



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **The Keystone Center's Youth Policy Summit to Address Water Quality and Human Health**

**Montclair, New Jersey, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010** – The Keystone Center's Youth Policy Summit challenges high school students in addressing the critical issue of Water Quality and Human Health. Thirty of the region's best and brightest science and math students are gathering at Montclair State University, June 25 - July 1. After spending their spring semester conducting original research, these students engage water sector leaders from industry, government and non-profit organizations on policy solutions for sustainably meeting the current and future water needs of the region.

These young leaders are focusing not only on progressive solutions; they are also tasked with creating opportunities which are not only socially equitable, but economically and environmentally sustainable. Participants negotiate consensus-based recommendations and then share them with the State Board of Education, Members of Congress, and state legislatures as well as business and NGO leaders. On June 28<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 1pm, students will meet with a panel of professional experts from across the region at Montclair State University. *"The Keystone Center focuses on the right initiatives to better prepare young people to compete in the future. The breadth and depth of the learning experience involved in the Youth Policy Summit is impressive"* commented, Jim Donlon, former CFO of Arvin Meritor, who previously served as an expert panelist. Panelists for the 2010 event include:

- New Jersey American Water
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 2 State Office
- Passaic River Coalition
- Merck & Co, Inc.
- The New Jersey Environmental Federation
- Dupont Engineering
- USGS New Jersey Water Science Center
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- NY/NJ Baykeeper

A highlight of the Summit takes place on **Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup>** at 9:00 am when students present their final policy recommendations to the public. **Media and the public are welcome to attend any of the Summit events held at the Montclair State University Student Center at 1 Normal Avenue, Montclair, NJ.** Maps and parking directions at [www.montclair.edu](http://www.montclair.edu). Please contact Annemarie Fussell with questions and for media coverage of any portion of the Youth Policy Summit.

Sponsorship of this program is provided by the Merck Institute for Science Education. To learn more about MISE and their programs, please visit, [www.mise.org](http://www.mise.org).

### ***ABOUT THE KEYSTONE CENTER***

*Headquartered in Keystone, Colorado, The Keystone Center prepares leaders of today and tomorrow with the intellectual and social skills they will need to resolve society's most challenging energy, health, environmental and resource problems. The education programs attain this goal through the application of scientific methods, the reconciliation of difference through negotiation, and the development of critical thinking and collaborative problem solving. Education programs provide direct experiences within the context of local, national and global issues. Our success is measured by the quality of our programs, the achievements and effectiveness of our students and educators and our contributions to a better society.*