

October 9, 2017

Dear Robert F. Kennedy Jr,

The Climate Change Leadership Institute (CCLI) is proud to present you with our 2017 Conservation Award for your longstanding dedication & leadership advancing environmental stewardship in the United States and around the world.

As a tireless environmental lawyer striving to protect our health & earth from the onslaught of polluting industries, as the founder of the Hudson Riverkeeper & Waterkeeper Alliance protecting our great rivers, as a writer of best selling and must read books on sustainability (including Crimes Against Nature, St. Francis of Assisi: A Life of Joy & the Riverkeepers), as a teacher at Pace University's Environmental Law School, as a defender of the rights and lands of indigenous tribes across the Americas, as an outdoor enthusiast (paddler, falconer, adventurer), and in so many other extraordinary ways you have been a great inspiration to so many of us in the environmental movement and beyond.

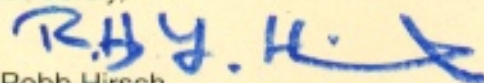
You were helping lead the environmental movement well before it became popular and you have persevered through all the ups & downs that come with the territory, including political cowardice in the midst of man made global climate change. We're called upon now more than ever to protect our Earth's life sustaining capacity, and you are answering the call.

From a family with the calling for public service, from an uncle who said - as President during an internationally divisive time - *"Our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we are all mortal"* (which just as equally could apply to our current domestic divide), from a father who made it his ultimate life's work to alleviate poverty, combat injustice & befriend those who are downtrodden, you have taken in such vital streams of influence and pioneered your own seminal path as a keeper of the environment.

In appreciation to you and to go along with this award CCLI is gladly making a contribution to the new Rio Grande Water Keepers C/O the WildEarth Guardians. One of life's most important endeavors, as you have illustrated so admirably, is taking care of water, along with the land, the air, our atmosphere and one another.

We thank you for your life's work.

Sincerely,



Robb Hirsch
Founder & Executive Director