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FirstFruits names Opal Youth Make A Difference Grant recipients

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[FirstFruits Farms](#) announced the recipients of the Opal Apple Youth Make A Difference initiative. This program is tailored to bolster and champion youth-led endeavors that effect positive change within their local communities, particularly emphasizing youth assuming leadership roles. This year, amidst a record number of 60 applicants, 11 outstanding organizations have been selected to receive a total donation of \$45,000.



Provided by Growing Hope.

The Opal Youth Make A Difference Grant, launched by FirstFruits Farms and Opal Apple, aims to empower the next generation of changemakers who are dedicated to addressing critical issues such as food security, nutrition, agriculture, food politics and education. By supporting these youth-led initiatives, FirstFruits Farms and Opal Apple are investing in the future, where young leaders drive meaningful change in their communities.

The winning organizations demonstrated exemplary commitment and innovative approaches to tackling pressing challenges in their communities. The recipients of the Opal Youth Make A Difference Grant are:

- Appetite for Change – Minneapolis
- BrainPower in a Backpack – Burnsville, MN
- Classroom in Bloom – Winthrop, WA
- Global Leaders – Fort Collins, CO
- Greener Partners – Fairview Village, PA

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- Growing Hope – Ypsilanti, MI
 - Happy Roots – Salisbury, NC
 - Roots Rising – Pittsfield, MA
 - Student Basic Needs Coalition – Chicago
 - Titan Equity Nourish Network – Detroit
 - The Garden Club Project – Blacklick, OH

“Each of these organizations embodies the spirit of youth-driven activism and grassroots innovation,” said Chuck Zeutenhorst, president of FirstFruits Marketing. "Their dedication and passion for creating positive change inspire us all, and we are confident that their impactful initiatives will continue to make a profound difference in communities across the nation."

The selected organizations will each receive a donation to further their missions and expand their reach, enabling them to continue their vital work in addressing critical issues related to food security, nutrition, agriculture and food education. The 2024 application window will be open Dec. 13-Feb. 7.

Top photo provided by Greener Partners.

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