGE | INVEST

For over 28 years, Earth Guardians has inspired, informed, engaged and invested in its impactful community of over 300 youth activist crews across the world. We provide the platform, resources, and collaborative opportunities necessary to elevate their voices and strengthen the positive impact they are having in their communities and the world.
INFORM

Earth Guardians informs and educates a diverse community of engaged citizens. Through webinars, trainings (in-person and virtual), the EarthTracks app, and microgrants, we provide essential resources and tools needed to enact change.

INSPIRE

Earth Guardians inspires youth around the world through our long history of on the ground creative, impactful, action. We focus on sharing the stories, creativity and success’s of our youth through various platforms including newsletters, social media, sponsored content, mainstream media, and our website.
INVEST

We believe in the power of our youth, and we invest in those making a difference across our network. We reward our community to keep them inspired and to continue the important changes they are championing every day. Our top Earth Guardians leaders are rewarded with microgrants, earth swag, and one-on-one mentorship.

ENGAGE

It's a visual world, so we measure the impact of our crews and share our findings through various Earth Guardians communication channels. Whatever our crews are working on, we share and encourage successful stories across the globe.
OUR COMMUNITY IS GLOBAL

We are a network of over 300 crews across 60+ countries. Our youth-led organization incorporates intergenerational wisdom with an emphasis on Indigenous knowledge. This makes Earth Guardians a unique organization when it comes to creating a sustainable impact across diverse communities and age groups.
Our team and youth crews are guided by a specific set of values to help guides toward some of the positive changes we’d like to see in the world.

**OUR VALUES**

Deep Listening

Adaptability

Community Building

Creating Measurable Impact

Living in Connection to Earth

Commitment to Non-Violence

Honoring Diversity

Respecting our Elders and Mentors
The EarthTracks app provides an online learning platform where crews can stay inspired, engaged, and connected. Gamified learning and activism give crew members quick, simple, and fun ways to learn more about climate impacts in their own lives while empowering them to make small but meaningful changes every day.
Our Speakers Bureau empowers a select group of highly engaged youth to spread the Earth Guardians vision. They keep our communities inspired and are models of the values we hold as an organization.

In 2020, we placed youth speakers at events across the globe with partner organizations like EarthX, One Percent for the Planet, EarthHacks, Harvard University, European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), Wake Forest University, the UC system, Temple of Understanding, the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (PIELC), the UN initiative Localizing Climate Justice Conference (LCJC), and many more.
Every year, the vast majority of the money we raise and spend is earmarked for supporting youth projects, programs, and the staff and Youth Council members who help to design, support, and coordinate those efforts.

**2020 CONTRIBUTIONS**

- $344,498 General Operating Grants & Donations
- $225,680 Program-Specific Grants

**2020 EXPENDITURES**

- $116,649 Management & Administration
- $290,908 Programs
- $29,613 Fundraising
Highlights from 2020

Working remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic didn’t stop our crews, Youth Council, and staff members from accomplishing great things for the planet and one another.

CREW + REGIONAL DIRECTOR GROWTH

We added new crews in the United States, India, Mexico, Brazil, Africa, and Europe while continuing to build out our network of Regional Directors. Our crews completed hundreds of projects, including:

- tree planting
- beach, river, and ocean cleanups
- COVID-19 education campaigns
- urban and community gardening
- honeybee cultivation training
- climate podcasts
- climate education workshops
- school supply drives
- a wildfire database
- a training on manufacturing fuel briquettes from agricultural waste
- a study on charcoal consumption

VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGNS

Leading up to the 2020 elections in the U.S. and the runoff elections in Georgia, we partnered with organizations all over the country to encourage young people (specifically BIPOC youth) to register to vote. Our Rev the Vote campaign, in partnership with Future Coalition and March On, led to the registration of over 25,000 new voters.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020

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INDIGENOUS YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

This 5-week, virtual training brought together 40 North American Indigenous youth leaders from 25 tribes to learn from Indigenous mentors and experts in the fields of digital media and storytelling, food sovereignty, political sovereignty, outdoor survival skills, decolonizing community care, and campaign development.

PPE FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

In partnership with shift7, Earth Guardians helped to provide PPE (masks, gowns, gloves, face shields, and hand sanitizer) as well as winter gear to Native American tribes across the U.S.

EARTH DAY LIVE

Earth Guardians was a lead partner in a 3-day livestream celebrating the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, which drew 4.8 million views and consisted of 207 unique segments.

