Manassas, Virginia – The NEED Project is pleased to announce the 2020 recipient of the Youth Energy Leadership Award to Patrick Keene of Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas!

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 Patrick Keene of Texas A&M University on receiving the 2020 Youth Energy Leadership Award. This award includes a $1,500 scholarship to be used for educational plans. He is currently pursuing a degree in industrial distribution engineering.

Patrick’s nominations detail his successful transition from an aggressive high school career filled with numerous AP courses into a rich and active college career at Texas A&M. He is not only pursuing a demanding engineering degree, but also serving as a Resident Advisor, counseling younger classmates with their academic and personal issues.

Having served as a Youth Staff member at NEED’s Youth Energy Conference and Awards for six years, Patrick is well known for his mature professional manner and easy ability to effectively collaborate with others for the greater good. Youth Awards adult staff member and NEED teacher, Robert Griegoliet, said of Patrick, “He shows leadership and grit and I’ve seen him present the work ethic and respect of an adult.”

Patrick is currently interested in water conservation and energy applications. His work with Engineers Without Borders has allowed him to help underprivileged communities make the most of their resources and he would like to focus on long-term conservation of our resources while helping those in need. He also understands that energy education is important as he says, “The concepts can be understood across all generations, and everyone can make a difference. NEED transformed my opinions on energy related matters, and now it’s my turn to do the same for others.”

Congratulations to this outstanding young gentleman and wonderful friend of NEED.

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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