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For Immediate Release

**Keep The Rez Beautiful and Rebecca “Becca” Blair
Receive National Recognition from Keep America Beautiful**

February 14, 2017 –Keep The Rez Beautiful (KRB) and Becca Blair were recently honored at the 2017 Keep America Beautiful ‘s National Awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Keep The Rez Beautiful was honored for distinguishing itself as an exemplary Keep America Beautiful affiliate organization and received an Award of Excellence. Keep America Beautiful’s National Awards acknowledge the passion, dedication and impact of affiliates and volunteers such as KRB and Becca Blair who help keep their communities clean, green and a beautiful place to live. KRB is one of Keep America Beautiful’s 620 nationwide affiliates, supported by millions of volunteers who help transform public spaces into beautiful spaces.

Rebecca “Becca” Blair Receives the KAB National Individual Youth Award

Nine year old Becca Blair has been picking up litter and volunteering for kayak cleanups around the Ross Barnett Reservoir and down the Pearl River since she was 3 years old. Becca moved to the Saddlewood neighborhood recently and wanted to start a recycling program to help reduce litter from entering storm drains. She used this project to fulfill her homeschool requirements in the studies of math, computer science, language arts, writing and science. Since March, 2016, she has collected over 3,000 pounds of plastics with the help of her family and friends from neighbors and has volunteered hundreds of hours. Not only has she reduced the waste stream of her family and neighbors, but other neighborhoods are asking for assistance. Her efforts in her neighborhood and in other Keep The Rez Beautiful projects, exemplify her outstanding accomplishments as a youth who is truly making a difference.

Keep the Rez Beautiful and Becca Blair continued....

Keep The Rez Beautiful Receives KAB Award of Excellence

Keep The Rez Beautiful focuses on watershed protection, education & enhancement around Mississippi's Ross Barnett Reservoir. KRB received an Award of Excellence for conducting over 30 + clean ups on land and on water in five years since KRB became a Keep America Beautiful affiliate. KRB installed cigarette ash receptacles to reduce cigarette litter; created the Turtle Point Nature Area; planted scores of trees and native plants ; created 15 pollinator gardens; erected Dog waste stations to prevent nonpoint source pollution; created an outdoor classroom in the Reservoir Botanic Gardens and hosted Project Rezway – KRB's recycle fashion show and Rezzzy Volunteer Awards for 5 years. KRB has partnered with local schools to build community gardens and recently partnered with PRVWSD, Waste Management and MS DEQ and installed three new Big Belly solar recycling compactors around the Reservoir. KRB has hosted numerous Great American Clean Ups, National Planting Day & America's Recycling Day events. KRB attributes all of their accolades to many partners and hundreds of volunteers who contribute thousands of hours to help make the Rez more beautiful and cleaner. www.keeptherezbeautiful.org Facebook – keeptherezbeautiful.

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