



MIAMI
WATERKEEPER®

MIAMI WATERKEEPER'S JUNIOR AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

A YEAR IN REVIEW
AUG. 2021 - JUL. 2022

**THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDERS
FOR MAKING THIS PROGRAM POSSIBLE:**

AL & JANE NAHMAD FAMILY FOUNDATION
BASS PRO SHOPS & CABELA'S OUTDOOR FUND
CORNELIA T. BAILEY FOUNDATION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
JORGE M. PÉREZ FAMILY FOUNDATION
WEST MARINE BLUEFUTURE FUND
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

JUNIOR AMBASSADORS

Miami Waterkeeper's Junior Ambassador program celebrated its seventh cohort of graduates in 2022. These young environmental leaders received specialized training in civic engagement, advocacy, and environmental issues. They participated in unique service learning opportunities and provided critical data for local research projects. During the 2021-2022 program year, Junior Ambassadors achieved numerous successes, which we are proud to share in this report.



PARTICIPATED IN 10+ SERVICE PROJECTS

- Beach clean-ups
- Coastal habitat restorations
- Citizen science water quality research expeditions



COMPLETED 4 TRAININGS

ON ADVOCACY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

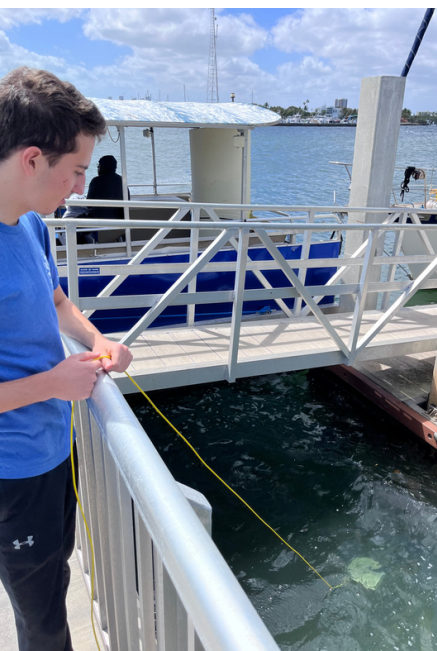


SENT 22 LETTERS TO COMMUNITY LEADERS

ADVOCATING FOR ACTION ON LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES



REMOVED 200+ POUNDS
OF MARINE DEBRIS



GRADUATED 22
JUNIOR AMBASSADORS



GUIDED BY 2 PROGRAM ALUMNI
LEADERSHIP BOARD MEMBERS



COMPLETED AN AVERAGE OF 20 SERVICE HOURS
PER JUNIOR AMBASSADOR



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Junior Ambassador program has continued to grow to give high school students in Miami-Dade and Broward counties the skills and knowledge necessary to be advocates and environmental stewards for their communities. Through advocacy trainings, community service activities, and citizen science projects, Junior Ambassadors learned about the issues and threats facing Biscayne Bay and its surrounding waterways. Through civic engagement, they practiced making their voices heard and advocating for solutions to make a positive change in the environment.



RESEARCHERS IN ACTION

Junior Ambassadors engage in research throughout the year, participating in various citizen science projects. This year, Ambassadors participated in [EarthEcho](#)'s water quality program, collecting data on Miami's water quality for an international data collection project. Students also worked with [International SeaKeepers Society](#) to clean up marine debris for the Ocean Conservancy's Clean Swell App, which tracks trash that's cleaned up from beaches around the world to help researchers better tackle the issue of marine debris. These hands-on experiences allow students to investigate their expansive watershed in new and exciting ways while collecting data for researchers and Biscayne Bay monitoring initiatives.

FLOATING CLASSROOMS

This year's Junior Ambassadors went aboard the [River Queen](#) and spent a morning on Biscayne Bay. Ambassadors learned about the different types of pollution that are degrading Biscayne Bay and used [EarthEcho](#) kits and a YSI sonde to test water quality. They also explored Biscayne Bay with an underwater drone donated by the [Wildlife Conservation Society](#) and cleaned up marine debris on Pelican Island.



THE PARTNERSHIP

Thank you to the following PartnerSHIP crew members for sustaining Youth Enrichment Days and all other Miami Waterkeeper programming to ensure swimmable, drinkable, fishable water for all.

MANATEE

The Frankel
Family

Jenny and Nick
Semaca

The Mailman
Foundation

DOLPHIN

The Charlesmead Foundation, Inc.

SEA TURTLE

Robin and H Jordan
Weitz

Aviva and Aaron
Stauber

Schwedel Family

Amanda Perwin
and Seth Cassel



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in partnership with Mill Creek
Residential Trust and UBS



CORAL

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Baumann



Marcelo Fernandes and Family
In Memory of Kellie Henley

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& ROSEN
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Family

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The Diamond
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STARFISH

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