



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2019

Contact: Ashley Rauch

845-424-3358 x4

ashley.rauch@hhl.org

**HHLT to Present Award to Krystal Ford
for Leadership in Environmental Conservation**

*Award to be presented to local climate activist at
7th Annual Young Friends Fall Fest on October 26th*

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) is pleased to announce the 2019 recipient of the **Timothy Osborn Roberts Young Friends Conservation Award**: climate change activist and community organizer **Krystal Ford**. Established in memory of local conservationist Timothy Roberts, the award honors young leaders whose work has contributed to the protection and preservation of the Hudson Highlands.

The second annual award will be presented to the Garrison resident for her work organizing the Philipstown community around climate change and other environmental issues. Most recently, Krystal organized the Philipstown Climate Strike on September 20th, which engaged more than 200 local students and adults in the global movement demanding action to address climate change, as well as Climate Week Philipstown, which included a movie screening, panel discussion, electric car day and climate art exhibit. She also organized the Garrison School's first Youth Climate Summit attended by seven schools and 120 middle school students this past May.

Among her many local affiliations, Krystal is a member of the Philipstown Climate Smart Task Force, Philipstown Conservation Board, Philipstown Garden Club, and Constitution Marsh Advisory Board, as well as President of Garrison Union Free School PTA. She is also involved with national organizations Citizens' Climate Lobby and Climate Reality Project. All of her work is on a volunteer basis.

Previous award recipients include **Jason Angell** and **Jocelyn Apicello** of the **Ecological Citizen's Project** for their work establishing and organizing the Philipstown Community Congress.

The 2019 award will be presented on **Saturday, October 26th** at the **7th annual HHLT Young Friends Fall Fest at Winter Hill**. All event proceeds will be matched in Mr. Roberts's memory and will directly support land conservation in the Hudson Highlands.

ABOUT THE TIMOTHY OSBORN ROBERTS YOUNG FRIENDS CONSERVATION AWARD

Established by HHLT in 2018 in memory of local conservationist Timothy Roberts, the award honors extraordinary young leaders in conservation whose work has contributed to the protection and preservation of the Hudson Highlands. Mr. Roberts, whose family has been a leader in conservation in the Highlands for generations, was one of the founding members of the Young Friends of HHLT Committee. With a passion for conservation, he generously contributed his time and energy to engaging his generation in preserving the Hudson Highlands. He passed away in 2017 after a battle with cancer.

ABOUT THE HHLT YOUNG FRIENDS FALL FEST

Saturday, October 26 / 2-5pm / Winter Hill, 20 Nazareth Way, Garrison

Planned and hosted by the Young Friends of HHLT committee, Fall Fest has become an annual tradition at Winter Hill over the past seven years. As in previous years, this year's event will be filled with fun fall activities for all ages, including a guided hike to the historic Revolutionary War Redoubt, fresh apple cider pressing on an antique cider press, hands-on nature activities for children (including a tutorial on Seek by iNaturalist, a kid-friendly mobile app that helps identify wildlife and plants), and plenty of delicious seasonal snacks and beverages. Tickets are \$25 for local residents and all children under 12 are free.

Additional event details and online registration can be found at

hhltfallfest2019.eventbrite.com.

ABOUT HHLT

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust is a community-based, accredited, non-profit conservation organization with a mission to protect and preserve the natural resources, rural character and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands. www.hhlt.org

#