

## DAVID MAYER DE ROTHSCHILD



### **National Geographic Emerging Explorer Environmentalist**

David is an environmentalist, explorer, eternal optimist and the Founder of the Sculpt The Future Foundation, a group that uses exploration, adventure and storytelling as a way to give nature a voice. David is leading a new generation of action-oriented change makers and reigniting a collective spirit of hope that the fate of our planet can be rewritten. Driven by his immeasurable curiosity for the natural world, he has ventured to some of the most remote and fragile ecosystems on our planet in order to bring widespread attention and innovative solutions to urgent global environmental issues.

Underlying this is David's unwavering belief that we must work together and question a "that's just the way we've done it" mentality, best exemplified in the Plastiki project. In early 2010, David contributed to the design and construction of a one of a kind, fully recyclable catamaran made buoyant by 12,500 reclaimed plastic bottles and sailed 8,000 miles across the Pacific to alert the world to the devastating effects of single use plastics. The message and journey was seen and heard around the world by millions.

In November 2011, David and a core crew travelled into the heart of Brazil's Amazon Rainforest to discover the effects the controversial Belo Monte Dam project is having on the local community. Beyond the physical feat of these adventures is David's relentless passion for educating others in his light-hearted, humorous manner. He has taken his call to action to millions of individuals across all demographics - from children to world leaders, NGOs to NASA, industries to non- profits, Oprah Winfrey to Nickelodeon.

The bigger the challenge, the more David rises to it. It is this unique resolve that has led UNEP, National Geographic, Clean up the World, the World Economic Forum and the Clinton Global Initiative to recognize David as a Climate Hero, Emerging Explorer, a Global Clean Up Ambassador, a Young Global Leader and member of the Clinton Global Initiative Lead.

For his relentless dedication David was awarded the accolade of "Emerging Explorer" by National Geographic, he was appointed an "international ambassador" by NGO Clean Up the World and nominated as a "Young Global Leader" by the World Economic Forum. In 2007 de Rothschild was named one of GQ Magazine's men of the year, being the sole individual named to the "Environmentalist" category. The following year, due to his efforts at involving youth in environmental issues, he was the 2008 winner of the Kids' Choice Awards UK "Greenie Award". In 2009 Rothschild was named a "Climate Hero" by the United Nations Environment Program. In 2011 de Rothschild served on the judging panel for the International Green Awards as well as the Climate Week Awards. In 2011 he also received the Honorary Award of the German Sustainability Award.

With numerous adventures, several books, a Sundance Channel TV series and a National Geographic documentary under his belt, David is always debating, collaborating and innovating solutions for a more sustainable planet and driving individuals and groups alike to unlock their human potential and dream big.

#### **Topics (Selection):**

- Plastiki Adventure
- Climate Change

#### **Publications (Selection):**

- The Live Earth Global Warming Survival Handbook: 77 Essential Skills to Stop Climate Change—Or Live Through It, 2007