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Winners of Higher Education Climate Leadership Awards

Loyola University Chicago and Portland Community College demonstrate
ongoing commitment to climate leadership

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) announced that Loyola University Chicago and
Portland Community College are the recipients of the eighth annual Climate
Leadership Awards.

“By prioritizing sustainable practices and environmental literacy as part of their
mission, Loyola University Chicago and Portland Community College are leading the
charge in mitigating climate change and fostering well-rounded and informed global
citizens,” said Jaime Van Mourik, vice president of Education at USGBC. “We are
thrilled to recognize this year’s winners, honorable mentions and finalists for their
dedication to creating a strong culture of sustainability and stewardship in higher
education, and encourage others to follow in their footsteps.”

This year’s recipient in the four-year category, Loyola University Chicago, has
reduced carbon emission by 38 percent from a baseline of 2008 per square foot of
facility, and is now home to 11 LEED certified buildings across three campuses with
more green roofs than any other university in the Midwest. Portland Community
College, recipient in the two-year category, has reduced energy consumption by 65
percent per square foot since 2006, counts nine LEED-certified buildings including a
net zero LEED Platinum center in its portfolio, and has three solar installments
totaling more than 700 KW.

The Climate Leadership Awards recognize advanced leadership in sustainability,
climate change mitigation and resilience at college and university campuses that are
part of Second Nature’s Climate Leadership Network. Second Nature is a national nonprofit that works to accelerate climate action in, and through, higher education.

“The Climate Leadership Network continues to drive innovative solutions, which is the only way the sector and the nation will continue to remain globally competitive,” said Tim Carter, president of Second Nature. “This demonstrates to students - our next generation of leaders - what a commitment to climate action looks like.”

The 2017 Climate Leadership Award winners and honorable mentions are:

Two-Year Institution Winner:
Portland Community College

Honorable Mention:
Bristol Community College

Four-Year Institution Winner:
Loyola University Chicago

Honorable Mention:
Georgia Southern University

Award winners will be recognized as part of the 2017 USGBC Leadership Awards Luncheon at the Greenbuild International Conference & Expo on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017, in Boston, Mass. Visit Second Nature to learn more about the Climate Leadership Awards.