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**SANTA FE ARTIST AND EDUCATOR RECEIVES AUDUBON &
TOYOTA CONSERVATION FELLOWSHIP**

Prestigious Award Furthers Efforts of Local Environmental Leader

New York, NY, June 21, 2012 – Toyota and the National Audubon Society today announced that a *TogetherGreen* Fellowship award will be given to a Santa Fe-based artist and educator. After a competitive nationwide selection process, Nancy Judd will receive an award to initiate a novel project that combines energy reduction strategies with couture fashions...made from trash.

TogetherGreen, a conservation initiative of the National Audubon Society and Toyota, selects 40 high-potential local leaders annually to receive a \$10,000 grant. With the funds, Fellows conduct community projects to engage diverse audiences in habitat, water, or energy conservation. In addition to receiving support launching their conservation initiatives, the Fellows also benefit from specialized training and the opportunity to become part of an exciting alumni network of conservation professionals.

“Nancy is an environmental hero. She and the other *TogetherGreen* Fellows help people engage with nature. They look like America: diverse, passionate, and patriotic,” said Audubon President David Yarnold. “Nancy is a leader, and we’re pleased to give her a chance to invent the future.”

A public artist and environmental educator, Judd began her career in recycling and waste reduction. For the past 14 years, through her business, Recycle Runway, she has raised awareness about resource use and sustainability by creating couture fashion sculptures from trash and installing her art in high-traffic public locations. Her *TogetherGreen* fellowship project will engage at least 200 households—through sixth grade students from economically-disadvantaged families in Santa Fe schools—in reducing energy use. Staying true to her roots, Judd will then

create a “Recycle Runway” garment made of waste items related to energy conservation that will document and celebrate the students’ actions.

Collaboration among the Santa Fe Community College’s New Mexico EnergySmart Academy, Santa Fe schools, and the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission will provide participating teachers with an energy conservation lesson plan. Students will begin by recording baseline energy use in their homes, then will be given a list of easy and no/low cost energy conservation actions they can implement with their families’ help. Participants will document these actions for a final report on the amount of energy saved and CO2 reduced. Judd will creatively incorporate this information into the recycled garment.

“Every day we each make numerous decisions that affect the environment, and it is our responsibility to make these choices consciously,” said Judd. “The project will give students the knowledge and incentive to institute energy conservation actions at home that reduce energy use, as well as lower their parents’ utility bills.”

The *TogetherGreen* Fellowship Program invests in high-potential individuals from all backgrounds, providing them with resources, visibility, and a growing peer network to help them lead communities nationwide to a healthier environmental future. To date, 200 environmental leaders from across the country have been awarded *TogetherGreen* fellowships. These leaders have worked with nearly 500 organizations and engaged over 100,000 people in community-based conservation action, achieving results in habitat, water, and energy.

A complete list of the 2012 *TogetherGreen* Fellows and details about their conservation projects can be found at www.TogetherGreen.org/fellows.

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About *TogetherGreen*

Audubon and Toyota launched the *TogetherGreen* initiative in 2008 to foster diverse environmental leadership and fund innovative conservation ideas. *TogetherGreen* funding recipients have helped protect 250 species of birds and other wildlife, improved 10,000 acres of

habitat, mobilized 220,000 individuals, collected two million pounds of recyclables, and captured \$5 million worth of volunteer time. For more information, visit www.togethergreen.org.

About Audubon

Now in its second century, Audubon connects people with birds, nature, and the environment that supports us all. Our national network of community-based nature centers, chapters, scientific, education, and advocacy programs engages millions of people from all walks of life in conservation action to protect and restore the natural world. Visit Audubon online at www.audubon.org.

About Toyota

Toyota established operations in the United States in 1957 and currently operates 10 manufacturing plants and has a network of nearly 1,500 dealerships. Toyota directly employs over 30,000 in the U.S. and its investment here is currently valued at more than \$18 billion, including sales and manufacturing operations, research and development, financial services, and design

Toyota is committed to being a good corporate citizen in the communities where it does business and believes in supporting programs with long-term sustainable results. The company supports numerous organizations across the country focusing on education, the environment, and safety. Since 1991, Toyota has contributed over half-a-billion dollars to philanthropic programs in the U.S.

For more information on Toyota's commitment to improving communities nationwide, visit www.toyotainaction.com/community or www.toyota.com/community.