



Media Advisory

Laura Sofía Pardo Arévalo, Rochester School, Chía Cundinamarca – Colombia, recognized for the Youth Energy Leadership Award.

For Immediate Release – May 17, 2024

Manassas, Virginia – The NEED Project is pleased to announce the 2024 recipient of the Youth Energy Leadership Award to Laura Sofía Pardo Arévalo of Rochester School in Chía Cundinamarca – Colombia!

The Youth Energy Leadership Award was created by NEED's Board of Directors to recognize students who go above and beyond in their pursuit of energy knowledge and the teaching of others. This prestigious award is designed to honor students demonstrating effective leadership skills and energy knowledge throughout their association with NEED.

NEED congratulates Laura Sofía Pardo Arévalo of Rochester School on receiving the 2024 Youth Energy Leadership Award. This award includes a \$1,500 scholarship to be used for educational plans. The award will be given at the 44th Annual NEED Youth Awards for Energy Achievement in Washington, D.C. on June 25, 2024. Laura Sofía has been accepted to attend Universidad del Rosario to major in Earth System Sciences this fall.

Laura Sofía says of her experience with NEED, "The knowledge gained through NEED prepared me for effective leadership by teaching me the importance of energy in daily life and motivating me to share this understanding broadly. Having a solid foundation in promoting sustainable energy solutions and helping communities is very important to me."

She noted one rewarding experience was being able to teach young children about renewable energy through an interactive workshop called "Energy Heroes". Young students were able to explore energy topics that included solar energy and photovoltaics, hydroelectric power, and wind energy. It was important to her to share environmental stewardship and equip the next generation with the right tools and knowledge.

Her nomination by teacher Matthew Reis showcased Laura Sofía's leadership skills. He shared how she has organized several plant sales throughout the year for fundraising, organized a Green Apple Day of Service, and the Master Engineering Challenge, which encouraged students to resolve timed engineering challenges related to hydroelectricity, wind energy, and energy transformations.

NEED is honored to present this award to Laura Sofía, congratulations!

For more information about the NEED Project and the NEED Youth Energy Leadership Award, please call Mary E. Spruill at (703) 257-1117, fax at (703) 257-0037 or via email to mspruill@need.org or visit <http://www.need.org>.

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