



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERS ANNOUNCED TO JOIN SUN VALLEY YOUTH FORUM

Youth activists gathering for people and planet will host national youth leaders from the National Children's Campaign, Zero Hour, and lead plaintiff in the landmark case, Juliana v. United States

SUN VALLEY, IDAHO July 1, 2019—The Sun Valley Institute's Youth Council, a group of high school students from across the nation have organized the inaugural **Claiming our Future: Youth Action for a Resilient World**, July 23-26, 2019 at the Argyros Performing Arts Center in Ketchum, paralleling the Sun Valley Institute's fifth annual Sun Valley Forum. High school students from across the United States and beyond will unite to focus on sustainability and resilience to develop solutions to challenges we face locally and globally to people and planet. Students are invited to apply online at sunvalleyforum.com/youth-forum.

"Today we are pleased to announce that the 2019 Sun Valley Forum will welcome these visionary national leaders to the Sun Valley Youth Forum," said Aimée Christensen, founder and Executive Director of the Sun Valley Institute. "Kelsey Juliana, Vic Barrett and Jamie Margolin will speak to the Sun Valley Forum as well as the Youth Forum. As we see increasing impacts in the form of fires and floods, harming communities, farmers and economies, these young people are leading movements across the nation and fearlessly called for accountability and we look forward to learning from their efforts."

Kelsey Juliana and Vic Barrett are plaintiffs in *Juliana v. the United States*, filed in the U.S. District Court in the District of Oregon in 2015. This case was brought by these young advocates with the goal of blocking the U.S. government from continuing to allow the use of fossil fuels. The plaintiffs alleged that the government's action causes climate change, both violating the rights to life, liberty and property of this generation of young people, and failing to protect essential public trust resources. To read more about their campaign, visit Our Children's Trust.

Also joining the Youth Forum is Jamie Margolin, the founder and co-executive director of Zero Hour, a national movement started out of their frustration that elected officials were not acting on climate change and recognizing the potentially profound impact that it could have on them. Zero Hour started when

Margolin gathered her friends to start organizing an effort sure not to be ignored. Learn more about Zero Hour [here](#).

In addition to these youth leaders, Youth Forum participants will learn from and collaborate with the Sun Valley Forum speakers, including the Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Geneva-based network of parliaments worldwide; Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation Executive Director, Justin Winters; Filmmaker Louis Psihoyos (“Racing Extinction” and “The Cove”); Meagan Fallone, CEO of Barefoot College International, teaching women to install solar across south-east Asia; Laura Liswood of Women World Leaders whose members are current and former heads of state; Admiral Paul Zukunft, the 25th Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; award-winning author and Contributing Editor to *Rolling Stone*, Jeff Goodell; impact investors from BlackRock, BNP Paribas/Bank of the West and; and IBM/The Weather Company’s Paul Walsh and Steve Wismuller. Students will cap off the event by rafting the Salmon River.

SCHEDULE & PROGRAM

2019 Sun Valley Forum Schedule

Tuesday, July 23: Opening Sessions, Reception & Dinner

Wednesday, July 24: Forum Sessions, Reception & Dinner

Thursday, July 25: Forum Sessions & Closing Dinner at Galena Lodge

Friday, July 26: Adventure Day

Please see the Sun Valley Forum [website](#) for more information. More than 60 globally recognized speakers will attend the Forum. The full list of speakers is available [here](#).

The Forum is open to the public and remaining tickets are available for purchase with more information available at: www.sunvalleyforum.com. Scholarships are also available.

Media interested in attending should email Annie Keenan at Annie@sunvalleyinstitute.org.

Please see more information in our Forum Overview and on the media resources page [here](#).

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About the Sun Valley Institute

The Sun Valley Institute is a catalyst for lasting quality of place, advancing economic, ecological and social resilience by pioneering transformative solutions, driving awareness and convening leaders and innovators for global and local impact. Sun Valley leaders founded the Institute in the spring of 2015 to protect and enhance local quality of place for future generations of residents and visitors alike, and to serve as a resource for communities everywhere. From the original Native American inhabitants to the miners and ranchers of the valley’s early days, from the Union Pacific engineers who built the world’s first chairlift to those who challenge themselves in its mountains and rivers today, Sun Valley is about history and tradition, grit and perseverance, well-being and quality of life. The risks, assets and values of Sun Valley make it the perfect home for an institute dedicated to resilience. For more information, please visit: www.sunvalleyinstitute.org and follow the institute on Twitter @SunValleyInst and Instagram at @SunValleyInstitute and Facebook at facebook.com/sunvalleyinstitute.