

The California Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education

2018-2019 Annual Report

Fiscal Year July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019



Our Mission

To advance the impact of environmental and outdoor education in California.

Vision Statement

Through regular participation in environmental and outdoor education, learners will gain the knowledge, skills and inspiration to help them understand, respect and care for themselves, their communities and their environment. These values will be reflected in a world where:

- All people in our diverse society have equal access to environmental and outdoor education.
- A variety of environmental and outdoor education opportunities are consistently provided through schools, community groups, government and nonprofit agencies, and all students attend a residential outdoor science school at least once.
- Environmental education is integrated throughout the traditional school curriculum.
- At every level of education, teachers and students go outdoors to explore, appreciate and care for the natural world on school grounds, throughout local communities and into natural areas.
- Learners have a strong connection to their natural environments, whether wilderness, rural or urban, resulting in a deep and nurturing sense of place.
- First-hand experience and environmental service learning projects develop critical thinkers who make sound environmental decisions and actively move our society toward sustainable practices.
- Recognition and support of educators and programs providing environmental and outdoor education is an integral part of California's educational system and society.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend of AEOE,

This year marked a significant turning point for our organization as we transitioned to a new organizational structure with an Executive Director working alongside the board to advance our mission. The partnership between staff and board allows us to increase our visibility and reach, and ultimately, our impact. With a dedicated staff member, there is now more capacity to provide consistent communication with members and partners, to pursue alternate forms of funding, and to strengthen our role as the professional association of environmental and outdoor education in California.

AEOE strives to advance the impact of environmental and outdoor education throughout the state of California. We believe that all young people have a right to the physical, social, emotional, and academic benefits of environmental and outdoor education. At AEOE, we are committed to ensuring that the experiences students have in the outdoors are meaningful, and that students are met by skilled facilitators.

Nowhere can this commitment be felt more strongly than through our charge to establish a certification program for environmental educators in our state. The Environmental Educator Certification Program (EECP) is our public declaration that EE is a valuable and necessary profession. Alongside our dedicated Steering Committee members, who represent a range of perspectives from the field, we have been working to build out the design of the program, revising and updating the program's structure as we've gathered feedback and insights from a variety of stakeholder groups.

AEOE is the California affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), the largest network of EE professionals in the world. This spring, we were selected as one of ten state affiliates to attend a week-long Leadership Clinic. AEOE sent five representatives. Alongside other state representatives and NAAEE leaders from Washington, D.C., we spent the week thinking strategically, learning about other state's successes and conundrums, exploring our leadership styles, and thinking deeply about our unique role within our state. We now have a number of action items that we are working on in support of our mission to *advance the impact of environmental and outdoor education in California*.

We thank you for your support as a member of our community. Together, we can ensure that all young people have access to the benefits of learning outdoors.

Warmly,
Estrella Risinger, Executive Director
Reed Schneider, Board President

AEOE's VOLUNTEER BOARD



The California Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education
Board of Directors-Photo taken March 2019

Photo Credit: Kat Montgomery



Left: AEOE Board Members Tracey Weiss, Ryan Mayeda, Angie Kemsley and Reed Schnieder, along with AEOE's Executive Director attended a leadership symposium hosted by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) in June, 2019.

Right: Board Member Tom Drake represents AEOE at the California Science Teachers Association Conference in Pasadena.



BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

President
Reed Schneider
NatureBridge, Yosemite
reed@aeoe.org

Vice President
Tracey Weiss
tracey@aeoe.org

Secretary
Katie Andersen
Cuyamaca Outdoor School
(San Diego County Office of Ed.)
katie@aeoe.org

Treasurer
Steve Morris
YMCA Camp Surf
steve@aeoe.org

Members-At-Large

Angie Kemsley
Conference Chair
WILDCOAST & San Diego Community College Dist.
angie@aeoe.org

Tom Drake
Media & Marketing Coordinator
Henry J. Kaiser High School
tom@aeoe.org

Ryan Mayeda
PD Co-Chair / EOSM Coordinator
Pathfinder Ranch
ryan@aeoe.org

Nathan Taxel
Partnership Chair
Orange County Parks & Recreation
nathan@aeoe.org

Kat Montgomery
Awards Chair
Scripps Institute for Oceanography
kat@aeoe.org

Leah Callan
Newsletter Coordinator
Point Bonita YMCA
leah@aeoe.org

Executive Director
(as of January 1, 2019)
Estrella Risinger
director@aeoe.org

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education Statement of Activities Fiscal Year 2018-19

