The Puranik Foundation launched The Energy Project in December 2021 in partnership with HISD’s Energy Institute High School (EIHS), Rice University Energy Association and CleanTech 2021 in partnership with HISD’s Energy Institute High School that offered high school students the opportunity to impact the community by problem-solving local energy challenges. The Puranik Foundation and more than 400 guests celebrated the first The Energy Project, a semester-long internship program sponsored by the Puranik Foundation and more than 400 guests celebrated the first The Energy Project, a semester-long internship program. In teams, students worked together to design innovative energy approaches to sustaining areas in alternative power generation, sustainable water usage, energy consumption, waste management, and urban design.

During the Lotus Awards, the sustainable consumption project titled “Karot” was awarded a $15,000 grant for the implementation of the prototype that uses fish to help grow protein and plants in a home aquaponics system, while “GHOST,” an urban design for a better means of transportation to help Houstonians maintain mobility, was awarded the People’s Choice Award.

The Lotus Innovation Awards Gala, produced by Paul- David Van Atta, was made possible with the support of the following sponsors and guests: Worldwide Oilfield Machine, Puranik Family, Anjana King Bering, former Lt. Governor of Texas David Dewhurst, Counsel General of Nepal Steve Payne, Reagan and Doug Bauer, Madelaine and Richard Yates, Leela and Nat Krishnamurthy, Leesa Holland-Nelson, Cheryl Byington, Community Supporters, Beth Wolff, Cynthia Wolff, Katie Mehnerst, Nancy Parsons, Stephanie Taura, Carrie Colbert, Mary Grace Lundram, Maryanne Maldonado, and Sandhya Bayot.

About the Puranik Foundation 501(c)(3)
The Puranik Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization headquartered in Houston that owns and operates the Vision International Learning Center, a school in Pune, India.

The sound of a dhol drummer moved guests to their seats, and emcee Casey Curry welcomed the attendees to garner votes for the People’s Choice Award. With a hopeful heart for the future, guests wrote down their wishes on leaves and hung them among a Tree of Life.

Dinner was vibrant and delightful, with elaborate floral arrangements provided by Flowers by Nino and gold lotus lanterns. A salad of salt-crusted, oven-roasted red and yellow beets with avocado cream, candied walnuts, dried apricots filled with goat cheese, and fresh pea shoots complemented the décor along with papadum with spiced fruit chutney. The Richard Brown Orchestra entertained the guests while they enjoyed their choice of the pescatarian dish, which included pistachio-crusted sea bass served along with cauliflower messoncelle and roasted rainbow carrots, or the vegetarian entrée, which included cauliflower steak masarol dal tadka served with green potato puree for vegetarian guests. Dessert is sweeter when there’s a duo of pina colada coconut mousse and a chocolate caramel tart.

For more information, visit www.puranikfoundation.org and follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.