

# ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

# AAFE ANNUAL REPORT

2022



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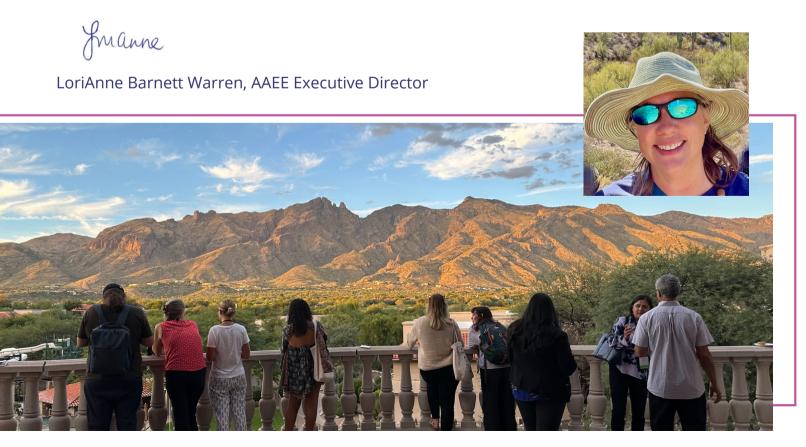
# MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

### **Executive Director's Note**

Hello! I am so grateful for each and every member of our Arizona EE Community! Every year our programs continue to grow and our community becomes stronger. We are excited to reflect on all that we accomplished in 2022 - when we started outlining the details for this year's annual report it became clear that we actually achieved a great deal! All with volunteer power.

We know that professional associations are very beneficial to people no matter what stage of their career they are in. They provide opportunities for: networking to find new job opportunities; increasing skills and knowledge so we can best serve students and other learners; and showcasing excellent individual and programmatic work, raising the bar for our field.

I am so proud of the work our organization has done over the last decade. With little resources but a whole lot of passion our leadership team and volunteers have really taken a deep dive into our work. From looking inward and learning about who we are, what we do, and how we can be more inclusive, to thinking strategically about what our membership needs to be successful environmental educators, to exploring our role in the state as a lead in environmental literacy, we've really designed a structure for this professional association poised to take on all of the challenges we face as a society with thoughtfulness and grace. I look forward to hosting our second in-person conference in 15 years in September 2023, bringing together great minds to solve pressing issues. We hope you will join us!



# MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

#### Dear fellow educators,

This past year has been one of metamorphosis: I have finally hatched from my *young professional* stage and emerged as a full *professional environmental educator*. This has led me to the big question - How did I get here? Reflecting on my time in this field, I have concluded that Environmental Education has a phenology to it: the rush of spring school programs, the seasonal garden harvest, the race to monitor a hatch, bloom, or migration, the rising tides of grant cycles, the throes of evaluation, the slow hot and cold seasons where we shut our doors, clean our tools and plan the next year. Learning the rhythm has taken me a decade. And the reason I made it to this stage of life is clear -- YOU -- the other professionals in this field, who offered up your wisdom in professional development workshops and over cups of coffee.

I believe there's also a phenology of our careers. Do you remember who planted your first seed of environmental education? Showed you ways to do what you love as work? To actually change the world? I imagine someone added nutrients, time, some good books, definitely some laughter, maybe suggested a class, or connected you to a friend, let you tag along on program. Perhaps you just showed up to volunteer without knowing anyone. What happened next? And next? When did you finally spread your wings? When did you realize you could teach another to fly?

This year at AAEE, our focus has been on planting seeds and the science of cultivating the right conditions for new environmental educators to grow and thrive. We hope you can join us in your own corner of our great state. You know the conditions there best; you know your colleagues, your neighbors, your friends. You know who might enjoy the workshop or the coffee date. Help us plant the seed of environmental education for them. Bring them to the AAEE conference, take them on a a walk, show them your favorite toad, let them know that there is a space for them in this field. This world needs them. AAEE and the environmental education community is waiting for them, and for you, with open arms. Thank you for all you plant & grow.

Ellen Bashor, Board President







PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HUB



### WHO WE ARE?

The Arizona Association for Environmental Education (AAEE; arizonaee.org), an Affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE; naaee.org) is a professional association and network designed to support anyone in the state of Arizona who teaches within and about the environment and natural world.