	2018-19	2017-18
Revenue		
Conferences	51,476	50,235
Membership	12,645	18,615
Donations, Grants & Sponsorship	9,194	18,694
Merchandise	646	40
Job Postings	<u>3,150</u>	<u>1,950</u>
Total revenues	\$77,110	\$89,533
Expenses		
Conferences	40,709	36,026
Administration	12,848	8,387
Insurance	4,083	2,273
Marketing/Website	1,479	1,154
Newsletter	2,168	2,774
Merchandise	992	0
Professional Networking	1,826	313
Professional Development	3,299	0
Payroll	18,473	0
Payroll Taxes	<u>4,205</u>	<u>0</u>
Total expenses	\$90,084	\$50,982
Change in net assets	(\$12,974)	\$38,551
Net assets, beginning of fiscal year	\$156,183	
Net assets, end of fiscal year	\$143,210	

Notes Regarding Finances:

- Expenses for Payroll and Insurance increased in FY 2018-19, as we added an employee (Executive Director) in January, incurring expenses for part of the fiscal year.
- AEOE approved to create and sell branded merchandise, which incurred an expense for this fiscal year, but is expected to cover itself as merchandise sells.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Members are the lifeblood of our organization; without our associate members, our organization would not have a reason to exist. Membership over the last fiscal year is demonstrated by the following numbers.

	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Individual Members	200	262	243	259
Student/Intern Members	99	101	115	90
Contributing Members	11	10	13	15
Life Members	92	92	90	83
Institutional Members	64	70	72	64
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	466	535	533	511

Compared to the previous fiscal year (2017-18) we have:

- 62 fewer Individual Members
- 2 fewer Student/Intern Members
- +1 more Contributing Member
- Life Members saw no change
- 6 fewer Institutional Members
- 69 fewer members overall

COMMITTEE SUMMARIES

Committees focus on specific areas and goals, and report back to the board, creating a more efficiently run organization. Also, committees are open to any member who wants to be involved with a specific activity. Committees are as follows:

- Finance
- Governance
- Membership
- Professional Development (includes EOSM and Conference)
- Media & Marketing
- Environmental Education Certification Program (EECP) (an Ad/Hoc Committee)

2018 Environmental and Outdoor School Managers (EOSM) Retreat Report



16 managers from across the state attended EOSM's 3rd annual retreat in Cambria on November 10-11, 2018. Camp Ocean Pines, Camp Sea Lab, Coloma Outdoor Discovery School, Exploring New Horizons, Nature Bridge, Ocean Pines, Pathfinder Ranch, Ramblin Adventures, Camp Sea Lab, Sly Park, Westminster Woods, and YMCA East Bay were represented at this year's retreat with staff in various leadership levels from first time coordinators to program and executive directors. We were lucky enough this year to have two presenters, Jen Ortega from Humboldt State University (and NAAEE) and Tess Fife from Camp Beyond Camp. Through a grant from NAAEE, Jen provided the attendees with resources on NAAEE's Guidelines for Excellence for Non-Formal Programs, which is a great tool for any program looking at being more intentional with improvements and projects. You can download a free PDF from NAAEE's [website](https://naaee.org/our-work/programs/guidelines-excellence)

(<https://naaee.org/our-work/programs/guidelines-excellence>) and look at similar resources to provide intentional growth opportunities for your program's instructors! Tess Fife is the CEO of Camp Beyond Camp whose mission is to expand student learning outside of their residential EE experience. She has been working closely with Pathfinder Ranch and a few other programs plus educators to pilot their first set of online classroom curricula this year. Check out their website (<https://campbeyondcamp.com/>) for information and contact Tess if your program might be interested in partnering. Extending student learning is so tricky for many of our programs, so this is a great way for kids to continue that learning back at home and school!

Besides these two presentations, our attendees got a lot from the two round table discussion sessions where we talked about a myriad of topics including the California Outdoor Engagement Coalition (<https://outdoorengagement.berkeley.edu/>), which is a great organization that is working towards expanding equitable access to the outdoors for all Californians. Request to become a member and see what's going on across the state in terms of job opportunities, local events, and statewide initiatives/bills. As part of the Coalition's collective impact model, a Coalition member reached out to EOSM to collect some data on our various programs, capacities, financial constraints, and how we can increase capacities to serve more students.

