

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**From Neighborhood Solutions to National Movements:
ecoAmerica Opens 2026 American Climate Leadership Awards**

Washington, DC: ecoAmerica announced the opening of applications for the 2026 [American Climate Leadership Awards](#) (ACLA), returning for its seventh year to recognize and elevate the nation's most effective climate solutions. With more than \$200,000 in cash prizes, the awards spotlight individuals and organizations whose efforts, from local neighborhoods to national campaigns, broaden participation in climate action and advocacy.

Since its launch in 2019, ACLA has honored more than 150 leaders, distributed over \$1 million in funding, and reached national audiences of over 100,000 through its annual broadcast. Past honorees have included youth activists, public health advocates, educators, faith leaders, and community coalitions that have reshaped the way Americans understand and act on climate.

“The American Climate Leadership Awards reveal that the future of climate leadership is happening everywhere, in classrooms, clinics, congregations, and communities across the country,” said Bob Perkowitz, president, ecoAmerica. ***“By celebrating these leaders, we aim to inspire more Americans to take visible, just, and ambitious action on climate.”***

National Recognition for Climate Leadership

The 2026 awards introduce expanded eligibility for local, regional, and national initiatives, and a streamlined application process. Winners will be celebrated during a broadcast on April 16, 2026, designed to inspire, connect, and showcase climate leadership across America.

How to Participate

[Applications and Nominations](#) are now open. Individuals, organizations, and teams from across sectors are invited to apply or nominate a leader. Youth leaders (ages 14-24) and youth-driven organizations are eligible under the youth category.

For program updates and application details, visit:

<https://ecoamerica.org/american-climate-leadership-awards/>

Media Inquiries and Interview Requests: Press@ecoAmerica.org

ecoAmerica is a nonprofit that moves society toward climate solutions by engaging and supporting trusted national institutions to inspire and empower their millions of members in local communities across America to visibly act and advocate for ambitious, just, climate mitigation, resilience, and restoration. Learn more at ecoAmerica.org.