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## Forest School in Stanton Receives Environmental Education Award

Red Oaks Forest School wins 2021 Outstanding PreK-12 School Award for Excellence in Environmental Education

Lexington, Ky. (September 2, 2021) – On Thursday, September 2, 2021, The <u>Kentucky Association for Environmental Education</u> (KAEE) announced the winners of their annual Excellence in Environmental Education awards. The 2021 winners include <u>Red Oaks Forest School</u> who received the Outstanding PreK-12 School Award for Excellence in Environmental Education.

The Excellence in Environmental Education Awards are presented annually by KAEE to recognize those individuals and entities best-exemplifying dedication, commitment, and influence in the field of environmental education. To be eligible for an award, each nominee demonstrated exemplary service to the field of environmental education in Kentucky. Many nominees develop an innovative curriculum for both teachers and students; research and apply environmental best management practices; provide educational experiences for learners; work towards legislation in the name of environmental education, and provide support for other educators in the field. Recipients are nominated by colleagues, partners, KAEE members, or the general public.

Red Oaks Forest School has been bringing environmental education to Kentucky since 2014 with a variety of programs that serve both children and adults. In the past year, they have continued to pursue their goal of fostering a deep and lasting connection with the natural world through exploration and education for our participants.

"Red Oaks is a place where connections to nature are formed and deepened, where learning happens in a play-based model, and where ecological lessons are offered at an age-appropriate level," said Red Oaks Co-Director, Tina Brouwer

Red Oaks Forest School, along with the five other award recipients from around the state, will be recognized at <u>KAEE's 45th Annual Conference</u> during outdoor regional meet-ups and on September 23rd during the virtual conference opening.

"It is an honor to have this opportunity to share the exceptional achievements of our award winners and the work they are doing to educate and provide a better future for all Kentuckians," said KAEE Executive Director, Ashley Hoffman.

KAEE's mission is to increase environmental knowledge and community engagement in Kentucky through the power of environmental education. For more information, visit <a href="www.kaee.org">www.kaee.org</a> or contact Operations Coordinator, Katherine Bullock at <a href="katherine@kaee.org">katherine@kaee.org</a> or 701.314.2542

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