



Want to go on an African Research Safari?

## ***The Global Sustainability Project***

**Sponsored by the PICERNE FAMILY FOUNDATION**

**Newport Beach, California**

The Picerne Family Foundation is sponsoring the *Global Sustainability Project (GSP)* in collaboration with the Edison High School Advanced Placement (AP), Academy of Sustainability and Engineering (ASE), College Dual Enrollment Aquarium Science/Aqua Culture Programs, and the Earthwatch Institute. The Picerne Foundation will provide scholarships for up to ten Edison High School (EHS) students to participate in a teen research expedition to South Africa in summer 2024. The goal of the GSP is: (1) to broaden students' understanding of other cultures; and (2) to increase their knowledge and awareness of local and global ecological concerns via scientific study. To accomplish this, students will spend 12 days on a wildlife reserve in South Africa engaging with their peers and the local community as well as aiding research scientists studying ecological sustainability among Africa's wildlife.

To participate you must be enrolled in an AP Course in any subject, the ASE Program or the College Dual Enrollment Aquarium Science/Aqua Culture Program during your junior year and have a minimum overall 3.0 GPA. To enrich the experience, students will spend time during the 2023-24 school year meeting with Mr. Gardiner after school to learn more about the ecology, culture, and history of South Africa. Students will also be required to volunteer 40 hours working in an ecological nonprofit or conservancy. The capstone for the study, preparation and local volunteer activity will be an expense paid trip to South Africa's Mankwe Wildlife Reserve and Pilanesberg National Park for 12 days of fieldwork with Earthwatch scientists. Students will be participating in an **EHS student-only** expedition accompanied by Mr. Gardiner.

Scholarships from the Foundation will cover airfare and the cost of the expedition. Students will be responsible for obtaining a passport, inoculations, gear and clothing for the expedition. Financial assistance will be available for students unable to meet all of these expenses.

For more information about the Earthwatch Institute and the Conserving Endangered Rhinos in South Africa teen team, go to [www.earthwatch.org](http://www.earthwatch.org). For specific questions about the Global Sustainability Project at EHS, contact Mr. Gardiner in his classroom or at [ggardiner@hbuhd.edu](mailto:ggardiner@hbuhd.edu). You may also contact Mr. Victor Nelson, Executive Director of the Picerne Family Foundation, at 949-267-1517 or [vnelson@picernefoundation.org](mailto:vnelson@picernefoundation.org). To learn more about the Picerne Family Foundation, the organizers and sponsors of the Global Sustainability Project, visit [www.picernefoundation.org](http://www.picernefoundation.org).

### Academic Commitment

Research & Presentation: Students will meet regularly after school with Mr. Gardiner to learn more about South African culture, history, geography, animals, plants and birds. Students will create an informative interactive electronic presentation on their research that they will present to foundation members, parents and peers.

Community Sustainability Project: Students will be required to contribute 40 hours working on a local sustainability project at a community based non-profit whose primary mission is ecological sustainability. Students will be required to journalize, document and present research findings to Foundation members, parents, peers and community members upon the completion of the project.

### Time Commitment

Students are expected to make GSP a top priority. Participation in the GSP requires a significant investment of time during the junior year. Students should anticipate spending a number of hours on GSP in addition to their normal academic requirements. Specifically, students will:

- Meet after school and on weekends as a group with Mr. Gardiner as needed. The meetings should last an average of 90 minutes. The meetings will be devoted to expedition preparation, research, presentations and field trips.
- Complete and submit on time all required travel documents, inoculation requirements, passport application, etc.

### Application and Meeting Schedule

Spring, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSP Announced in Classrooms.</li> </ul>
Wed. April 5 at 6:30pm EHS Student Center (Cafeteria)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent &amp; Student Information Session.</li> </ul>
Wed. Sept. 27 at 6:30pm EHS Student Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent &amp; Student Information Session.</li> </ul>
Wed. Oct. 25, at 4:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Written Applications Due. <i>Late applications will not be accepted.</i></li> </ul>
Wed. Nov. 15, EHS Room 221	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation Finalist Presentations. <i>Specific times will be assigned by Mr. Gardener.</i></li> </ul>
Sat. Nov 18, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GSP Candidates Announced.</li> </ul>
Wed. Nov. 29 at 6:30pm EHS Room 221	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required Parent &amp; Student Orientation Meeting.</li> </ul>