### WHAT WE OFFER

- Certification in Environmental Education, NAAEE approved
- eeFellows Program for young professionals
- Annual Conference in September including research and practitioner perspectives
- Open space discussions and regional mixers
- Workshops for Guidelines for Excellence in EE
- Equity and Inclusion workshops
- Mentoring and learning from our communities, responding to the changing needs of the field



Members enjoy discounts for events and members-only opportunities.



Take our eeCertification and build your portfolio; become a reviewer or mentor for participants.



Contributions offset the cost of programs; allow us to pay stipends and registration fees; and support young professionals.







**Annual AAEE** Conference 212 Virtual Attendees 44 Regional Attendees





Social Media Outreach

Facebook 1250 followers **Instagram 672 followers Twitter 380 followers** LinkdIn 103 followers

**Donations Received** \$1730





AAEE Awards 9 Excellence in EE **Award Recipients** 

Certification Course 23 New Certified **Environmental Educators** 





**Professional Development** 17 Opportunities Offered

**Volunteers** 2 AmeriCorps Members 640 Service Hours **Logged by Members** 



# 2022 in Review



Memberships 123 Active Memberships 66 New Memberships

**Co-hosted NAAEE** Annual Conference! 2100 people connected

to AAEE and Tucson





Social Media Outreach

Facebook 1402 followers **Instagram 880 followers** Linkdin 139 followers

**Donations Received** \$1515





AAEE Awards 12 Excellence in EE **Award Recipients** 

**Certification Course** 7 New Certified Educators 81 Total Since Launch





**Professional** Development 17 Opportunities Offered

Volunteers 2 AmeriCorps Members **1421 Service Hours Logged by Members** 





# STRATEGIC PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

**Vision -** Environmental educators in Arizona are connected to each other and have the skills, knowledge, and resources to work collaboratively toward a vibrant, equitable, and socially just future.

**Mission -** Connect and equip environmental education (EE) providers, new and seasoned, with their community and their place. We provide training, mentoring, and resources to actively and equitably grow a healthy, environmentally sustainable, and just Arizona for all.

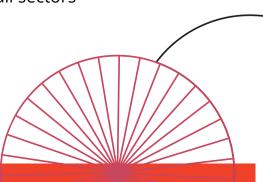
Our team finalized the strategic plan for 2022-2026 and approved it for release on January 1, 2022. Our professional network is focused on:

- Inspiring and helping young and upcoming EE providers to listen to Arizona community members, use best practices, and create inclusive and accessible programs for environmental literacy and future ecological sustainability.
- Building community relationships and understanding the interconnectedness of environmental science, environmental justice, and other ways of knowing about and engaging in the natural world.
- Understanding the human role as part of the earth's systems and systemic failures
- Recognizing and respecting alternative environmental viewpoints, cultures, and historical relationships to land and place.

Our programs center on *professional development* for all and *mentoring* young professionals; resource sharing and promotion of ideas and concepts; and career building and recognition of excellence.

Summary of Goals for 2022-2026:

- Goal 1: Build a community network that provides quality EE relevant to all
- Goal 2: Demonstrate culturally responsive practice and cultural humility
- Goal 3: Teach best practice in EE
- Goal 4: Inspire collective advocacy to expand the reach of EE programs and organizations
- Goal 5: Elevate the profession and legitimacy of EE across all sectors



# CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS



Our vision for membership is to build a community network of EE that is relevant to all individuals and organizations. We provide opportunities for EE professionals to connect with each other through a variety of events.

#### **AAEE Individual Membership gives access to:**

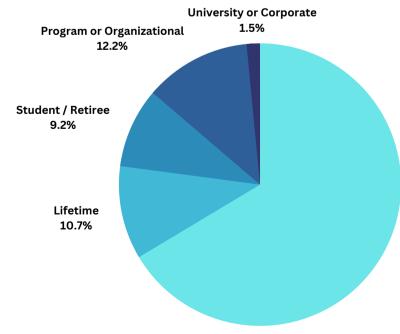
- Online Community Forum via Google Groups
- Access to Environmental Education Job Listings
- · Access to Grant Opportunities
- Member-Only Webinars and Workshops
- Member Discounts on the Arizona EE Certification, Guidelines Workshops, Events, and other Professional Development Opportunities
- Program Development & Evaluation Consultation
- Mentorship
- Reviewing Grant Proposals and Letters of Support
- Membership Badge, Professional Certified Environmental Educator Badge
- Access to Scholarships
- Opportunity to shape organization priorities and member benefits through member feedback surveys

