FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 10, 2023 Swansea, Massachusetts

Contact: Jim O'Neill (617) 299-6185 James.SustainWDN@gmail.com

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute announces Cronkite Awards for Climate Education champions.

- Connecticut: State Representative Christine Palm
- Hawaii: State Representative Nicole Lowen
- Massachusetts: Climate Chief Melissa Hoffer
- Massachusetts: State Senator Marc Pacheco
- New Jersey: First Lady Tammy Murphy

The **Cronkite Awards Ceremony** is a one-hour (3 pm EST/12 pm PST) hybrid event on **April 20** with VIP and celebrity recognition will feature **live** and **virtual** in multiple locations. <u>Media Toolkit</u>

We honor these leaders who have led visionary legislation to integrate climate education into their state's schools. They represent a model for future collaboration; with the award we will highlight their leadership and build bridges to push this important agenda forward. Our global youth leaders will premiere the **Call-to-Action video** with an **online pledge** inviting everyone to take action and bring climate education to our schools. To register: Eventbrite link.

At the Cronkite Awards event, the Institute will launch the <u>Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum</u> – in partnership with **Barnes & Noble** to take it directly to all school districts. The Institute's Curriculum brings to life the 100 stories in the book, *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes.* It is aligned with NGSS and state standards. It is distributed directly to schools nationwide in partnership with Barnes & Noble's Business Education Development Managers.

The next generation deserves the best educational tools to prepare them for their future – especially, to understand and respond to the impact of the climate change. We need your help!

With your support, we can educate all our children to build a more just, equitable, and sustainable world for all. For more information to bring the <u>Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum</u> to schools: <u>here</u>.

About the Cronkite Awards for Climate Education. Widely recognized as "the most trusted man in America," Walter Cronkite believed that journalism was a higher calling. He felt a personal responsibility to use his platform as the anchor of CBS Nightly News to inform and educate ordinary people so they could make wise decisions about their future. Over 50 years ago he boldly covered the first Earth Day with the same passion he had for covering the moon landing, rallying more than 20 million Americans to join the emerging green movement. Mr. Cronkite served as The Institute's honorary chairperson for over a decade. It is his wisdom, leadership, and vision of preparing youth as future leaders in their communities that has inspired the Institute's Cronkite Awards.

Why Climate Education? Scientists, universities, nonprofits, NGOs, concerned parents, and youth environmental leaders are working tirelessly to spread an urgent message: the next generation deserves the best educational tools to prepare them for their future – to offset the impacts of the climate crisis see <u>IPCC Report</u>.

Climate education affects us all: Business leaders of sustainability-oriented companies need help recruiting a trained sustainable workforce. Educators need educational tools and resources to train students for the transition to this sustainable economy. Young people want climate education in their schools so they can learn about how they can get green jobs to build a sustainable world. Media can educate ordinary citizens by spotlighting climate change and actions they can take in their communities.

About the Stone Soup Leadership Institute: The Institute has been a leader in developing climate education tools, trainings, and initiatives to build a sustainable world for over 25 years (<u>Case Studies</u>). <u>www.stonesoupleadership.org</u>