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POCACITO Network 2025

activities and impacts

2025 POCACITO activities

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- ➔ POCACITO summer camp 2025
- ➔ Transatlantic Forum for Environmental and Climate Justice 2025
- ➔ Art for Nature series
- ➔ Biomimicry Youth Design Challenge BYDC
- ➔ German-American Nature-Based Solutions Exchange GANBASE

POCACITO summer camp 2025

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- 40 high school students from the U.S. and Germany
- July 6-12, Camp Wilkes, Biloxi, Mississippi
- together with Mississippi State University
- https://www.pocacito.org/pocacito-summer-camp-2025/
- focus on biomimicry, biodiversity, climate change
- activities included biodiversity mapping, kayaking, seine fishing, drone flying, beach cleanup, planting, cooking, podcasting and zine editing
- outcomes: zine and podcast
- our 2nd year in Biloxi

Transatlantic Forum for Environmental and Climate Justice

- November 19, 2025 at George Washington University in Washington, DC
- theme: Resilience and Disaster Readiness
- https://www.pocacito.org/tfecj-2025-update/
- with Member of German Parliament Katrin Uhlig and U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett
- Margaret Gonglewski, Associate Professor of German and International Affairs, Faculty Director of Academic Programs, GW Alliance for a Sustainable Future
  Prof. Dr. Uwe Schneidewind, former Lord Mayor of Wuppertal
  Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director, Centralina Regional Council, NC
  Bronwyn Cooke, Community Planning and Policy Manager with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the State of Vermont
  Joseph Threat, Chief Administrative Officer, City of New Orleans
  Justin Ángel Knighten, Sustainable Future Fellow, GW Alliance for a Sustainable Future
  Nils Jakubeit, Senior Advisor with German Federal Agency of Technical Relief (THW)
- 50 participants, hybrid

Art for Nature

- art program at Maggie Walker Governor's School in Richmond, Virginia, Borah High School in Boise, Idaho, Santa Fe Community College in Santa Fe, New Mexico and Vestavia Hills High School in Vestavia / Birmingham, Alabama.
- with artists Brian Hebert, R. Stein Wexler, Shayla Blatchford and Thomas Heinser
- covering climate change (Birmingham), extractive economies (Santa Fe), recycling (Boise) and the James River (Richmond)
- exhibitions in each location and
- https://www.pocacito.org/art-for-nature-in-4-schools/

Biomimicry Youth Design Challenge BYDC

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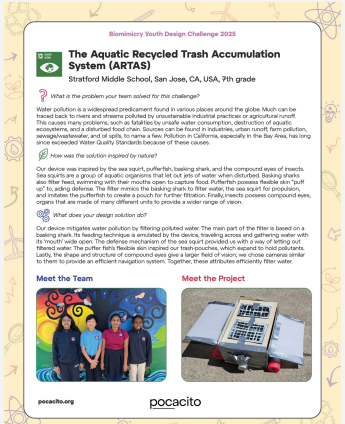
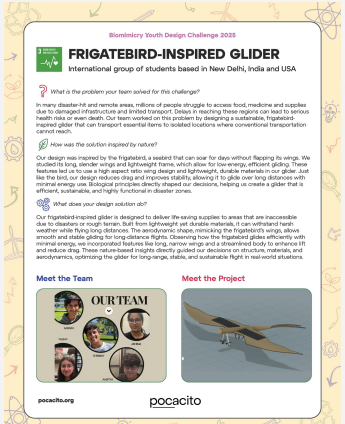
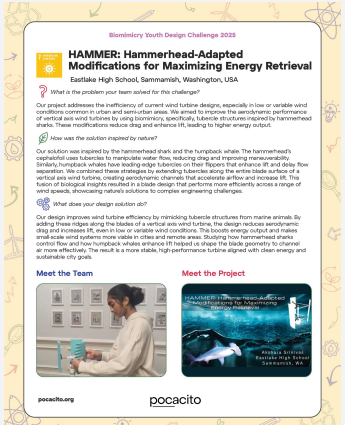
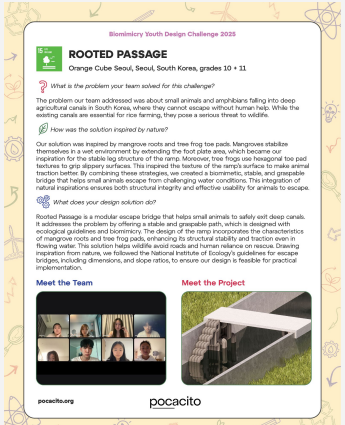
- started by Biomimicry Institute
- 52 teams from around the world
- elementary, middle and high school
- focus on the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals
- https://www.youthchallenge.biomimicry.org/
- https://www.pocacito.org/biomimicry-youth-design-challenge-2026/
- jury selection for awards in each age group and SDG









➔ German-American Nature-Based Solutions Exchange GANBASE

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- ➔ one week in June in Northern Germany
- ➔ one week in October on the US Gulf Coast
- ➔ https://www.pocacito.org/german-american-nature-based-solutions-exchange-ganbase/
- ➔ https://www.pocacito.org/ganbase2025/

Impacts

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- 40 students at summer camp + 25 students at planting day
- reached 100 students in school arts program
- reached 250 students online in biomimicry program
- reached 250 participants at in-person workshops and conferences
- in-person activities in
  - Biloxi, Mississippi
  - Birmingham, Alabama
  - Boise, Idaho
  - Bremen and Hannover, Germany
  - Galveston, Texas
  - Gulf Shores, Alabama
  - New Orleans, Louisiana
  - New York, New York
  - Richmond, Virginia
  - Santa Fe, New Mexico
  - Washington, DC