

AMERICAN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AWARDS High School Students



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HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PROFILE 2024

Urging End to New Oil Permits: Youth 4 Climate

Youth 4 Climate is organizing a campaign to urge Governor Newsom to stop issuing new oil and gas permits, begin justly phasing oil extraction, and create a 3,200 ft buffer zone.

Youth v. Oil (YvO) is a student-led campaign dedicated to phasing out fossil fuels and stopping oil drilling in California. We started Youth v. Oil in the summer of 2020, and since then we have been taking action in our community!

Our goal is to use our collective power to apply pressure on California Governor Gavin Newsom by getting school districts and local municipalities across California to sign our End Oil Drilling resolution.

The resolution we created has three demands: STOP issuing further oil and gas permits, DROP all existing permits, and ROLL out 3,200 ft. buffer zones between excavation sites and where humans inhabit. With the help of hundreds of San Diegan students, and through strategic campaigning and direct action, we have passed our resolution at various school entities and government councils such as the San Diego Unified School District (>121,000 students), Sweetwater Unified School District

(>36,000 students), UC Santa Barbara (>23,000 students), UC Berkeley (>42,000 students), the San Diego County Board of Education, and **the entire San Diego City Council (>1.3 million residents)— gathering support for our resolution from over 1.5 million people!**

In addition, YVO puts climate justice work at the core of our campaign in order to stand in solidarity with the BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, low-income, and other frontline communities most impacted by oil drilling. All the work we do is centered around building political power amongst youth in environmental justice communities that are often overlooked and overburdened by the consequences of resource extraction. By educating San Diegans' about oil extraction, we hope to create an intergenerational movement against the fossil fuel industry to mitigate the climate crisis.

