

2016 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Name: Eden Full Goh

Age: 24

Location: Calgary, AB (now in NYC)

Eden Full Goh discovered the potential of solar power when she was just 10 years old. She is the Founder and Chair of SunSaluter, a company she started in 2006 named for her own invention. The SunSaluter is a low-cost solar panel tracker designed to boost panel efficiency by 30% using the power of

gravity through a water clock as it follows the sun from east to west throughout the day. Targeted especially for use in off-grid, rural communities in the developing world, the SunSaluter also includes a water purifier and produces 4 litres of clean drinking water each day. Eden's invention has combined increased access to energy and clean drinking water in a single device. To date, more than 100 SunSaluters have been deployed in 18 countries around the world, benefiting over 10,000 people.

By the age of 19, Eden was already receiving international recognition for her work. She was named one of the Top 30 under 30 in *Forbes*'s Energy & Industry three years in a row (2012-2014), one of the US Chamber of Commerce's IP Champions and Ashoka's Youth Social Entrepreneur of the Year. Eden was also a member of the Thiel Fellowship's inaugural class.

Eden studied Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science and Robotics & Intelligent Systems at Princeton University.



Name: Nivatha Balendra

Age: 21

Location: Montreal, QC

Nivatha Balendra has always been curious and interested in exploring new answers to big questions. Her science fair journey started at the age of 13 and her research has garnered her numerous accolades.

Recognizing the lack of environmental solutions for cleaning up oil spills, Nivatha's research

involved a novel species of bacteria she discovered and its effectiveness in the bioremediation of oil particles. The young scientist isolated this particular strain of *Pseudomonas* bacteria from local soil samples she collected around Montreal. DNA sequencing indicates that these samples may belong to a novel species of bacteria, in which case the bacterial species could be named after her. Nivatha may have found the answer to cleaning up oil spills right in her own backyard. In recognition of her work, she received the World Economic Forum Prize at the Intel International Science & Technology Fair to travel to China for the Forum. She is one of the youngest people ever to have participated in this event. Nivatha continues to work towards harnessing this bacterial strain to create an effective method of cleaning up oil contamination sites.

Nivatha has also founded the International Young Scientists Mentorship Program, a student-led non-profit organization focused on motivating and supporting youth to participate in STEM activities and provide opportunities for their scientific enrichment.