

Stone Soup Leadership Institute

Lighting the Way To a Sustainable World



Stone Soup Leadership Institute Annual Report 2021

Imagine

What could happen if we ignited the heroic spirit in each one of us?
We could light the way for a better tomorrow for our children and the world



COP 26 Youth Delegates Challenge World Leaders



B.M.C Durfee High School • Fall River, MA

Give the gift of hope - buy the book:
Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes
amzn.to/32zwGXV



Stone Soup Leadership Institute
www.stonesoupleadership.org
Platinum Guide Star
FID# 31-159-4004



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Dear Friends,

January 2022

It's been an exciting year for the Stone Soup Leadership Institute.
We are eager to carry this momentum forward into the New Year.

Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young

Heroes: Given the urgency of our times, we responded to the strong demand to get our new book out -- in time to shine a light on our youth leaders before the **COP26** conference in Scotland. They spoke forcefully, making a strong argument for concerted action **now**. We received endorsements from celebrity, environmental and literary leaders: **Ted Danson, Matt Damon, Dr. Jane Goodall, Dr. Sylvia Earle, Laura Dern, Danny Glover, Ed Begley Jr., Jean Michel Cousteau and Neil Gaiman**. We leveraged our partnering organizations for the soft launch of the book in June. We deepened our commitment to supporting youth leaders in the book by developing the **Young Heroes Fund** to provide financial support, mentors, and partnerships. ***Proceeds from our books*** support the Institute's initiatives - investing in young people around the world to become leaders in their communities and our world. [The Institute's video](#)

Now that the world is awakening to our powerful collective message, we've been asked to update the book in 2022 in conjunction with the launch of the **Institute's dynamic new education curriculum**. We're testing it in Massachusetts schools at our [BETA site](#). We are designing our **Professional Development Module**.

Educational Tools for the Transition to the Sustainable Economy:

For over 25 years, The Institute has been committed to our Sustainable Workforce Development Network with BETA sites in 8 unique communities. We have collaborated with organizational partners to develop dynamic educational tools, trainings, and resources that expand young people's appreciation for and interest in STEM, climate education, sustainable solutions and STEM-related career pathways. Our ***SustainWDN™*** is an online ecosystem connecting business, educators and guidance counselors to help their students navigate sustainable career pathways in this new economy.

Our Goals for 2022

- **Leverage** our budget of \$500K to engage others to invest in our vision.
- **Scale Up** our sustainable education tools to train youth for green careers .
- **Young Heroes Fund** provide funds for youth leaders to scale up their work

As the world awakens to the urgency of the climate crisis, this is an important moment to draw attention to the Institute's far-reaching work and its mission of empowering the next generation to build a more just, equitable and sustainable world. This Annual Report reflects the strides we have made forward in this crucial direction – and the impact that we have made over the last year. We hope this will encourage you to join with us to invest in our vision. With your timely support, we can scale our efforts to educate and empower millions of young people and take action - now!

Marianne Larned, Founding Director

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I. About the Stone Soup Leadership Institute

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is a 501c3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to develop multicultural digital educational tools, youth leadership initiatives, and technical assistance for sustainable workforce development. Founded in 1997 on Martha's Vineyard, we've synthesized the lessons we've learned along the way, and developed a grassroots model to train local leaders, exchange innovative solutions, and build resilient communities that can, by working together, build a better world. The Institute's Performance Metrics highlights the success of our youth leaders and include results from the qualitative results we've collected. The Institute is led by a loyal Board of Directors and distinguished International Advisory Council who guide our organization with strong management and diverse multicultural staff and with community engagement, gratitude from the educators, parents, and youth.

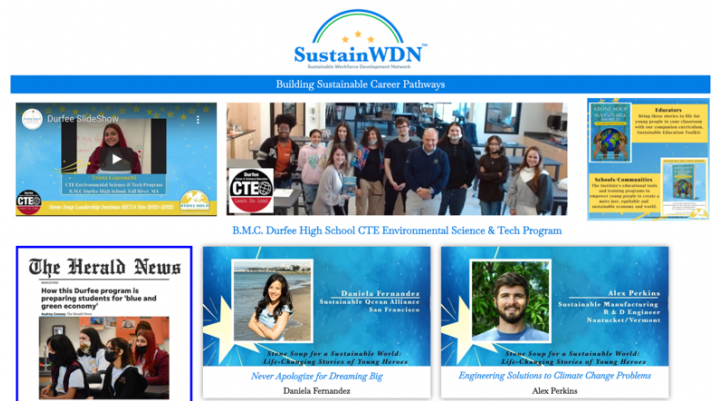
II. Educational Outreach:

