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EDITOR'S NOTE: Photos available for download [HERE](#).

Lincoln Park Zoo's Teen Conservation Ambassadors Board Recognized by Polar Bears International

Teen Board Awarded International Project Polar Bear Grand Prize, \$1,000 Grant

Chicago (May 9, 2017) – Polar Bears International (PBI) has recognized [Lincoln Park Zoo's](#) Conservation Ambassadors Board with first place, including a \$1,000 grant, in the 2017 Project Polar Bear Contest, a five-month-long competition that challenges teams of young people to design and carry out long-lasting community projects that reduce carbon emissions.

The [Conservation Ambassadors Board](#) was honored for their [Polar Paws](#) event in January which engaged the community by raising awareness about polar bear conservation and its relationship to climate change. More than 600 guests attended the event and participated in various activities to show the impact of daily actions on polar bears and sea ice. The event also showcased 30 local artists who depicted their feelings about climate change and its effect on polar bears through myriad mediums including painting and photography.



"We are so incredibly proud of our Conservation Ambassadors Board for their tireless commitment to saving species and engaging their communities," said Vice President of Learning and Community Engagement Dana Murphy. "Our students constantly inspire us with their endless ideas and enthusiasm on behalf of wildlife."

The Conservation Ambassadors Board members and Project Polar Bear honorees include:

- Marlene Alanis, Nicholas Senn High School (Edgewater)
- Isidro Avila, Lane Tech High School (Roscoe Village)
- Alex Bussey, Walter Payton College Prep (Near North Side)
- Cesar Cortes, Epic Academy (South Chicago)
- Julia Friedman, Lane Tech High School (Roscoe Village)

- Nick Gomez, Intrinsic Schools (Belmont-Craigin)
- Cecilia Griggs, De la Salle High School (Bronzeville)
- Daniel Kerber, Munchin College Prep (Downtown)
- Eleanor Lay, Lincoln Park High School (Lincoln Park)
- Aniq Maisha, Northside College Preparatory High School (North Park)
- Lynne Pavletic, Lane Tech High School (Roscoe Village)
- Natalia Perez, Lane Tech High School (Roscoe Village)
- Zola Price, Homeschool
- Lourdes Silva, Carl Schurz High School (Old Irving Park)
- Kat Stanley, Morgan Park Academy (Morgan Park)
- Valerie Tafoya, Whitney M. Young High school (Near West Side)
- Emerson Toomey, Lane Tech High School (Roscoe Village)

To learn more about Lincoln Park Zoo or the Conservation Ambassadors Board, visit lpzoo.org.

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ABOUT LINCOLN PARK ZOO

Lincoln Park Zoo inspires communities to create environments where wildlife will thrive in our urbanizing world. The zoo is a leader in local and global conservation, animal care and welfare, learning, and science. A historic Chicago landmark founded in 1868, the not-for-profit Lincoln Park Zoo, is a privately-managed, member-supported organization and is free and open 365 days a year. Visit us at lpzoo.org.