### Organizational and Corporate Teams Memberships also give access to:

- One-on-one conversations with AAEE to determine specific goals AAEE can assist with
- Promotion access on the AAEE website and other communication platforms
- Promotion access on AAEE social media, including reels, stories, and highlights
- Organizational Member Badge
- Free Environmental Job Listings for open positions
- Peer-to-Peer Fundraising

2022 was AAEE's first full year of utilizing WildApricot as a membership system and it is working well. Memberships have increased overall from 2021 to 2022.

Membership increases were significant before the 2022 NAAEE Conference and directly after the conference, and were most significant in October and November in conjunction with the 2022 Membership Drive.





Professional 66.4%

arizonaee.org/join-us

**AAEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022** 

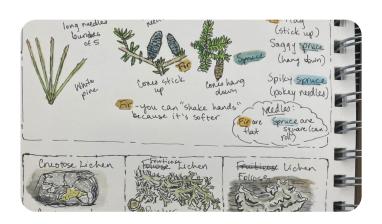


# **eeCERTIFICATION**

We recognize the importance of elevating the legitimacy of the Environmental Education profession through teaching best practices. We continued offering our successful state-wide eeCertification program. This provides new and continuing environmental educators with both theory and inclusive, culturally-responsive, and evidence-based practices for quality environmental education. The eeCertification builds the experience and portfolio of those working within Arizona's greater environmental education community.

In 2022, AAEE certified its 81st educator in its history of the Certification program. Additionally, a partnership was established with Prescott College to connect their Environmental Education degree pathways & programming with our eeCertification program.

Over the next year, we will apply for accreditation of our program through NAAEE. In addition, we would like to certify a minimum of ten educational professionals and develop additional community partnerships.

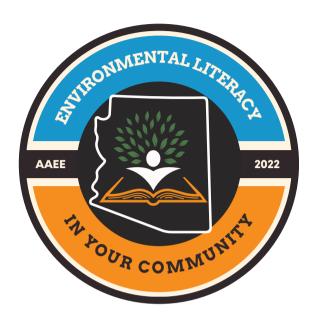






# ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

The purpose of our state's Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP) is to build community, teach best practices, and inspire advocacy for environmental literacy at all levels. Arizona's ELP has continued to evolve over the past year to incorporate the many voices from various organizations and places across the state. This is critical as we come together as a field to connect and engage environmental education stakeholders in the development and usage of our state's new Environmental Literacy Plan.





Environmental Literacy Plans at naaee.org

### 2022 Outcomes:

- First round of edits to half of the document completed
- Section on Environmental Justice added
- Initiatives and objectives finalized

### Looking Ahead...

For the next year the committee will work to complete the entire first draft of the state Environmental Literacy Plan. The committee will also draft a list of key decision makers to connect with at various government & agency levels to start to building legislative support for the ELP.

# ARIZONA 11 ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

# SOEL

# STATE OF OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING IN THE SOUTHWEST



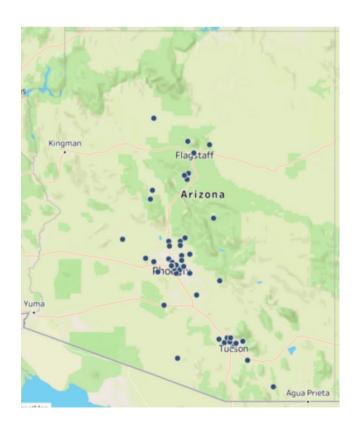
A partnership between the USDA Forest Service's Southwestern Region (3), Arizona Association for Environmental Education (AAEE), and Environmental Education of New Mexico (EENM) that involves shared values of community, interdependence, and care for present and future generations led to the development of the State of Outdoor and Environmental Learning (SOEL): A Landscape Analysis of Opportunities in the Southwest. SOEL is a regional inventory of outdoor and environmental learning initiatives, curricula, and programs in the Southwestern region. SOEL includes programs, resources, and initiatives in conservation, experiential, environmental, nature-based, outdoor, and place-based learning that support the many valuable ways children can engage in the outdoors and environmental education.

