

Lakshita Kundal | Stony Brook University (Stony Brook, New York)

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Meet Hannah Testa – a 15 years old environmentalist and animal rights activist who has been fighting the “good fight” since the age of four. Hannah is particularly passionate about plastic pollution awareness. Hannah realized that one of our biggest environmental challenges is one we can control through education and awareness. Hannah initiated a Plastic Pollution Awareness Day for the State of Georgia in 2017 with the support of her state senator. Furthermore,

the event was such a success that it was repeated in 2018. Since then, Hannah has become a very sought-after public speaker, addressing student groups and conferences both at the national levels and international level. Hannah’s ultimate goal is to touch as many people as possible and inspire them to reduce their plastic footprint.

From Hannah’s experiences, I was the most intrigued by the fact that she has effectively used the power of public speaking and events to spread awareness on plastic pollution. For instance, she has gone to the extent of using the power of over a hundred connections to spearhead environmental campaigns to educate today’s youth and the public – especially considering that she started her environmental activism journey since the tender age of four years old! We need more people like Hannah in this world to ensure a better, brighter future for our planet.

Questions I Would Ask Hannah:

1. How were you able to start your environmental activism journey since the age of 4 years old?
2. What advice would you give to someone trying to educate others about plastic pollution?
3. How can I start my own plastic pollution awareness day in my state?

(UPDATE – I got a response back from her! 😊)

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Hey! I have a few questions for you (Inbox x)

Lakshita Kundal <lakshita.kundal@stonybrook.edu> to hannah4change

11:15 AM (11 hours ago)

Hello Hannah,

Recently I came across your website and your campaign to end plastic pollution, and I have to say that I am extremely impressed with all that you've accomplished so far. You're so young and have been working at both the national and international levels to educate and inform us about plastic pollution, and are doing many great things to help our planet survive!

With that being said, I hope you don't mind, but I would like to ask you a few questions:

1. How were you able to start your environmental activism journey since the age of 4 years old?
2. What advice would you give to someone trying to educate others about plastic pollution?
3. How can I start my own plastic pollution awareness day in my state?

I can't wait to hear back from you soon!

With All Due Respect,
Lakshita Kundal

Hannah Testa to me

10:23 PM (7 minutes ago)

Hello Lakshita,

Thank you for reaching out. This honestly has made my day - I always love receiving comments and feedback from people, it warms my heart to know that I am able to touch the lives of many every day and inspire them!

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Hannah Testa to me

10:23 PM (7 minutes ago)

Hello Lakshita,

Thank you for reaching out. This honestly has made my day - I always love receiving comments and feedback from people, it warms my heart to know that I am able to touch the lives of many every day and inspire them!

To start off, I will say that if it wasn't for the loving support of my parents and family, I don't think I would be here today speaking to millions of people across the globe about how we can collectively bring an end to plastic pollution. With their support and guidance, I have been able to come a long way. In terms of advice, I would suggest that the person first educates their self on the different perspectives that exist surrounding the plastic pollution issue, because understanding the different sides of the argument always helps with spreading that awareness to other people!

Also, I posted a blog last year on my website's blog page regarding how you can start your very own plastic pollution awareness day. Here is the link to the blog: <https://www.hannah4change.org/get-involved/start-your-own-plastic-pollution-awareness-day>

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any other questions. I wish you all the best!

Sincerely,
Hannah Testa
Founder of Hannah4Change
www.hannah4change.org

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