Overall, everyone at this year's retreat had a positive experience and left with plenty of ideas to take home to their own programs! If you're a manager or in a leadership position at your program, but not already on the EOSM email lists, feel free to contact the EOSM Coordinator, Ryan Mayeda, at ryan@aeoe.org for details on how to take advantage of these meetings and retreats!

Awards Committee Report

Kat Montgomery, Marketing Committee Chair

During FY 2018-19, the AEOE Awards Committee accomplished the following:

Committee Membership

- Kat Montgomery became Awards Committee Chair
- At the end of FY 2018-19, the committee includes Kat Montgomery and Katie Andersen

Environmental Educator of the Year Award

- Updated the nomination form for Environmental Educator of the Year (EE of the Year) and moved it from Jotform to Google Forms
- Created a scoring rubric for EE of the Year
- Received 6 nominations for this award
- Awarded the 2018 EE of the Year Award to Nicholas Bischoff (Northern section) and Jane Mattione (Southern section)

Howard Bell Award

- Updated the nomination form for the Howard Bell Award and moved it from Jotform to Google Forms
- Created a scoring rubric for Howard Bell
- Received 3 nominations for this award
- Awarded the 2019 Howard Bell Award to Celeste Royer

Organization of the Year Award

- Discussed creation of a new annual award for Institutional Members
- Award is currently under development and will be launched in FY 2019-20

Marketing Report

Tom Drake, Marketing Committee Chair

- Attended CEEIN Meeting June 21
- CEEIN (the California Environmental Education Interagency Network) is now offering a calendar of environmental education events and opportunities in California. You can submit your events, grants, and contests related to environmental education through an easy online form, and find an array of exciting and engaging opportunities in which to participate. Find a link to the calendar at <http://ceein.org>. Advised on set-up. Ready to use.
- The CDE is providing a new Professional Learning Opportunities website. AEOE will be able to submit conference information as a non-profit. We can also submit our link <http://aeoe.org/events>.
- Started to research the possibility of a Facebook donation button on the AEOE Facebook page. What is the cost, benefits and accounting ramifications? Further discussion needed.
- Checked the availability for Joshua Tree as Southern Fall Conference Site.
- Updated GuideStar information to bring AEOE status to the bronze level for donations.
- Working on getting an exhibit table for the CSTA Conference 2019 in December at Pasadena.
- Would like to explore AEOE bookmarks and AEOE stickers as a retention / recruitment tactic marketing tactic for brand awareness.

CONFERENCE SUMMARIES

Southern Fall Conference

Executive Summary
Angie Kemsley, Conferences Chair

1. Event, date, location:

Southern Regional
Conference 2018
October 26-28, 2018
YMCA Camp Surf

2. Registration Fees:

Early Registration: \$60
Regular Registration: \$75
Walk-in Registration (at the
conf.): \$90

3. Attendance:

Attendees: 63

4. Housing and meals provided:

Cabin or camping
5 meals (Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch)



5. Speakers and entertainment:

Keynote Speaker: Keiara Auzenne, Diversity Initiatives
Coordinator - Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Keiara Auzenne is the Diversity Initiatives Coordinator for the
Scripps Institution of Oceanography. This is a new position at
Scripps and she is tasked with improving campus climate and
addressing issues of equity, diversity and inclusion for students,
staff and faculty at Scripps. Keiara is also the Co-founder and
Director of a monthly Clean Slate Clinic that provides assistance
formerly incarcerated individuals seeking to expunge their
criminal records. She is a San Diego native and a member of the
California Bar, ABA, San Diego Lawyers Club, and San Diego Chapters of the ACLU and
the NAACP. Keiara obtained her JD from UCLA (specialization in Critical Race Studies).
She also holds an MBA from the Monterey Institute of International Studies and BAs in
Political Science and Business Economics from UC Santa Barbara.

