California Camp Coordinator Honored as Humane Educator of the Year

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Jenkintown, PA – Animalearn is pleased to announce that its 2017 Humane Educator of the Year is Emily Taylor from Valley Humane Society (VHS) in Pleasanton, California. Emily was selected for her achievement of incorporating humane science teaching tools into the VHS's Humane Hero Summer Camps.

“We are proud to honor Emily Taylor as our Humane Educator of the Year because of her commitment to teaching empathy and compassion to the youth in her community,” said Animalearn Director, Nicole Green.

As the Humane Education Coordinator at VHS, Emily reached out to Animalearn to incorporate humane science materials into their newly developed Humane Hero's Critter Camps. The Camps are designed for young teens, ages 13-15, who are interested in working with animals.

The Critter Camps serve over 75 students annually, and attendance often lays the foundation for future volunteerism and service projects to benefit animals in the community. The Humane Heroes curriculum explores requirements for animal-related careers and hobbies, how our everyday choices affect other animals, and animal-friendly alternatives.

According to Taylor, “One of my goals is to empower students to pursue their education in any subject, at any level, without causing unnecessary suffering. The Science Bank helps us demonstrate the many academically superior alternatives to hatching projects and other uses of animals, creating a brighter future for us all. I’m especially excited about improving and expanding the humane education programming at Valley Humane Society with the generously donated materials from Animalearn's 2017 Humane Educator of the Year Award!” Taylor stated.

As part of the Humane Heroes Summer Camp, Taylor invited a local veterinarian to show students how to practice wellness exams and other procedures using one of the veterinary manikins borrowed from The Science Bank. The program exposes students to a variety of issues that exploit animals including the use of animals for dissection.

“Many of our Campers are initially unaware, not only of the many available alternatives to dissection and other uses of animals, but that these alternatives are often academically superior. After attending Humane Heroes, students are empowered to pursue their education in any subject, at any level, without causing unnecessary suffering,” stated Taylor.

Animalearn, the educational division of the American Anti-Vivisection Society (AAVS), works with educators, students, and others to achieve quality humane science education without the harmful use of animals. Animalearn's free loan program, The Science Bank, is the largest lending program in the U.S. and offers humane science products that enable educators to teach and students to learn anatomy, physiology, and psychology lessons without harming animals. For more information visit Animalearn.org.