

I am so pleased to introduce you to EarthEcho International. Several years ago I co-founded EarthEcho International to carry on my family's legacy of unyielding commitment to be our water planet's storytellers and advocates. While many think of my grandfather and father as adventurers, at their cores they were educators. They introduced people to the wonders of the undersea world and helped us all to see and understand our relationship to nature.

EarthEcho is committed to youth engagement, action, and leadership through education. We help young people everywhere understand the critical role they play in the future of the planet through the one element that connects us all—water. EarthEcho is about young people taking control of the future today, starting in their own backyards, schools, and communities.

EarthEcho's programs provide educators with comprehensive and relevant resources to engage and inspire their students to act as agents for change in their own communities through the following programs:

- **STREAM** (STudents Reporting Environmental Action through Media) provides students with tools and resources to bring national attention to stories of environmental and human impact in their own communities, as well as a multi-media digital publishing platform for student journalists to post their stories.
- **The Water Planet Challenge** is an international call-to-action that engages middle and high school youth to bring about global change by implementing their ideas in their communities through service-learning. Action Guides and videos about the service-learning process are just a few of the resources available. **Sample Action Guide are included on this CD-ROM.**
- ***Going Blue: A Teen Guide to Saving Our Oceans, Lakes, Rivers, & Wetlands*** informs youth about the issues surrounding our waters and provides the strategies and examples they need to see themselves as change agents. The book is a partnership between EarthEcho, author Cathryn Berger Kaye—an international leader in the field of service-learning—and Free Spirit Publishing. ***Going Blue*** has been selected as a *Learning Magazine* 2011 Teachers' Choice Awards for the Family WINNER, a prestigious award based on the book's educational value, originality and creativity, ease of use, safety and durability, and high-interest level and motivation for youth.

I hope that you will visit [www.earthecho.org](http://www.earthecho.org) to learn more about the resources that EarthEcho International has for you. From here you can access both the Water Planet Challenge and STREAM, and stay informed about additional opportunities for professional development and youth advocacy. In the meantime, thank you for your commitment to today's youth.

Cheers,



Philippe Cousteau