

MERLYN GRANT RECIPIENT 2019

ALEX KITHES

EARNED HIS MASTERS IN ENGINEERING AT BROWN UNIVERSITY. **HE WILL ADVOCATE FOR CLIMATE LEGISLATION IN RHODE ISLAND.** HIS MERLYN GRANT IS **\$1,500.**



“I’ve spent the past year diving headfirst into climate activism in Rhode Island, helping to build a popular climate movement and the accompanying political power necessary to create change at the required scale.”

Alex will use his grant to secure specialized canvassing software, to print climate education literature, for transportation, and for art and rally-related supplies and graphic design.



[POTOS ABOVE & LEFT] Alex speaking at the Youth Climate Strike in Providence, RI, on Friday, March 15th, 2019. “As a 26 year old, I’m motivated in no small part by my fear of the bleakness of the future that climate change will bring. At this event, I spoke about the scientific basis of climate change and how the cold, hard science gives us a lot of reasons to worry . . . but also holds the solutions to the crisis. I often speak publicly, but I still get nervous every time. It was inspiring to be amongst hundreds of other young people all as driven to fight for our future as I am. If anything gives me hope that we’ll make serious headway and solve the climate crisis, the youth climate movement does!”

Alex has already led or helped lead the election campaigns of several climate-concerned office holders. “In all of my involvement in political campaigns, I’ve gained a lot of experience in how to organize effectively for climate action: I’ve learned the ins and outs of electoral and issue campaigns. I’ve become skilled in the use of campaign tools like VAN/Votivate; I’ve helped in planning many rallies and other nonviolent direct actions, and become intimately involved with the fight for state-level climate legislation. We’ve lost some battles, but we’ve won others. This I know: we can win this climate fight if we are loud, strategic, and well organized. And the environmental community in Rhode Island is capable of all of these things!”

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS HAVE MADE ALEX’S MERLYN CLIMATE GRANT POSSIBLE.

