Yonkers Students & GWHV Honored in Washington, D.C.

Groundwork was recognized last week in Washington, D.C., where Executive Director Rick Magder, Deputy Director Curt Collier and three Yonkers High School students accepted the Partners in Conservation Award from Interior Secretary Sally Jewell on behalf of all of the Groundwork trusts across the country.

The award honors Groundwork’s outstanding contribution to conservation nationwide through community engagement and cooperation with local, state and federal partners.

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"We are truly honored to have been selected by the National Park Service for the work we have done over the last decade to transform the lives of young people in their own communities and on public lands," said Magder. "We are incredibly proud of our staff at Groundwork trustee across the country, the partners we have in the National Park Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the young people we reach and count on to become the conservation leaders of tomorrow."

The Yonkers teens representing Groundwork’s youth programs included Green Team member Alvin Acosta, a senior at Lincoln High School; Farm Team member and Yonkers High School sophomore Kira Lopez; and Riverside High School senior Neha Mar-inez, who worked for Groundwork’s Green Team and Farm Team this summer, and was then selected to travel to Yellowstone in August with Groundwork’s Green Corps.

Groundwork Hudson Valley is one of 10 trusties as the Groundwork USA network nation-wide, and representatives of a number of these trusts were on hand for the Partners in Conservation Award.

"You are all here because you have found that common ground, with each other and with us, to help move our conservation