6. Workshop strands, # workshops offered, sample workshop topics:
 a. 15 workshops + 3 breakout sessions not sorted by strand

SOUTHERN FALL CONFERENCE
2018

Workshop Schedule

YMCA CAMP SURF
 October 26-28

Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Workshop 4	Workshop 5
Sat 9:30am-10:20am	Sat 11:40am-12:30pm	Sat 1:40pm-2:30pm	Sun 10:00am-10:50am	Sun 11:00am-11:50am
A Natural History of Story Bob Ellis	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Science Keiara Auzenne	Falconry with Students Bill Thornton	Mindful Movements for Students Michele Hines	Interviewing Skills & Resume Hints Ryan Mayeda
Stoking the Fire: Burnout in Outdoor Education Pali Institute Senior Instructors	Making Environmentalism Relatable Daniel Clarke	Using Social Media to Make a Positive Impact Katie Andersen	Mineral Identification Tom Drake	Abiotic Connections - Implementing Earth Systems into Curriculum Grace Mortero
MPA Watch: Citizen Science as a Tool to Teach Ocean Stewardship Kat Montgomery	Converting Families and Participants to Donors Dylan Edwards	Get In The Flow Of Things Kristopher Espiritu	Let's Go on an Adventure!: Themed Exploration Hikes Brittany O'Connell	Transition Games and Short Teambuilding Challenges to Keep in Your Back Pocket Kat Montgomery

*All workshops (except Workshop 1) meet at Pirates Cove 5 minutes before scheduled start time
 *Please respect the site's quiet time from 9:00pm-8:00am
 *You are on U.S. Navy property. Absolutely no alcohol or illegal substances permitted.



7. Strategic plan goals met with this event:

Strategy A: Serve as a Top-Notch Professional Association

- Goal 1: Provide regular professional development to our membership
- Goal 2: Provide networking opportunities to our membership.

Strategy B: Increase Member Participation in AEOE.

- Goal 5: Increase memberships, and maximize participation at all conferences and events.

Strategy C: Address Issues of Diversity in the Outdoor Environmental Education Community.

- Goal 7: Engage and network with diverse audiences and organizations which serve diverse communities.
- Goal 8: Increase AEOE's cultural competency.

Northern Fall Conference

Executive Summary

Angie Kemsley, Conferences Chair

1. Event, date, location:

Northern Regional Conference 2018
October 19-21, 2018
Shady Creek Outdoor School

Left: Participants in the “Bird Is Not Just A Word” Workshop practice their skills of observation and identification. *Photo Credit: Nicole Carbone.*



2. Registration Fees:

Early Registration: \$45
Regular Registration: \$60
Walk-in Registration (at the conf.): \$75

3. Attendance:

Attendees: 135

4. Housing and meals provided:

Cabins or camping
Saturday dinner provided by AEOE, potluck breakfast Sunday, all other meals on own

5. Speakers and entertainment:



Keynote Speaker: Renee Wade, Certified Permaculture Designer.

Renee Wade is a certified Permaculture designer with over 25 years experience growing soul-satisfying gardens that are also edible. She regularly teaches workshops on growing living soil, working sustainably with water, and deepening our connection to nature. She is also the author of *The Living Earth Handbook: Creating Sustainability from the Inside Out*. Her website is www.NaturalCollaboration.com

6. Workshop strands, # workshops offered, sample workshop topics:

17 workshops + 3 breakout sessions, not sorted by strand


NORTHERN FALL CONFERENCE *2018*

Workshop Schedule

SHADY CREEK
October 19-21

<p>Workshop 1 Sat 11:45am-12:45pm</p> <p>A Bird is Not Just a Word: Diving Deeper into the Familiar Sarah Hockensmith</p> <p>UC California Naturalist Certification Info Sesh Sarah Angulo</p> <p>Your Nature Stories are Powerful, Your Stories Matter Garth Harwood</p> <p>Nat Nuggets Ben Jamin Walker</p>	<p>Workshop 2 Sat 2:45pm-3:45pm</p> <p>Habitat Safari! Kim Laizer</p> <p>Hearing Every Student's Voice Korena David</p> <p>Teaching with Games Nicole Carbone</p>	<p>Workshop 3 Sat 4:00pm-5:00pm</p> <p>Raptor Center Bethany Thomas</p> <p>Unconscious biases and how they damage our goals Laurel Wee</p> <p>Consent: As Easy As GORP Linnea Joy Pierson</p> <p>Leadership Styles Alicia "Acorn" Fennell</p>	<p>Workshop 4 Sun 9:00am-10:00am</p> <p>Connecting early learners to nature through arts, theater, and storytelling! Erin Pitts</p> <p>Games on the trail. Games that won't fail. Games for your class... Games... just games. Nate Secrest</p> <p>Wildlife Tracking for Beginners Garth Harwood</p>	<p>Workshop 5 Sun 10:15am-11:15am</p> <p>Cooking in the Garden Michael Shanahan</p> <p>How to incorporate a therapy dogs at your outdoor school to help students Steffani L</p> <p>Team Building is NGSS! And other riveting discussions Briana "Weasel" Freeman</p>
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*All workshops meet at the scheduled location 5 minutes before scheduled start time
*Please respect the site's quiet time



