

## 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

**\$10,000 in Honorariums to be Awarded in 2017**  
**Application Deadline - March 20, 2017**

**Region-Wide Search Spearheaded by**  
**Wawa, 6abc and Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP**

Philadelphia, PA (February 7, 2017) – The Environmental Community Service Award, presented by Wawa, 6abc, and the environmental law firm Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP (MGKF), celebrates more than a decade of supporting environmental programs that improve the local community. The goal of the Environmental Community Service Award is to recognize two schools (6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades) for their outstanding programs that enhance and improve the quality of life in their communities as well as raise awareness of environmental concerns. Understanding the importance of encouraging schools to launch or sustain environmental programs, media partner 6abc will help increase awareness of the award with their audiences throughout the Delaware Valley.

Each year two schools receive a \$5,000 honorarium to further their environmental programs. The application for this year's Environmental Community Service Award is available online at <https://www.wawa.com/PressReleases.aspx>, <http://6abc.com/1nVsHyd> and [www.mankogold.com/about-community.html](http://www.mankogold.com/about-community.html). All applications must be signed by a school official and submitted by Monday, March 20, 2017. They should be sent to [environmentalaward@mankogold.com](mailto:environmentalaward@mankogold.com). (More details below.) Surprise presentations will be made at the winning schools prior to Earth Day, April 22, 2017.

Since the program's inception, 22 schools in the tri-state area have been recognized for their outstanding programs. Last year, The Academy of Notre Dame was recognized for their contributions to the school's cross-curricular initiative, Project Stream. With the theme "Water Sustains All Life," every academic area, from science and mathematics, to art and religion, explored issues related to water scarcity, safety, and sustainability. Students in the religion department explored global issues of water poverty while science and mathematics students conducted flow rate and water quality studies on the Darby Creek and monitored water quality in partnership with the Darby Creek Valley Association. Senior level art students studying microscopic water samples created drawings similar to artist renderings seen in scientific textbooks. Middle school art students explored Gyotaku, a traditional Japanese art of printing images of fish from an actual fish.

Also recognized for their outstanding program was the Winslow Township Middle School in Atco, NJ. Teacher Ross Cruz developed an environmental STEM course that mirrors the community's farms. Students have created sustainable hydroponic systems in their classroom where they test the nutrients in the system and have plants, fruits and vegetables growing through the year. Using an engineering design process, they solve real world environmental-based design challenges ranging from repurposing

non-recyclable K-Cups into seedling starter pots to using household items to create hydroponic systems that can grow plants in areas with limited water and land use.

Robb Fox, partner of Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP who founded the Environmental Community Service award more than a decade ago, is proud of what these schools have been able to accomplish through this award. “It is so exciting to hear what schools are doing for their communities and the environment. These awards are positively impacting the progress and growth of these projects.”

Richard Wood, Director of Sustainability and Government Relations, for Wawa, said “We have always felt that this award program is a unique way to recognize students for their efforts to make our planet more sustainable and share their ideas and achievements with the community.”

Bernie Prazenica, 6abc President and General Manager, is proud to once again partner with the Environmental Community Service Award. “At 6abc, we take pride in the many ways we work to protect the environment and promote sustainability. The Action News team looks forward to showcasing the work of these bright, innovative students, while bringing focus to environmental concerns right here in our neighborhoods.”

In prior years, the winner schools have been the George W. Nebinger School in Philadelphia, PA; The Douglass School in Wilmington, DE; The Pathway School in Norristown, PA; South Philadelphia High School in Philadelphia; Central Bucks High School West in Doylestown, PA; Abington High School in Abington, PA; Williamstown Middle School in Williamstown, NJ, Hatboro-Horsham High School in Horsham, PA, Charles F. Patton Middle School in Kennett Square, PA; Father Judge and Lincoln High Schools in Philadelphia; Epiphany of Our Lord School in Plymouth Meeting, PA; Abraham Lincoln High School – Horticultural Academy in Philadelphia; Interboro High School in Prospect Park, PA; St. Francis Xavier School in the Fairmount section of Philadelphia; Cedarbrook Middle School in Wyncote; Gateway Regional High School in Woodbury Heights, NJ; W.B. Saul High School of Agricultural Sciences, Philadelphia.; Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander University of Pennsylvania Partnership School in West Phila; Friends Central Middle School in Merion, PA; and Camden High School in Camden, N.J.

The individuals who judge the programs are all experts in the field of the environment and science. They are representatives from The Franklin Institute, the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center, Pennsylvania and New Jersey’s Department of Environmental Protection, and Delaware’s Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control along with someone representing each sponsor -- Wawa, 6abc, and MGKF.

The Environmental Community Service Award application is available to download at these links.

- Wawa – <https://www.wawa.com/PressReleases.aspx>
- 6abc – <http://6abc.cm/1nVsHyd>
- Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP – [www.mankogold.com/about-community.html](http://www.mankogold.com/about-community.html)

It can be sent electronically but it must be signed by a school official and sent from an official school e-mail address. Electronic applications are accepted at [environmentalaward@mankogold.com](mailto:environmentalaward@mankogold.com) or a

hardcopy can be sent by mail to MGKF, Attn: Environmental Award, 401 City Avenue, Ste. 901, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004. For general information, contact Manko Gold's Director of Marketing, Julie Hayes ([jhayes@mankogold.com](mailto:jhayes@mankogold.com); 484-430-2352).

**About Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP:**

Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP concentrates its practice in environmental, energy, and land use law and litigation. It represents clients ranging from Fortune 100 corporations to small, privately held enterprises, both in the Mid-Atlantic Region and on a national basis. Their commitment to education is manifested in the lawyers' participation in environmental programs outside the office. MGKF is honored to be the top-rated law firm, since 2011, in the Top Workplaces surveys by the Philadelphia Inquirer, Daily News and Philly.com.

**About Wawa, Inc.:**

Wawa, Inc., a privately held company, began in 1803 as an iron foundry in New Jersey. Toward the end of the 19th Century, owner George Wood took an interest in dairy farming and the family began a small processing plant in Wawa, PA in 1902. The milk business was a huge success, due to its quality, cleanliness and "certified" process. As home delivery of milk declined in the early 1960's, Grahame Wood, George's grandson, opened the first Wawa Food Market in 1964 as an outlet for dairy products. Today, Wawa is your all day, every day stop for fresh, built-to-order foods, beverages, coffee, fuel services, and surcharge-free ATMs. In July of 2015, Wawa was named "America's Most Beloved Convenience Store" by a Market Force study of 7,000 consumers, winning with the highest "composite loyalty score" of 68 percent, and taking first place in the fresh food category and in 2016 Wawa was recognized in Forbes as one of America's Best Large Employers, a survey-based ranking of employers offering the best associate experiences and strongest opportunities. Wawa was recently designated as a 2017 Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. A chain of more than 730 convenience retail stores (over 500 offering gasoline), Wawa stores are located in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and Florida. The stores offer a large fresh food service selection, including Wawa brands such as built-to-order hoagies, freshly-brewed coffee, hot breakfast sandwiches, built-to-order Specialty Beverages, and an assortment of soups, sides and snacks.

**About 6abc:**

6abc Action News is the #1 local news brand in the tri-state, and the undisputed news leader for the past 35 years. 6abc.com, the official website of Action News, is also the #1 local TV news website in the market. WPVI-TV is the ABC-owned station serving the Delaware and Lehigh Valleys.

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