**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [DATE]**

**Contact:**

Local Communications Representative

(XXX) XXX-XXXX

*Email*

**[TEAM NAME] PARTICIPATES IN STUDENTS REBUILD OCEANS CHALLENGE TO RESTORE MARINE HEALTH AND SUPPORT COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

[DATE], 201X, [CITY]—[NAME OF ORGANIZATION/TEAM] is proud to announce its participation as a team in the Students Rebuild Ocean Challenge, an initiative that empowers youth and educators to learn more about and contribute to improved marine health. The team, which includes [DETAILS ON NUMBER/GRADE LEVEL OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS], is joining youth and educators worldwide to support ocean conservation and the people who rely on healthy oceans and coastlines, by exploring the ocean system, coral reefs.

[DETAILS ON LOCAL EVENT/ACTIVITY. INCLUDE PICTURES OF STUDENTS/ARTWORK WITH RELEASE, IF AVAILABLE]

The Ocean Challenge is the latest annual challenge by Students Rebuild, a program of the Bezos Family Foundation that mobilizes young people to take action on some of the world's most critical problems. Teams will participate in the Ocean Challenge by crafting and submitting their own paper sea creature based on what they've learned about oceans and the people who live closest to them. For each piece of artwork submitted, the Bezos Family Foundation will donate $2—up to $500,000—towards youth-focused, science-based programs aimed at developing a new generation of citizen-conservationists.

The programs receiving Challenge funding are expected to engage over 3,500 youth in coastal communities such as the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, and other countries where marine health is central to lives and livelihoods.

[PLACEHOLDER FOR QUOTE FROM EDUCATOR ABOUT PROJECT/IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ON MARINE HEALTH AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES]

The ocean covers 70 percent of the Earth's surface and is essential for many life processes we take for granted, like oxygen production and food. Improving ocean health is particularly important for the 40 percent of the world's population living on coastlines. Many of those populations are entirely dependent on marine and coastal resources for their livelihood.

Additional information about the Ocean Challenge can be found at: [www.studentsrebuild.org/oceans](http://www.studentsrebuild.org/oceans).

**About [TEAM SCHOOL/DISTRICT]**

**About Students Rebuild**

*Students Rebuild is a collaborative program of the Bezos Family Foundation. Created in January 2010 in response to the devastating Haiti earthquake, Students Rebuild has mobilized more than one million participants in 83 countries and all 50 United States and raised more than $4 million in matching funds for projects like rebuilding schools in Haiti, aiding disaster recovery efforts in Asia, supporting livelihoods in Africa, helping Syrian youth from conflict areas recover from crisis, and supporting empowerment opportunities for youth impacted by poverty. Through our Challenges, we tackle some of the world's most difficult problems, issues that one cannot solve alone. We believe every young person should have an opportunity to help others—but not everyone has the ability to fundraise. Our Challenges require young people to create a simple, symbolic object, which the Foundation matches with funding. This approach allows students of all ages, backgrounds, and in countries around the world to take action and see change on global concerns.* [*http://studentsrebuild.org*](http://studentsrebuild.org)