



Our Eco-Leaders

Throughout the years, Grades of Green has worked with incredible students who have made their way into college and/or the workforce. These all star students have made long lasting impacts in their community and continue to do so pursuing their passions.



Samantha Torres

Sam is a youth environmentalist, vegan, and alumni from Mira Costa High School. She is the founder and president of the Grades of Green Club at Mira Costa and a former member of the Manhattan Beach Sustainability Youth Council. Sam was a member of Grades of Green for over 8 years, and was awarded the 2020 Student Leader. She is passionate about local civic engagement to produce changes in her community. Samantha now attends UC Berkeley majoring in Marine Science.



Umar Bilgrammi

Umar has worked with Grades of Green for over 8 years. Since the beginning of elementary school, Umar has organized multiple award winning projects along with his siblings Ismail and Aisha to mitigate the impacts of climate change in his community. Umar now attends Syracuse University majoring in Economics and Environment, Sustainability, Policy and Environmental Science. Umar will also continue his work with Grades of Green as a SOAR mentor for incoming cohorts.



Nkeng Joel Junior

Grades of Green has had the pleasure to work with Nkeng since 2020 with his team from University of Buea in Cameroon. Over the years, Nkeng has organized immense tree planting and waste management projects while partnering with major corporate and governmental partners in his community. In 2023, Nkeng started working with Grades of Green as an Ambassador to pass on his knowledge of sustainable practices to other schools in Cameroon.