



August Hero Profile 2019



Children's Bill of Rights #8: As the children and youth of San Luis Obispo County, may we each explore a variety of experiences—in arts, nature, culture and music—that illuminate the world's natural beauty, richness and human creativity.

AUGUST'S HEROES

Noa Kamplain & Kira Guillermo

PASSION

Helping children create an abiding relationship with nature

ONE WORD TO DESCRIBE NOA & KIRA

Alive

NOMINATED BY

Outside Now

Noa Kamplain and Kira Guillermo are champions for young children— using their own experiences to expose the next generation to the gifts of our outdoor world.

Noa, 20, and Kira, 18, are mentors for Outside Now, a local nonprofit dedicated to growing young people who are resourceful, resilient, compassionate and connected to the earth. Kira was one of the first barefoot toddlers to attend Outside Now's nature education programs for wee ones; Noa joined not long after. The girls' journeys intersected-- and both are now dedicated mentors for the organization's Coyote Pups program.

Supervisors say Noa and Kira fully and enthusiastically support the natural curiosity of children, knowing from their own direct experience that a deep bond with the land provides a great foundation for kids as they grow and find their place in the world. Noa uses her musical talents to craft songs on nature treks, teaching children through her storytelling— often incorporating resources found in the wild. Kira's boundless energy allows her to meet and match the exuberance of her camp kiddos-- fostering movement, artistic expression and creative play.

As the Coyote Pups' spring session ended, Noa and Kira spent hours creating unique "wish bundles" for the 50+ children whose understanding of nature blossomed from the season of rain—to wildflowers. The young women produced a unique and beautiful expression for each child, and then presented them at a culminating family picnic celebration.

The work of Team Noa and Kira has a ripple effect through their inspired influence on a new generation of nature-connected children, who are sure to benefit the world with their deep understanding of the interdependence among all life forms.

**Thank you, Noa & Kira.
You are true Hands-On Heroes.**

*Look for more on all of our Hands-On Heroes on
COE-TV channel 19!*



Hands-On Heroes is a special recognition of dedicated individuals who believe in and support the Children's Bill of Rights, an achievable vision that our children grow up with healthy minds, bodies and spirits that enable them to maximize their potential. This program is coordinated by First 5 San Luis Obispo County in collaboration with local organizations that make a difference in the lives of children in our community. To find out more about First 5 and the Children's Bill of Rights, please visit first5slo.org.



Design: Verdin