	AZ	NM
501 c(3) Non-profit	116	193
Government	34	170
Independent School		11
Private	22	29
Public School	6	23
Tribal	2	1
University	23	15

More information on SOEL and a comprehensive list of all programs listed can be found at www.arizonaee.org/SOEL

Further detailed information on each program can be found at: http://bit.ly/SOELdata

Programs are also able to add their information to the **internal shared database.** 





# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**ee360**+





ee360 Leadership Clinic

AAEE has been serving as an awardee of ee360 funding from NAAEE and the US EPA. Two of our leadership team members participated, along with other NAAEE Affiliates, in the 3rd Annual Leadership Clinic held at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove, CA.



Guidelines for Excellence Workshop: Equity and Inclusion

AAEE hosted two Guidelines for Excellence workshops in 2022 (March & December). The first was the Equity and Inclusion Module in March, cohosted with the Arizona Master Naturalist Association. The he second was the Community Engagement Guilelines for Excellence in December, which our eeCertification candidates attended. 58 people attended these events.



Project WILD Workshops

In the spring 2022 (January - April), AAEE cohosted three Project WILD Workshops, creating a new model for co-hosting other similar professional development projects across the state. 89 people attended these workshops.



AZ Teachers Conference

During AZ Sustainability Month (April), AAEE hosted a virtual outreach booth for Arizona's Natural Environment Week hosted by the SciTech Institute.



**Earth Day** 

On Earth Day 2022, AAEE co-hosted the children's environmental education booth in Prescott, Arizona, and hosted and outreach booth at another Earth Day event. Collectively providing EE experiences or information to over 1,000 Arizonans.



Co-Chaired the International NAAEE Conference

AAEE welcomed almost 2,000 of our colleagues from the international EE community to the Sonoran Desert as the official co-chair and state affiliate. Networking Mixers were held at at the NAAEE Conference in October the awards ceremony in November. 56 people attended these events.



# ANNUAL CONFERENCE

AAEE hosted a virtual one-day conference for our membership and partners on September 23, 2022. The conference theme was, "Environmental Literacy in our Community" and we featured our Environmental Literacy Plan Team as keynote speakers, led by Board Member Annia Quiroz.

The team encouraged everyone to contribute ideas about what environmental literacy means for them and their work. The conference also hosted a Mentor Panel, with Leona Davis Program Coordinator for the University of Arizona's Earth Grant Program and Suzanne Dhruv, Executive Director of the Ironwood Tree Experience. Leona and Suzanne offered insight into how they came to the field of EE and ideas for young people who would like to pursue careers in EE.

AAEE will alternate hosting a virtual conference (2022) with an in-person conference (2023) in order to reach as many people as possible in the future. NAAEE will follow the same process and we will host virtual events during the years that NAAEE is in person to keep the costs for attending conference low for our community

Updated conference info can be found at arizonaee.org/conference







# eeFELLOWS PROGRAM

The AAEE eeFellows Program, designed to advance our profession, is a career-development program for young professionals aged 18-23. eeFellows work with organizations on critical environmental education projects and design a portfolio of their work. eeFellows are paired with a mentor working in the field and together complete an action-based project that can be added to the eeFellow's portfolio.

Skill-building activities include designing formal or non-formal education programs with measurable results; creating quality, meaningful, environmental education experiences for participants; evaluating outcomes of programming, and organizing work and other tools to be skilled EE providers. The eeFellows are also completing our eeCertification Course and designed an outreach series for Environmental Educaiton professionals to be hosted throughout 2023. This program will not only strengthen the skills of young professionals, but also it will enhance their professional relationships with community partners in our EE field.

