



The Kids Ecology Corps

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For Additional Information

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The Kids Ecology Corps debuts its first animated short film at this year's Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival

*The local environmental youth group's first animated short promotes environmental awareness
and will premiere November 3rd at Cinema Paradiso*

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (October 29 2007) – Local environmental non-profit youth organization, The Kids Ecology Corps will be featuring their first animated short film, “Plant Trees: Sturdy for the Birdies” on November 3rd at Fort Lauderdale’s Cinema Paradiso. The children’s film features an environmentally-conscious owl that helps lead ecologically-illiterate homeless birds to their new safe haven. In the process, the film educates young viewers and their families on the importance of native versus invasive exotic plant species, how to properly plant and care for trees that can weather a hurricane and the dangers of invasive species to our eco-system.

The film screening is free and will show at 10:00 am on Saturday, November 3rd. After the short film, another free animated feature length children's film, LEGEND OF SASQUATCH, will be screened.

Nici Daw, past-Project Manager for The Kids Ecology Corps collaborated with media students from Northeast High School’s NETV class, their teacher Sandy Melillo and Dr. Ed Gilman of the University of Florida on the initial script and concept. The team of Director Mike Rosinski and Producer/ Director John Lemmon offered in-kind contributions towards the production of the film. Funding for the film came via a hurricane grant awarded by the USDA Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program administered by the Florida Division of Forestry with the help of Sheryle Dell, Southeast Regional Grants Coordinator for the Division of Forestry.

Saturday, November 3rd is also “Step It Up” Day, an international day of action for global climate change. Step It Up 2007 organizers will be holding rallies all across the country, calling upon elected officials to take immediate action regarding the pressing issue of global climate change. The Kids Ecology Corps will present educational materials and information about how families can reduce their personal carbon footprint and take action to tell our legislators to "Step It Up" now. For more, visit their website at www.stepitup2007.org.

The Kids Ecology Corps is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization whose mission is to inspire young people to make environmental action part of their everyday lives and in the lives of those around them. KEC has reached over 58,000 young people from pre-k through high school, offering unique hands-on presentations and eco-action programs that educate children and youth about: keeping our oceans clean; the importance of trees; the role re-planting our coastal wetlands play in beach conservation; water conservation; pollution prevention; global climate change and energy conservation; and, protecting local natural habitats for native wildlife. Visit them at www.kidsecologycorps.org or via phone at 954-524-0366 to volunteer or to schedule an education or eco-action presentation at your school.

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