7. Strategic plan goals met with this event:

Strategy A: Serve as a Top-Notch Professional Association

- Goal 1: Provide regular professional development to our membership
- Goal 2: Provide networking opportunities to our membership.

Strategy B: Increase Member Participation in AEOE.

- Goal 5: Increase memberships, and maximize participation at all conferences and events.

Strategy C: Address Issues of Diversity in the Outdoor Environmental Education Community.

- Goal 7: Engage and network with diverse audiences and organizations which serve diverse communities.
- Goal 8: Increase AEOE's cultural competency.

**Statewide Spring Conference
March 29-31, Westminster Woods
Occidental, CA**

Executive Summary

1. Event, date, location:

AEOE Statewide Conference
2019
March 29-31, 2019
Westminster Woods



2. Registration Fees

Early Registration: \$ 195
full/\$150 Saturday only
Regular Registration:
\$235/\$170
Walk-in Registration (at the
conf.): \$290/\$190
Non-participating family
member: \$115
Youth 5-17: \$90
Ages 0-4: free

3. Attendance:

of Attendees: 201

4. Housing and meals provided:

Semi-Private (additional fee)
Cabin
Camping
5 meals (Saturday breakfast - Sunday lunch)

5. Speakers and entertainment:

Opening Speaker: Estrella Risinger, AEOE Executive Director
Keynote Speaker: Obi Kaufmann, Poet, Painter, Author and Conservationist - Author of
California Field Atlas
Saturday Night Entertainment - Open mic + silent dance party (hosted by Westminster
Woods)

6. Workshop strands, # workshops offered, sample workshop topics:

Theme: “Teaching Outside the Box”

Strands

1. PUTTING THE "A" IN STEAM: Lesson-based workshops highlighting ways to connect students to nature through the arts (humanities, visual arts, ethics, theater, etc.)
2. CONNECTING WITH NATURE THROUGH SCIENCE: Lesson-based workshops highlighting ways to connect students to nature through science
3. BRINGING THE OUTDOORS INTO THE CLASSROOM: Lesson-based workshops focused on creative ways of connecting students to nature in the classroom, while still hitting all those standards
4. PERSPECTIVES: Conceptual workshops focused on approaching teaching, learning, and the outdoors from new and different perspectives
5. ADAPTIVE LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT: Conceptual workshops focused on how to lead and/or manage staff through a constant process of change and growth

Workshops

54 workshops + 4 breakout sessions

"I appreciated the information I learned at the workshops. It was wonderful being with outdoor educators who truly care about their job and learning more." -Statewide Conference Participant

Photo Credit: Nicole Carbone



7. Brief evaluation summary:

This spring, AEOE piloted a new survey structure. Participants were asked whether or not they would recommend the conference to a friend. Based on their response, we asked a follow-up question, requesting more information regarding what would have made for a more positive experience (in the case of a low score) or what they enjoyed (corresponding to a high rating). This new format allowed participants to share what mattered most and allowed for conference organizers to quickly assess general satisfaction. Overall, the feedback was extremely positive. Participants appreciated the emphasis on equity and inclusion, the variety of workshops, the organization of the event as a whole, and the offerings by the host site. Constructive insights included a desire for longer sessions, segmented workshops by instructor experience level, and a keynote speaker with stronger ties to the field of outdoor and environmental ed.

8. Strategic plan goals met with this event:

Strategy A: Serve as a Top-Notch Professional Association

- Goal 1: Provide regular professional development to our membership
- Goal 2: Provide networking opportunities to our membership.