The first cohort of AAEE eeFellows was launched in September of 2022. This cohort consisted of Jordan Sene, Dannie Blakeley, and Sam Paddock.



arizonaee.org/eefellows





# eeFellows 2022-23 Cohort







**Jordan Sene (she/her)** is a 22 year old young professional from Rio Rico, Arizona who graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sustainability in 2022 and soon with a Master of Sustainability Solutions degree in 2023 from Arizona State University's School of Sustainability. For work, Jordan is the Education Program Coordinator at Borderlands Restoration Network. In her role, she coordinates the Borderlands Earth Care Youth (BECY) program, which strives to inspire and train the next generation of land stewards living within the US/Mexico borderlands. During the summer internship-style program, youth work alongside conservation professionals, take on leadership roles, and are empowered to support communities environmentally and socially. Jordan is excited to revamp and connect more environmental education opportunities to youth in neighboring spaces. Jordan is the recipient of the Excellence in EE Award for Outstanding Junior/Young Professional in Environmental Education 2021 for her work with BRN. She's passionate about supporting youth from rural communities in the borderlands by making sustainability education accessible and fun for them and their families. She is excited about being part of the first eeFellow cohort and has the opportunity to be mentored and become a certified Environmental Educator in Arizona. With this, she is looking forward to working with and nominating many Juniors and Young Professionals for the same award.



# eeFellows 2022-23 Cohort



Dannie Blakely (he/they) grew up on the homelands of the Yavapai people, in Prescott, Arizona, and continues to live there. Originally planning on being a nurse, Dannie spent his first few years of college studying and working as a CNA. Being a nursing assistant taught Dannie the importance of human connection and communication, he mainly worked one-on-one with nonverbal members of his community. Dannie is deeply passionate about empathy, kindness, and equity because of his experiences. However, this job field was no longer serving him, so Dannie decided to switch gears and pursue environmental education. He is currently an Americorps VISTA at Prescott's Community Nature Center as a program coordinator and Park Ranger. In this position Dannie does weekly programming with K-6 grade, often sharing his love of birding and nature art with students.



Samuel Paddock (he/him) is a relative newcomer to the world of environmental education, unofficially starting his path in this field when he accepted a position as a zookeeper at the end of 2020. During his time in this role, he guickly discovered that his favorite part of the job was the education aspect. Samuel would regularly give impromptu programs to the public regarding the animals that were in his care. While he did eventually move on from the zookeeper profession into the lumber industry, education was always in the back of his mind. Following his interests, he applied and accepted a position as a seasonal Natural and Historical Interpreter with Missouri State Parks in 2022. He ultimately fell further in love with teaching people about the subject he cared most about, and knew he wanted to continue his path in this field. Thus when his term with Missouri State Parks came to a close, he applied to work as an environmental educator and City of Prescott Park Ranger with the Community Nature Center in Prescott, Arizona. Here he has found his footing in this field, and has taken the steps to better himself professionally by starting the path to finish his degree and has begun to work on his Environmental Education Certification through the Arizona Association for Environmental Educators.

# **eeAWARDS**



2022 Excellence in EE Awards presented by the Arizona Association for Environmental Education on November 5, 2022. The Excellence in EE Awards are given to those who have:

- Dedicated current and long-term service in the field of EE (programs, curriculum, research, publications, legislation, etc.)
- Created a work environment that incorporated EE (volunteerism by employees, using recycled & environmentally-friendly products, collaboration with or funding of EE)
- Demonstrated outstanding action, contribution, service, and leadership supporting EE
- Shared EE ideas, best practices, and techniques with others
- Employed community engagement models and collaborated with the greater EE community
- Demonstrated outstanding improvements in programs, including practices that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in EE

### 2022 Awardees

Outstanding Junior/Young Professional in Environmental Education

• Gabriella "Gaby" Parra, University of Arizona

Outstanding Environmental Educator in Informal or Non-formal Settings

• Rebecca Perez, Ironwood Tree Experience

Outstanding Environmental Educator in P-12 Settings

• Alisha Porosky, Lake Havasu City Schools

Outstanding Environmental Educator in Higher Education

• Jay Kurtz, Prescott College

Outstanding Environmental Education Program

• Camp Cooper at the University of Arizona

Outstanding Nonprofit Organization Committed to Environmental Education

• Highlands Center for Natural History - Sarah Vincent

Outstanding Governmental Agency Committed to Environmental Education

• Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, Environmental Education Program

Outstanding School or College Committee to Environmental Education

• Emerson Elementary School

Outstanding Business Committed to Environmental Education

• Footprint Foundation

Outstanding Inclusive Environmental Education Program

• Bisbee Science Lab - Amie Esteves

Lifetime Achievement in Environmental Education (this category had a tie between two individuals)