The Institute's BETA Sites: Youth & Community Leadership Initiatives

For the last 25 years, the Institute has been working alongside ocean communities—from Puerto Rico to Martha's Vineyard, from Hawaii to Rhode Island and from the British Virgin Islands to the Philippines. Our annual Sustainability Summits, Career Mentor & Job Shadow Day Program, College Prep and Community Service Programs and year-round youth community leadership initiatives help young people develop the skills they need to develop their personal, professional, and planetary goals. Youth leaders from these communities created a 2020 Report for Sustainable Development, challenging their leaders to develop policies that balance protecting their communities' fragile ecosystems, providing for their families, creating opportunities for their children, and building a just, equitable, and sustainable future. Through this work we've inspired hundreds of underserved multicultural youth around the world to become effective leaders.

Education Outreach: BETA Sites 2021-

The Institute is a Massachusetts-registered nonprofit organization training multicultural youth to be leaders in their lives, their communities, and our world. We have conducted BETA programs in Massachusetts communities, especially those focused on developing the Blue Economy and transitioning to a sustainable economy.



• Southeastern New England – Massachusetts Blue Economy: [BETA site](#) 2021-2022

Durfee High School's Career Technical Education Environmental Science & Tech Program in Fall River, MA. The school is working hard on a strategic turnaround with extensive programs resulting in improving AP scores. It is brand-new school has state-of-the-art equipment includes aquaculture, school gardens and high-tech equipment. The Institute is honored to work alongside a dedicated Principal, thriving community with a brand-new beginning for the school, the students and for the community.

California: 2022

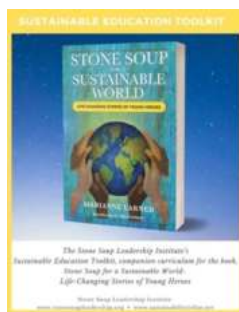
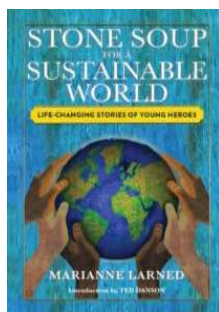
- Environmental Science, Redwood High School, Redwood City, CA
- Environmental Solution Teacher Fellowship Program as a Supplemental Curriculum Partner: [ELSI](#)

Southeastern New England: Blue Economy

- [Martha's Vineyard](#) (2000-2002 + 2010-2018)
- [Cape Cod BETA Site: 2020](#)
- [New Bedford BETA Site: 2018-2019](#)
- [Rhode Island: Newport](#): 2017-2020
- [Boston](#) (2009-2010)
- [Holyoke](#) (2017-2019)

Sustainability Initiative Sites: 2015-2020

- [Hawaii](#): 2011-2018
- [Vieques, Puerto Rico](#): 2003-2010
- [Virgin Gorda, BVI](#): 2007-2010
- [Sustainability Initiatives](#)
- [BETA Sites: 2015-2020](#)



III. Educational Tools: Book & Curriculum

Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes features the stories of 100 climate change trailblazers, environmental justice changemakers, educator champions, sustainable business leaders, intergenerational legacy figures, green inventors and entrepreneurs, and emerging island leaders from 38 countries around the world, and 32 U.S. cities who are creating sustainability solutions to the global climate crisis. Their stories inspire us and their calls to action invite us to support them and their organizations to maximize their impact in building a more just, equitable, and sustainable world.

- Each of our stories features one of the **U.N. Sustainable Development goals (UNSDG)**. Each story has a Call to Action and links to websites and social media to connect readers with their organizations.
- Our stories are nominated by our **partner organizations around the world**. We've built a high-trust, high-energy, and highly effective community of likeminded individuals with a passion for positive change.

Sustainable Education Toolkit/Lesson Plans

At the Institute, we consider our partnership with schools to be crucial to our mission. We are partnering with school administrators across the country to facilitate the implementation of sustainability and STEM curricula in their schools. We are committed to providing dynamic resources for educators to increase their students' appreciation for STEM, with a special focus on climate education and sustainability solutions.



