

MERLYN GRANT RECIPIENT 2019

# EMMA BOUTON

ATTENDS BROWN UNIVERSITY. SHE'LL LEAD A TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS IN EDUCATING RHODE ISLAND LEADERS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE. HER MERLYN GRANT IS \$2,000.

“Leading this group for the past year I have found that we can only act effectively when we have a clear strategy and vision. That includes a lot of people working behind the scenes doing the legwork of planning and coordinating roles.”

Emma will use her grant to pay for **rent, food, and travel expenses this summer** so she can continue her volunteer role as “Hub-Coordinator” in Sunrise Rhode Island. Sunrise is “most broadly a volunteer movement of young people working to fight climate change.”



**[PHOTO ABOVE]** "Here I'm leading a song during a visit to R.I. Representative Jim Langevin's district office. I helped mobilize nearly 50 young people to demand that day that he join his Rhode Island colleague in Congress, Representative David Cicilline, in supporting the creation of a House Select Committee for a Green New Deal."



**[PHOTO LEFT]** One of many volunteers in the emerging Sunrise Movement, Emma says, "I only played a small role in convincing Representative Cicilline to eventually adopt the resolution, but it did illustrate to me the importance of developing a long-term campaign strategy, rather than simply reacting to changing political circumstances . . . I believe we can pass a Green New Deal if we go all in this year **and invest in the development of committed and diverse youth leaders . . .**"



**[PHOTO RIGHT]** Also taken in Representative Langevin's office. In another visit to the office of Representative Cicilline, "five students shared personal stories about the things they were fighting to protect from climate change. . . . There is still so much work to be done."

Emma, 21, was raised in New Hampshire and says in the future she expects to run for public office.

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS HAVE MADE EMMA'S MERLYN CLIMATE GRANT POSSIBLE.