• Dr. Molina Walters, ASU Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College & Catherine Culver, Casteel High School





# AAEE BOARD MEMBERS



LoriAnne Warren (she/her) is the board Executive Director and lives in Tucson, AZ on O'odham and Pascua Yaqui land. She is the Program Manager for the Urban and Community Forestry Program at Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management, educating our communities about the value of urban trees and how to care for them. She previously served for 10 years as the Director of the USA National Phenology Network's education program, focused on engaging a variety of formal and non-formal audiences in phenology and the Nature's Notebook Citizen Science program and has worked in a number of educational settings over the last two and a half decades, teaching both youth and adults the importance of place and connections to the natural world. LoriAnne holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania and an M.A. in Environmental Science and Environmental Education from Prescott College in Arizona. She is the Executive Director of the Arizona Master Naturalist Association, a volunteer leadership training program for natural and cultural history volunteers. Her areas of expertise include program development and evaluation, strategic planning, and volunteer management. Board member since 2014.



**Ellen Bashor (they/she)** is the board President and lives in Arizona's central highlands on the <u>homelands of the Yavapai people</u> in the City of Prescott. Ellen is the Outdoor Learning Coordinator for an intergovernmental initiative between Prescott Unified School District and the City of Prescott's Recreation Department and <u>Community Nature Center</u>, where they direct programs to increase children's equitable access to outdoor and environmental experiences, including <u>Nature Niños Prescott</u>. Ellen holds both a Bachelors and Masters in Environmental Education, and previously taught Environmental Education courses at <u>Prescott College</u>. They also serve on the board of the Greater

Prescott Outdoors Fund board and coordinate the City's annual <u>Earth Day Celebration</u>. They have received numerous awards for their work, including 2019 <u>ee360 Fellow</u> by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), 2020 <u>Arizona Environmental Educator of the Year</u>, 2021 international NAAEE <u>Environmental Education 30 Under 30</u>, 2022 <u>First Things First Regional Champion for Young Children</u>, and 2023 30 Under 30 in Parks and Recreation. Ellen is dedicated to increasing access to the outdoors, environmental learning, and opportunities that cultivate a more healthy, just, and sustainable world for all. Board member since 2018.



# AAEE BOARD MEMBERS



Julia Davis (she/her) is the board Secretary and the Program Manager for Project Cities, a program through the Sustainable Cities Network in the Global Institute of Sustainability and Innovation at Arizona State University. Project Cities is a university-community partnership that pairs faculty and students with city partners to cocreate sustainability solutions. The program provides unique opportunities for students to gain hands-on skills and experiences, developing career pathways and fostering connections with local sustainability leaders. Julia holds a Master of Arts in Sustainability, Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability,

Bachelor of Arts in Geography, and Certificate in Environmental Education from Arizona State University. While in graduate school her research was focused on exploring sustainability literacy through nature journaling in school gardens and she worked with the National Sustainability Teachers' Academy to train educators in sustainability science and how to implement sustainability projects in their schools and communities. Julia is passionate about providing educators with professional development opportunities to support high-quality environmental and sustainability education programming in schools and communities. She enjoys hiking with her dog and exploring the beautiful and biodiverse landscapes of Arizona. Board member since 2021.



**Staci Grady (she/her)** teaches Environmental Science and STEM at a public high school in Avondale. She educates teens from 10-12th grade about how Environmental Science impacts them and their daily lives with the goal of creating deeper connections between them, their communities, and their environment. Learning to teach is a constant developmental practice so her next steps to further her teaching will be to attend local professional development events to learn more about my community and the environment we interact with on a deeper level. She would like to further her relationships with local organizations that offer enriching experiences to educators and their students while continuing to deepen my knowledge of Sonoran desert ecology and cultural history. Board member since 2020.



# AAEE BOARD MEMBERS



John Bello (he/him), Director of Education and Interpretation at the <u>Boyce Thompson Arboretum</u>, is currently completing a Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Innovation from Arizona State University. As Director of Education and Interpretation, he is responsible for the development, implementation and coordination of all education and interpretation programs at Boyce Thompson Arboretum. He is dedicated to building access for all communities to connect and experience nature while building their compassion for the land and space we live on. As an avid learner, he will continue to learn and build on nature experiences through professional communities to multi-modal ways and experiences with Arizona Association for Environmental Education. Board member since 2023.