Book Reviews

Clarion Foreword

"A detailed record of the accomplishments of youth activism, this is an insightful text populated by young people who are motivated to make positive change at the local and global levels through their personal, social, and political actions."

The ***Institute's Companion Educational Curriculum*** brings the stories in the book to life with lesson plans that highlight the values and basic academic disciplines of Language Arts and STEM activities, Sustainability Initiatives and provides guidance toward Sustainable Career Pathways. All of our educational tools and trainings are available through a virtual learning environment that adheres to state and NGIS (Next Generation State Standards), a set of standards focused on helping students develop a coherent and scientifically-based view of the world, convert their ideas into tangible, real-life projects, and focus on Physical and Life sciences, Earth and Space Science, and Engineering. These standards have been adopted by 27 states across the country.



IV.Shine the Light – Bring Hope and Solutions to the World

Our youthful, energetic Stone Soup team has created a dynamic multifaceted social media campaign to promote the work of the youth leaders and organizations featured in the book. Here's a sample of our youth leaders.

Community Outreach /Public Relations

- Press Numbers: 32 Articles
- Radio/Podcast/TV Interviews: 10
- World's Largest Book Signing: 100 bookstores

• Branding: @stonesoupleadership.org

• Social Media Posts: 704

• Social Media Engagement

Facebook: 17,636 followers • Instagram: 700

• Twitter: 423 • LinkedIn: 543

Institute's Educational Channel = YouTube:
Safe for Kids: 250 videos

Multifaceted Social Media Campaign

- Each week we showcase a story from our books with a week-long series of posts to bring our heroes to life through a Hero Report video, Honor Roll, Call to Action, and Lesson Plan for Educators on our social media platforms and YouTube Safe for Kids). In 2021: featured 23 Young Heroes.
- **Campaigns:** In 2021 we had 30 campaigns including: COP26, Climate Strike, Global Climate Strike, STEM Week, Young Heroes Fund, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, Dr. King's birthday, Hispanic Heritage Month, Women's March, Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Year: Best of 2021.

V. Expansion Goals for 2022: Development; Educational Partnerships; and Multimedia

1. Educational Partnerships: Transition to Sustainable Economy

The Institute has longstanding relationships in schools and communities around the world, but these communities are small, and in some cases isolated. Language is a barrier, as is geography. With the proliferation of ed-tech tools that allow for reach and access to the most vulnerable among us around the globe, we have shifted our resources to help get our bilingual educational tools, books, and other multimedia works digitized and available for licensure in a digital portal at schools around the country and around the world. With these tools and trainings, we want to be able to provide jobs training and a pipeline to employment for people in those vulnerable groups who are most in need.

- **Professional Development Modules:** Provide educators with CEUs and licensing via ed-tech portals.

- **Scaling Up:** We've BETA-tested our educational platform in eight unique communities in the US around the world. We are eager to scale this platform to reach more schools and businesses nationwide and are partnering with forward-thinking allies across industries to help aid the youth who are eager to expand their passion for sustainable living to develop blue/green careers. These allies include progressive educators and career counselors; libraries and home schoolers seeking educational resources for bilingual learners; and schools in need of STEM resources to supplement their curricula. We are also partnering with an extensive team of Ph.D.s, MBAs, universities, and businesses across the green-blue sectors, environmental organizations, educational institutions, technical and vocational programs, as well as youth across the country who long to help to create a more equitable and sustainable future.

- **SustainWDN™** is our cutting-edge digital workforce development network that builds bridges between young people, educators, and blue and green companies and is developing a 21st century workforce development pipeline. Its purpose is to provide youth from historically marginalized backgrounds with a pathway to high-paying technical jobs and internships in the world of sustainability. It offers educators and career counselors tools to guide students toward sustainable career pathways and also serves as an economic planning tool to help communities transition

to a sustainable economy. It can help companies realize a "triple bottom line" by preparing young people to contribute to a sustainable workforce, and a resilient community.