Strategy B: Increase Member Participation in AEOE.

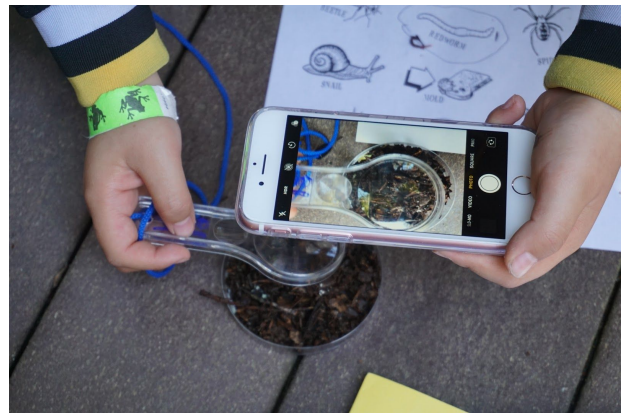
- Goal 5: Increase memberships, and maximize participation at all conferences and events.

Strategy C: Address Issues of Diversity in the Outdoor Environmental Education

Community.

- Goal 7: Engage and network with diverse audiences and organizations which serve diverse communities.
- Goal 8: Increase AEOE's cultural competency.

“It was wonderful to network with new people who had never attended an AEOE event before, get to do the high ropes course (I don’t think that’s ever been offered by a host site before), learn more about the Environmental Educator Certification Program, and variety of workshops was appreciated.” - Statewide Conference Participant



AWARDS

2019 Howard Bell Award Celeste Royer

Beneath the beautiful redwoods of Westminster Woods, AEOE was proud to present Celeste Royer with the Howard Bell Award. The Howard Bell award acknowledges lifetime achievement and contributions towards advancing the field of environmental and outdoor education. Celeste is the Director of Environmental Education at Rancho El Charro and has been with San Luis Obispo County Office of Education for more than 30 years. Additionally, Celeste provides leadership to the California Outdoor School Association (COSA) and California



Environmental Education Foundation (CEEF), and teaches Wilderness & Environmental Education at Cal Poly SLO. She served on the California Blueprint for Environmental Literacy Steering Committee, has worked with CREEC (California Regional Environmental Education Community), BEETLES, NAAEE, and many other amazing institutions. Celeste earned degrees from UCLA, San Francisco State University, and Cal Poly SLO. Married with two adult children, Celeste enjoys nature, family and pet time, traveling, and reading. Celeste's contributions have strengthened the field of environmental education and touched the lives of thousands of children. Congratulations, Celeste!

Northern Section Outdoor Educator of the Year Nicholas Bischoff



Nick treats his students and their parents like they're members of his own family, always taking the extra moment to ask how their day or weekend was or give them a handshake and a smile. As a program director I constantly receive letters and phone calls from parents boasting about Nick's kindness, hard work, honesty and enthusiasm. They constantly ask, "Where did you find him?" They invite him to their birthday parties and their kids' baseball games and he shows up, cheers the loudest and thanks them for the invitation.

Nick is passionate about natural and local history and has contributed to the Santa Cruz field of Outdoor Education by

developing a curriculum that highlights fascinating pieces of our past so that kids can learn the stories behind the different environments they visit. His kids have especially loved learning about the bear cage and old fountain they discovered in a long abandoned zoo in Delaveaga Forest, the sea monster folklore fishermen used to tell about the Monterey submarine canyon, the legend of Mountain Charlie and his wrestle with a grizzly bear in the Santa Cruz Mountains, and the rich Awaswas (Ohlone) history behind the sea shells and Monterey chert found in the shell mounds that rest in the meadows of Twin Gates, near the beds of Scott Creek, and on the cliffs of 4 Mile beach.

Nick is a lifelong learner, constantly searching for lectures and conferences to attend, and the latest environmental education books to read. He also regularly attends teacher training courses in subjects like outdoor leadership, LGBT allyship, classroom management in the outdoors and teambuilding.

Beyond all of this Nick is a committed student of social justice philosophies and practices and works hard to make sure all of his students feel safe and know that they are integral pieces of the group. He strives to be an ally to each and every child and to help teach his students how to love and care for each other.

