To address today’s complex challenges, we need a diversity of perspectives, skills, and experiences, which is the power of this program. EE 30 Under 30 celebrates the unique and passionate leadership of talented young leaders around the world and gives them a professional boost to increase their impact.

We do this through:

- **Community**: Learn and network with the EE 30 Under 30 community and other EE leaders
- **Recognition**: Gain credibility and confidence to scale up their work
- **Professional Development**: Build the skills and technical support they need to expand their impact
- **Funding Opportunities**: Opportunity to apply for Changemaker grants to bring transformational ideas to life

NAAEE’s EE 30 Under 30 recognizes outstanding leaders from around the world who are using environmental education (EE) to create stronger, healthier communities.

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NAAE.org/ee30under30
Stories of Impact
Alumni share about the impact of the EE 30 Under 30 community, scholarships, and grants

Taiji Nelson
Connecting people to urban ecosystems through community and peer learning
“This program has opened so many doors by introducing me to amazing people and ideas.”
Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Anna Tari
Mobilizing cities worldwide to adopt the circular economy model
“As a professional and leader, my Changemaker grant allows me improve my capacity to bring partners together and create local change across cities worldwide.”
Boston, MA, USA

Luisa Zarate
Equipping coffee farmers with sustainable practices that guarantee food security and stable livelihoods
“The Changemaker grant allows me to reinforce my skills, leadership, and commitment to work with projects that amplify local voices, tackle inequalities, and create lasting change in vulnerable communities.”
Oaxaca, Mexico
“We are thrilled with the incredible talent, passion, and leadership of these dedicated young individuals who join a growing community of environmental education champions. They are not only working towards a sustainable future, but also inspiring the next generation of leaders who will follow in their footsteps.”

— Judy Braus, Executive Director, NAAEE

Jo Leen Yap
Engaging children and adults alike in dusky langur conservation
“I am able to contribute more knowledge and skills back to my country to create greater impact among the local community.”

Penang, Malaysia

Adedoyin Adeleke
Connecting and empowering young people across Africa through mentorship
“Being named and honored among this group particularly enforced my sense of responsibility to intensify my effort and commitment to environmental education for a sustainable Africa.”

Ibadan, Nigeria

Jared Hiakita
Empowering communities to build resilient and regenerative local food systems grounded in Maori culture
“My Changemaker grant allows me to lean into my strengths and place me in a position where I will have no choice but to step up and grow as a leader, a professional, and an example for others.”

Hokianga, Aotearoa (New Zealand)
By the numbers

**Building community**

150 alumni

34 countries

43 states/provinces/First Nations

**Catalyzing impact**

13 Changemaker grantees reaching over 25,000 people across 10 countries and 140 cities, building:

- resilient communities
- low-carbon economies, and
- healthy ecosystems

About NAAEE

For five decades, NAAEE has been a leader in promoting excellence in environmental education throughout North America and around the world, with members in more than 30 countries. NAAEE and its 56 state, provincial, and regional affiliate organizations in the United States, Canada, and Mexico have more than 20,000 members. NAAEE’s mission is to advance environmental literacy and civic engagement using the power of education to create a more equitable and sustainable future.

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