



Media Advisory

Mariam Conde, Aberdeen High School, Aberdeen, MD recognized for the Youth Energy Leadership Award.

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Manassas, Virginia – The NEED Project is pleased to announce the 2020 recipient of the Youth Energy Leadership Award to Mariam Conde of Aberdeen High School (Harford County) in Aberdeen, Maryland.

The Youth Energy Leadership Award was created by NEED's Board of Directors to recognize students who go above and beyond in their pursuit of energy knowledge and the teaching of others. This prestigious award is designed to honor students demonstrating effective leadership skills and energy knowledge throughout their association with NEED. NEED congratulates Mariam Conde of Aberdeen High School on receiving the 2020 Youth Energy Leadership Award. This award includes a \$1,500 scholarship to be used for educational plans. Mariam has been accepted to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and plans to pursue the field of industrial/systems engineering.

Mariam was introduced to NEED when she attended the 2019 STEM Innovation and Leadership Academy at the University of Maryland. Participating in the STEM Academy helped Mariam not only add to her energy knowledge, but to also utilize the leadership skills gained from the experience of working with a diverse group of peers. She noted of the experience, "A leader is more than just being 'the boss'. I was able to share my knowledge with my group members and most importantly be open to the opinions and suggestions of the members in my group."

Mariam already has her foot in a variety of energy and leadership roles as she is a JROTC class leader, a science honors society member, and green team captain. For earth day, the green team hosted a free community event to provide families with fun activities that helped them to learn more about solar and wind energy. She says, "I informed my peers and family about how we can be energy efficient in our everyday life and why it is important to do so. I believe that it was very informative to the community to understand how we can use renewable energy sources in everything we do."

Her nomination from her STEM mentor, Angela Killebrew, highlights how Mariam is highly engaged in learning and takes initiative. Angela shared that Mariam mobilized a team of peers who served as energy advocates and continually demonstrates a commitment to supporting a sustainable future for earth's energy resources.

Mariam certainly possesses the outstanding leadership skills and a commitment to academics that the Youth Energy Leadership Award encompasses. NEED is thrilled to select Mariam for this award!

For more information about the NEED Project and the Youth Energy Leadership Award, please contact Mary E. Spruill at (703) 257-1117 or mspruill@need.org.

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