Southern Section Outdoor Educator of the Year Jane Mattione

Jane has worked for Pathfinder Ranch for 3 years now, plus her work previously at other OE programs. She has been a dedicated member of our community and a big proponent of AEOE. She loves to teach, improve her craft and also help others to improve their teaching skills. As a result, she was asked to attend the BEETLES Leadership Institute to help train the rest of our staff and future staff on BEETLES teaching tools, which we have incorporated into our curriculum with her help. She has also begun the process of implementing a new citizen science program into our curriculum using tablets, which has been a phenomenal addition to our overall program.

She has been in this field as an educator for many years, she has a knack for teaching, and loves working with youth. She constantly promotes conservation awareness with clients and is an amazing educator. Everyone who shadows her classes comes away with something new and cool to use in their own classes. She has a wealth of knowledge and is a dedicated individual in this field.



PARTNER REPORTS

North American Association for Environmental Education

AEOE is the California affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), the largest network of environmental educators in the world. As a force multiplier for environmental education, NAAEE is committed to promoting excellence in the field and expanding the reach and impact of our collective work. Through signature programs, advocacy, conferences, and other activities, NAAEE works with partners across North America and beyond, to advance our mission of accelerating environmental literacy and civic engagement to create a more sustainable future. Learn more at naaee.org

AEOE sent two delegates, Vice President Tracey Weiss and Secretary Katie Andersen, to the 2018 NAAEE Conference held in Spokane, Washington, October 9-13, 2018. Weiss and Andersen attended the NAAEE Affiliates' Workshop prior to the conference's official start. The workshop offered the opportunity for leaders of NAAEE's 56 affiliates to focus on building capacity, share successful practices, and learn innovative strategies. Our delegates were also in attendance at keynote and plenary sessions featuring speakers and workshops focusing on the power of education to create a positive change in creating a more equitable and sustainable future.



As part of the affiliate network, AEOE was invited to attend a Leadership Clinic hosted by NAAEE at Asilomar in Pacific Grove, CA. AEOE sent five representatives, who spent the week training, networking, idea sharing, goal setting, and action planning. There were sessions on equity and inclusion, fundraising, leadership, and strategic thinking. A big highlight of the week was working with other state representatives and learning about their successes and conundrums. The increase in knowledge and strengthened relationships across the country gained by the Leadership Clinic positions us to better serve our state. Thank you, NAAEE and ee360, for the support!



Other Featured Partnerships

Outdoor Engagement Coalition: AEOE is a member of the California Outdoor Engagement Coalition through the University of Berkeley. The California Outdoor Engagement Coalition works to expand equitable access to the outdoors through cross-sector partnerships and collective impact. More information can be found at outdoorengagement.berkeley.edu/

CEEIN: AEOE is also an active partner of CEEIN, the California Environmental Education Interagency Network. CEEIN is a state government consortium of environmental educators representing departments, boards, and commissions. The primary goals of CEEIN are to develop a unified response to the environmental education needs of California's educators and local governments, and to assist with statewide educational reform movements. More information can be found at ceein.org

SPONSORS & DONORS

Thanks so much to our sponsors and donors for your contributions to our organization! Your support does so much for AEOE. From helping us to grow and take on leadership roles in the field to providing scholarships to our conferences, we couldn't do this without you. You make it possible for us to advance the impact of environmental and outdoor education in California.

Featured Sponsor

Bay Area Lyme Foundation

Bay Area Lyme has helped to provide critical awareness regarding trends in Lyme Disease throughout California. Together, AEOE and Bay Area Lyme are working to increase awareness of tick-borne illnesses for field practitioners and naturalists, and supporting students and teachers to protect themselves while in the natural world.



2018-2019 Donors

Tracey Weiss
Jim Sims
Estrella Risinger
Leah Callan
Reed Schneider
Katie Andersen
Ryan Mayeda
Kat Montgomery
Andrew Boyd-Goodrich

+Plus a number of supporters who gave through our Facebook page and Network for Good account. We also want to acknowledge and appreciate the community members that contributed goods for our live and silent auctions and who supported us via [Amazon Smile](https://www.amazon.com/smile).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with AEOE on these social media platforms!



Like us on Facebook- @CAEOE



Follow us on Twitter- @CAEOE



Follow us on Instagram- @CAEOE



Follow us on LinkedIn- California Association for Environmental & Outdoor Education



Follow us on Pinterest @CAEOE

