

RESERVA

THE YOUTH LAND TRUST

For Immediate Release:

Reserva Founder Crowned Winner of Tvebiomovies' Global Youth Video Competition

The Washington, D.C.-based conservationist will travel to Chile for the UN's Climate Conference COP25 as a Youth Climate Reporter, and film will be showcased at upcoming UN Climate Summit in NY.

A video illustrating the aims and story behind Reserva: The Youth Land Trust has been declared winner of the 5th annual tvebiomovies Global Youth Video Competition. The video, created by Reserva founder Callie Broaddus, took the top prize in the contest's 'Balancing use of land for people and ecosystems' category. The announcement was made Wednesday afternoon, at the COP14 United Nations Convention to Combat Deforestation, Land Degradation and Drought in Delhi, India.

Launched by tvebiomovies in 2015 and supported by the GEF-UNDP Small Grants Programme, UN Convention to Combat Desertification, Convention on Biological Diversity and the secretariats of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, tvebiomovies' Global Youth Video Competition aims to show innovative examples of environmental action to a global audience. Of the 400 entries received this year from over 100 countries, 20 videos were selected for each of the competition's three key themes: land, biodiversity and climate action. An online public vote followed.



The three finalist films will be shown during September's UN Secretary General's Climate Summit in New York. Winners will also have the opportunity to attend the COP25 climate conference in Chile this December. Interested parties can find out more about the competition and this year's winners at <http://biomovies.tve.org/competitions/global-youth-video-competition-winners/>.

"We do not take lightly the honor and opportunity of sharing our message on a global stage," Broaddus says. "With more than a million species threatened by extinction, with atmospheric carbon levels at record highs, with extreme weather impacting the globe with increasing severity and frequency, our planet's last wild places are now our most indispensable assets. These intact terrestrial and underwater landscapes are the last true refuges for countless at-risk species, they are carbon sinks, they mitigate the impacts of drought and flood on our most vulnerable communities, and they are delicate.

I started Reserva: The Youth Land Trust to show world governments that their young citizens how precious each day is in the fight to protect and restore land, and that we are impatient for action. Impatient for optimism—so impatient that we are uniting across the globe to prove that we not only have a voice worth hearing, but we have financial power, as well."

Washington, D.C.

ReservaYLT, as the group is known on social media, are attempting to create the “world’s first entirely youth-funded nature reserve.” This flagship project will fund the creation of a 1,219 acre reserve in Ecuador’s Chocó rainforest, a Key Biodiversity Area with only 2% of remaining in the country. The area has been identified as an important habitat for many endangered, critically endangered, and newly discovered species by Reserva’s project partners Fundación EcoMinga and Rainforest Trust.

Championed by an international Youth Council, Reserva plans to create a network of youth-funded nature reserves across the globe. These will serve to protect biodiversity, fight climate change and elevate the status of young people as environmental change-makers. For more information on Reserva’s supporting projects, including education and storytelling campaigns, see reservaylt.org.

Full details about the COP14 United Nations Convention to Combat Deforestation, Land Degradation and Drought can be found at <http://unccdcop14india.gov.in/home>.

Photo by Callie Broaddus.

Broaddus and several members of Reserva’s international Youth Council are available to provide further information, photos, and interviews. Please contact:

Callie Broaddus, Founder & CEO
Reserva: The Youth Land Trust
+1 703 994 8956
reservaylt@gmail.com
@ReservaYLT on Social Media

P.O. Box 57277, Washington, D.C. 20037