Angelantonio Breault (Angel; he/el) is the Community Restoration Manager for Tucson Clean and Beautiful. He is a naturalist, documentarian, educator & learner based out of Chuk-son or Tucson, Arizona. Sonoran Desert born and raised, who feels privileged to be rooted in such an ecologically and culturally diverse part of the world. His work centers land-based education, intersectional environmental justice, reconciliation ecology, with an emphasis in community action & empowerment. Angel has been fortunate to have worked and learned throughout the Americas and Europe, directing educational programs, designing curriculum, documenting stories, and facilitating collective action initiatives in border spaces for organizations such as the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, Ironwood Tree Experience, the Arizona Trail Association, Tamwood Camps International (Vancouver, Canada), and Las Mulas Achibueno (Linares, Chile). Angel also operates Reconciliación en el Río, a intersectional reconciliation ecology initiative and registered volunteer program with the National Parks Service that stewards the restored reaches of the Santa Cruz River in the Southern Arizona borderlands. Board member since 2020.



# AAEE BOARD MEMBERS



Kate Studey (she/her) is a Junior High Science Teacher in Phoenix, Arizona. She also leads the Outdoor Learning Committee and after school Garden Club at her school. Kate is an Environmental Education Certified Professional, and she is currently working on her Master Naturalist certification. In 2018, Kate served as the Teacher on Public Lands intern for the Bureau of Land Management. In 2022, Kate was selected as one of six teachers nationwide to work in Acadia National Park as an Acadia Teacher Fellow. Kate's passion is to connect students with Nature by providing them with outdoor learning experiences that align with their classroom learning. Her next goal for professional development in support of her career is to complete her certification as a Master Naturalist, become a certified Project WILD trainer, and return to Acadia for a second summer in 2023. Board Member since 2023.



**Carmen Pavlovsky (she/her)** is an AmeriCorps VISTA with Arizona Serve. She is also a graduate student at Prescott College pursing a degree for a MS in Environmental Studies. Her husband works as a PA in General Surgery and Cardiology. They moved from Colorado to Nebraska and then to Arizona. Carmen enjoys being outdoors and learning about natural habitats. Skiing, hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, and atv riding are her favorite outdoor activities. She likes to spend time with her husband, their daughter, and their dogs. She grew up in the San Luis Valley, Colorado and learned a love for the outdoors with her family. From the time she was young she knew she wanted to study environmental science and help others to be stewards of the land.



# A LOOK AHEAD - 2023

(Not a comprehensive list of all that will be offered)

### **AAEE** eeCertification Courses

AAEE eeCertification course start dates

- January 17
- May 22
- August 21

### **AAEE Professional Development Events**

Phoenix Networking Session and Mixer

Friday, February 24 - Wilderness DTPHX

Tucson Networking Session and Mixer

Friday, April 14 - Tucson Hop Shop

Pursuing Mental Health in Sustainability

• April 26, virtual

Prescott Networking Session and Mixer

July 28 at the Lazy G Brewhouse

### **AAEE 2023 Annual Conference**

The AAEE Annual Conference will be held September 7, 8, 9, 2023 at Yavapai College, Prescott, AZ.

NAAEE Guidelines for Excellence Workshop

December 9, virtual





For more information, registration, and to stay updated on AAEE events.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A huge shout out to the Arizona Association for Environmental Education board of directors LoriAnne Barnett Warren - Executive Director, Ellen Bashor - Board President, Julia Colbert - Board Secretary, Staci Grady - eeCertification Committee Chair, Angelantonio Breault, Carmen Pavlovsky - AmeriCorps VISTA, and our first eeFellows cohort Sam Paddock, Jordan Sene, and Dannie Blakely.

Thank you, and welcome to our new board members John Bello and Kate Studey.

Many thanks to all those who helped to support AAEE efforts to serve EE in Arizona by hosting professional development opportunities across the state.

We thank you for your continued membership and support of our efforts in service environmental education in Arizona.



**Arizona Association for Environmental Education** 

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