



VILLAGE OF PINECREST

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pinecrest to celebrate Earth Day by presenting student "pollution solutions" and hosting eco-friendly family activities Sunday

Pinecrest, Fla. – Pinecrest Gardens is going green for Earth Day by hosting a family-friendly day tailored to educate visitors through interactive activities and demonstrations.

Students from throughout the county got a head start on creating awareness about environmental pollution through the Pinecrest Gardens' Pollution Solutions contest where student filmmakers created a short video, one to three minutes in length, which identified one of seven types of environmental pollution. Each video demonstrated a proposed solution for the pollution issue that they identified in the video.

Contest finalists will present their pollution solution during Pinecrest Gardens' annual Earth Day event being held Sunday, April 19th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. There will be a lady bug release, an eco-friendly fashion show, wildlife shows, and entertainment by the Greater Miami Youth Symphony and Fantasy Theater Factory.

The five minute Pollution Solution student presentations will take place in the Hibiscus Room at 3:30 p.m., and the winners will be announced immediately after. There will be one first place winner in each category: grades 4-6, grades 7-9 and grades 10-12. First place student winners will receive \$300 from Pinecrest and their schools will receive \$1000 from the contest's sponsor, Ygrene Energy Fund. Schools will use their prize money to implement an environmental project on campus.

Congratulations to the following finalists:

- Anooshah Bawany (7th grade) from Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts
- Leire Garrogerricaechebarria (4th grade) from Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center
- Federica Kauffmann (5th grade) from The Mandelstam School
- Valerie Macaulay (12th grade) Palmer Trinity School
- Alexandra Olson (11th grade) Terra Environmental Research Institute
- Elijah Perfetto (4th grade) from Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center
- Jose Torres (10th grade) Immaculata LaSalle High School

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About Ygrene

Ygrene Energy Fund manages Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs on behalf of local municipalities. The PACE program is a revolutionary new way for home owners to finance energy efficiency and hurricane protection property upgrades. It is noncredit-based, long term financing with zero out-of-pocket expense to the property owner. Ygrene pays the contractor directly, and thanks to the establishment of a private-public partnership with 15 different cities in Miami-Dade County, the property owner then repays the money through an annual assessment on their property tax bill.

About Pinecrest Gardens

Pinecrest Gardens attracts over 150,000 visitors each year and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in October 2011, making it historically significant on a local, state and national platform. It is a premier venue for the arts, education and environmental conservation and preservation. On any given day one can catch an arts performance, tour the 14 acres of native forested wetland, tropical hardwood hammock and native cypress slough hammock or take a class in horticulture, archeology and botany.

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