DECOLONIZE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

This online training in July addressed the intersectionality between systemic racism and the environmental crisis with a focus on taking action with our voices, votes, and communities.
In Spring 2020, EG Youth Council members created a guide and toolkit along with a social media campaign to explain how and why to divest from banks that fund the climate crisis, including scripts for inviting adults to do the same.

Earth Guardians also started a pledge campaign, asking young people who don’t yet have bank accounts to commit to not bank with Chase, which is the #1 fossil fuel supporting bank in the world. To date, over 1,500 have pledged and divested from Chase.

Earth Guardians is one of the few youth-led organizations bringing the youth voice to the table in this coalition of 130 organizations who are out to stop the financial sector’s support of the climate crisis.

STOP THE MONEY PIPELINE

FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT CAMPAIGNS

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COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

This new online platform allows our global crews to connect with one another and access valuable resources, trainings, and groups.

CLIMATE LAWSUITS & LEGAL ACTIONS

Earth Guardians mobilized around major case developments in lawsuits and legal actions led and supported by our partner organization, Our Children's Trust.
The future is bright for Earth Guardians across the world. Below are a few of the projects that we are proud to be launching in 2021.

- **PPE for tribal communities**
- **Indigenous Youth Leadership Training**
- **Project Grants**
- **Community Resource Center Expansion**
- **Climate Lawsuits & Civic Engagement**
- **Youth Leadership Trainings**
- **Professional Development**
- **Regional Council Buildout**
- **Decolonizing Food & Urban Gardening**
- **Protect Our Future**
3RD ANNUAL INDIGENOUS YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

This training brings together Indigenous youth leaders from over 20+ tribal North American Nations. Participants will honor and share their traditional ways of life while developing leadership skills and their inherent wisdom around social and environmental justice issues that directly impact their communities. Special topics this year include: designing national cross-tribal campaigns such as food sovereignty, an Indigenous Green New Deal, divestment, voter registration & frontline actions.

PPE FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

In partnership with shift7, Earth Guardians has brought together a coalition of companies—including Patagonia, Seventh Generation, All Good, 1% for the Planet, and many others—to make donations of masks, PPE, and winter gear to Tribal communities across the United States who are feeling some of the worst impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. Working alongside the National Indian Health Board and many Tribal Organizations we have facilitated over 1.5 million dollars worth of donations of PPE, winter gear and food to over 330 tribes across the country including Alaska and Hawaii in less than two months and are continuing this work through 2021.
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER EXPANSION

After launching our CRC last year, we now plan to continue building out relevant trainings and resources that meet the demands of the needs of our crews, who are working in their communities on climate and environmental issues. Our goal is to have thousands of global EG crews actively and regularly using the the CRC by the end of this year.

PROJECT GRANTS

This year, we look forward to providing Earth Guardians youth with more trainings, resources and skills to implement solutions in their communities as well as small project grants that can fund their projects.
YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

We have 3 major youth trainings planned for 2021:

• National Crews Training: Built by youth, for youth. Experienced youth leaders will share strategies with active crew members for strengthening their communities and crews.

• Regional Director Training: Regional directors will receive the skills and tools they need to effectively develop crews in their region while also creating the organizational and relational networks crews need to flourish.

• Speakers Bureau Training: Youth members of our Speakers Bureau will receive additional training related to speech, storytelling, and networking.

CLIMATE LAWSUITS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

We will continue to bring youth voices into conversations about climate justice by engaging them in mobilizations around highly strategic climate lawsuits and legal actions at the federal and state levels in the U.S. as well as internationally, all in partnership with Our Children’s Trust. Opportunities may include campaign media, education, and public engagement work.
Regional Directors bear the important responsibility of overseeing, engaging, expanding, and supporting crews in their region. Currently, we have 5 Regional Directors (Africa, Mexico, Brazil, India, and Germany). In 2021, we plan to expand to 11 Regional Directors to oversee the parts of the world where Earth Guardians crews are active and growing.

Professional Development

As Earth Guardians continues to grow, we want our internal support systems to grow with them. We have therefore launched a monthly professional development program for staff and Youth Council members that will help us share knowledge amongst ourselves and to benefit from the expertise of invited guest speakers.
PROTECT OUR FUTURE

Earth Guardians crews around the globe are working together on a quarterly series of collaborative, cross-cultural, community service and educational projects. This campaign is providing an opportunity for young people around the world to learn about how environmental issues affect communities differently; but in the end, we are all connected.

DECOLONIZING FOOD + URBAN GARDENING

Decolonize the Kitchen is a culinary climate action workshop showcasing recipes for resistance. It is an informative cooking show that highlights solutions in solidarity with social & food justice while applying ancient wisdom to present problems.