- **2. Multimedia Expansion:** There's an ever-increasing demand for high-quality sustainability resources such as curricular materials for educators, administrators, and schools, including material aimed at the cultural sphere. We are working in multiple verticals to make sustainable educational and entertainment material available to those who need it most. This offers an opportunity for sustainable media to gain a foothold and exercise the positive influence that's needed in our world. The Institute anticipates expanding our visibility on radio, podcasts, television, short films, TV series, and in other multimedia outlets.

- **3. Development: Leverage our budget of \$500K to engage others to invest in our vision.**

- **Scale Up** our sustainable education tools to schools to train young people for sustainable career pathways.

- The **Young Heroes Fund** provide mentors, training, and financial support to help our youth leaders to scale up their work. In 2022 we will expand our base of givers - with the aim of developing a safety net for young heroes who are on the front lines of climate change, especially those from the Global South. Now more than ever, the work of our young environmental leaders around the world needs to be highlighted and funded so they can scale up their efforts.

The Institute uses the Stone Soup model to invite everyone to share their time, talents, and resources to support young people so together we can build a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. We've developed partnerships and gathered significant media attention and funding. We've leveraged celebrity support to maximize the power of our social media campaigns-and have a positive impact on those who are on the frontlines doing the work to fight climate change. We are now well positioned to leverage our collective resources to nurture and support brave young people around the world who are working so hard to make a safe, healthy, and sustainable future for life on this planet.

Benefits for our Supporters: Supporters of the Young Heroes Fund are invited to the Institute's educational, professional development, speaking and networking events.



The Young Heroes Fund provides mentors, training, and financial support for youth leaders to expand their work.

• The Young Heroes Award Recipients 2021

- **Autumn Peltier, Water Walker** (Anishinabek Nation Canada);
- **Vanessa Nakate** (Uganda) for her Green Schools Solar Panel Project;
- **Benita Davis** (Guyana) for her leadership with the River Guardian Project;
- **KC Shreya** (Nepal), Mock COP26 organizer;
- **Iqbal Badruddin**, Fridays for Future Pakistan

• COP26 Youth Delegates 2021

Thanks to generous support for the Young Heroes Fund, we provided financial assistance to 10 youth leaders who served as youth delegates at the November conference in Glasgow – including:

- **Jerome Foster II** (USA)
President Biden's Environmental Justice Advisory Council
- **Kevin Patel** (USA)
- **Mitzi Jonelle Tan** (Philippines)
- **Nicki Becker** (Argentina)
- **Arshak Makichyan** (Russia)
- **Xiye Bastida** (Mexico/USA)

- **Benita Davis** (Guyana)
- **Vanessa Nakate** (Uganda)
- **Adenike Oladasu** (Nigeria)
- **Shreya KC** (Nepal).



Mentor & Media Training

- The Institute's Board of Directors and International Advisory Council join with our global youth leaders to share their experiences with staying strong and resiliency in the face of overwhelming odds.
- Public Relations professionals conducted a series of Media Trainings in preparation for our press and radio tour: 5 Zoom town halls

Our **International Speakers Bureau** of media-trained talent is also available for different tiers of donation to provide virtual or in-person speaking days at your venue of choice.

Websites

- [Stonesoupleadership.org](https://stonesoupleadership.org)
- SustainWDN.com
- Sustainabilityisfun.net
- **Sustainability Is Fun** connects young people with engaging, fun, and interactive educational activities like virtual sustainability tours; games; inspiring videos; and an educational curriculum. It can be customized by region or state to provide targeted resources.

PRAISE FOR THE STONE SOUP LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is continuing the legacy of past environmentalists by fostering youth leadership throughout the world. Launching the “Green Revolution” from a grassroots base will be integral to future policymaking; it is up to these youth delegates to lead this movement. With a focus on cultural sustainability, sustainable building, sustainable economics and sustainable agriculture, this year’s Sustainability Summit will continue to tackle the most difficult problems our world community faces. Use this Summit as a tool to help hone your already-budding leadership qualities into a strength that can help you connect with people from all walks of life.

John Kerry

U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate

Your dedication, compassion, and care for the island communities you work with is greatly appreciated and your efforts have not gone unnoticed. The work you have done for sustainable development across the globe is a valuable contribution to the future of our environment.

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, Massachusetts

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute’s work of inspiring, educating, and empowering young people to take initiative in their communities is a critical step in ensuring the success and longevity of our oceans, island sustainability and our planet.

