



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Harpeth Conservancy's 2023 River Steward Award recipients announced

Annual awards recognize excellence in volunteer and community leadership to protect, clean water and rivers in Tennessee

Nashville, TN, November 10, 2023 – Harpeth Conservancy is pleased to announce the 20 awardees of the 2023 River Steward Awards, presented by Amazon. Since 2004, the River Steward Awards event has been a tradition, acknowledging outstanding contributions from individuals, groups, and corporate partners who share a commitment to safeguarding Tennessee's waterways. These awards exemplify how Harpeth Conservancy fulfills its mission of protecting clean water and the state's invaluable rivers and water resources, thanks to the unwavering dedication of its community leaders and volunteers.

“Our River Steward Awards event is a special night where we get to celebrate and show gratitude to our community of supporters, without whom our work to protect clean water wouldn't be possible,” says Marie Campbell, Community Engagement manager and host of this year's event.

Harpeth Conservancy is proud to honor:

Policy and Advocacy Awards

Harpeth Conservancy leads environmental policy efforts across the state of Tennessee. Our network of partners and collaborators are constantly assessing issues, making recommendations, and commenting on legislation that could affect the health of our river ecosystems.

Legal Dream Team: Stephanie Biggs and George Nolan

Community Mobilizer: Jim Rossi

Knowledge is Power Award: Paul Davis

Exceptional TN River Advocate: Dan McEwen

Science and Restoration Awards

SCIENCE-BASED CONSERVATION FOR THE RIVERS OF TENNESSEE

Harpeth Conservancy is a Tennessee non-profit corporation and a 501(c)(3) organization.

All donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

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Harpeth Conservancy's Science & Restoration program plans and implements projects that protect and improve water quality and ecosystem health in Tennessee rivers. The projects can be categorized into two main areas: river science research and environmental restoration activities.

River Restoration Award: Tyrone Ridley

Citizen Scientists of the Year: Anna Lynn Whitfield, Andrew Runyan, and Nina Anoll-Runyan

Next Generation Award: Will Kiessler

Development Awards

Harpeth Conservancy's Development Office organizes special events and fundraising campaigns throughout the year to recruit sponsors, seek donations, and promote our mission to protect clean water and healthy ecosystems for the rivers of Tennessee. Events include River Swing, Dinner in the Creek, and more!

River Champion Award: Leslie & Jimmy John Liautaud

Special Events Award: Tori Staggs

Songwriters for Streams: Tom Douglas

Corporate Impact: Culligan of Nashville & Hardaway Construction

Community Engagement Awards

Harpeth Conservancy's Community Engagement program partners with members and community organizations to raise awareness of issues relating to clean water, foster an appreciation for wildlife and responsible recreation, and build capacity for life-long stewardship of Tennessee's rivers through policy action and citizen science.

Intern of the Year: Sydney Moore

Outreach Award: Seaver Harp

Picture Perfect Award: Amanda Laginess

Additionally, a special lifetime award has been created in honor of Harpeth Conservancy's beloved community member, Jane Polansky. Jane received the inaugural Jane Polansky Service Award in recognition of her lifelong dedication and outstanding service in protecting clean water and healthy ecosystems for Tennessee's rivers.

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Founded in 1999, the Harpeth Conservancy is a science-based non-profit conservation organization. Its mission is to restore and protect clean water and healthy ecosystems for rivers in Tennessee by employing scientific expertise and collaborative relationships to develop, promote, and support broad community

stewardship and action. The Harpeth Conservancy works with landowners, businesses, community, local, state, and federal decision-makers, and its members to foster solutions that reduce pollution and maintain healthy areas.

The rivers in Tennessee, including the Harpeth, are part of the unique freshwater river systems of the Southeast that contain some of the greatest variety of aquatic life in the world. The Harpeth Conservancy has expertise in a range of disciplines, including water quality science, environmental and conservation law and policy, sustainable land use planning, agricultural best management practices, and volunteer and community engagement.

www.harpethconservancy.org

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