Joe Kennedy

The Groundwork Project

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Virtual Education Toolkit and courses based on the book, Stone Soup for the World: Life-Changing Stories of Everyday Heroes is a treasure. It gives educators a powerful way to engage students through real-life stories with meaningful lessons that address the importance of SEL (social-emotional learning) values of caring for ourselves, others, and for the community. The Institute's noble work with students, teachers, and schools reminds me of how we created one of the nation’s first SEL curriculum and founded two schools with SEL as a central pillar. We worked alongside educators, political and business leaders, and a group of Nobel Laureates to reflect on the educational needs of our society. We decided that the central foundation of a school is beyond students’ knowledge. We must give them an opportunity to think, act, and lay the foundation for life-long learning. The Institute’s curriculum and online courses gives teachers the tools they need to bring SEL into their classrooms. I encourage everyone who cares about our children, their future, and ours to bring these tools into our schools.

Karen Stone McCown

Founder The Nueva Learning Center, The Synapse School

I was present when the real celebrity/dignitaries, Walter Cronkite and Marianne Larned, gave life to a concept that was to become Stone Soup for the World ... and led us here today. Having had the great honor to witness the beginning, I am thrilled to be part of this event to celebrate all of the 100 impressive heroes featured in Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life Changing Stories of Young Heroes, who are the manifestation of that dream. I applaud you all for your brilliance, ingenuity, and commitment to helping our planet and its inhabitants. The iconic Walter Cronkite was a man of unimpeachable integrity, and great foresight and imagination. He also was an environmentalist. When Marianne shared her dream of challenging people to find their passion and use it for the betterment of mankind, he challenged her to light the way. I have no doubt that he envisioned what would follow—and is smiling down on you now, from his nearby perch, reveling in the life-changing effect you all are having on our world. Walter and Marianne both understood that it would be up to your generation to alter our course. My deepest gratitude for the enduring impact your contributions are making today, and for lighting the way for the heroes of tomorrow.

Marlene Adler

Former Chief of Staff to Walter Cronkite

The Institute’s Pledge with Walter Cronkite, Honorary Chair

We accept Walter Cronkite’s challenge for a new kind of engaged activism, to be a force for positive change in the world. We carry on the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, Eleanor Roosevelt, Cesar Chavez, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to improve the conditions of our neighborhoods, our countries, and the world through individual action and working with others. Together, we will forge new directions for the global economy, bridge the gap between the haves and have-nots, and strive to build a more peaceful, sustainable world.

Press



COP26 Youth Delegates Highlights
Ubiquity University
November 10, 2021



Young Climate Activists Confront World Leaders With Their Demands At Cop26
In Glasgow
October 31, 2021



GreenBiz
Jerome Foster II, President Biden's
Environmental Justice Council
October 19, 2021



GreenBiz
Indigenous youth leader Xiye Bastida
October 18, 2021



GreenBiz
Build Climate Resilience across Puerto Rico
Salvador Gómez-Colón
July 2, 2021



[Exclusive Interview] Author Marianne Larned, Advocate Mitzi Jonelle Tan Share Journey Towards Climate Justice

Science Times: Interview
September 2021
Science Times: Book Review
August 31, 2021



Food Sleuth Radio
NPR Syndication
September 2021



Real Leaders Magazine
Francois van den Abeele, Slater Jewell-Kemker, Fergus Moore, Alyssa Lee
October 2021 Issue



SEE change Magazine, Social Entrepreneurship
Francois Van Den Abeele, Daniela Fernandez, Fergus Moore, Jonah Wittkamper, Perry Raso, Vincent Kimura
August 20, 2021



Telemundo TV
Xiye Bastida (Spanish)
Xiye Bastida (English Transcript)
September 1, 2021



CTV News with Angie Seth with Marianne Larned
June 5, 2021



CTV News with Angie Seth (Part 2)
Tanaka & Aadya Joshi
June 19, 2021



Green Teachers Podcast
Episode 17: Stone Soup to prepare youth for a sustainable world
July 16, 2021



Green Teacher Magazine
Non-profit magazine, books and webinars
Stone Soup for a Sustainable World
Rebecca Riney Doudle



Nepali Times
Shreya KC: Nepali Climate Activist Makes Waves



Guyana Chronicle
River Guardian Benita Davis receives Young Heroes Fund Award



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