

CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CONNECTION

October 2016

THE CONNECTICUT BUILDING A PRESENCE FOR SCIENCE NETWORK IS SUSTAINED THROUGH THE ADVOCACY OF THE CCAT, CONNECTICUT SCIENCE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION, AND THE CONNECTICUT SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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NAMES AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF OUR POINTS OF CONTACT AND KEY LEADERS ARE NOT SHARED WITH ANY OTHER ENTITY

Resources

CSDE's [science curriculum web site](#).

Visit the NGSS@NSTA Hub : The [NGSS@NSTA Hub](#) now offers a dynamic version of the *Next Generation Science Standards*..

Would you like a complete list of grants that has been provided by the National Science Teachers Association? NSTA has put these grant and their deadlines in an easy to follow calendar. It includes: deadline date, description, category, and grade level. To view this list, please visit:

<http://www.nsta.org/publications/calendar/>

SAVE THE DATE! CONNECTICUT SCIENCE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION:

All educators welcome! DATE: Wednesday, October 5th, 2016, 5:30 - 8:30pm. It is at the Radisson in Cromwell, which last year was the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The menu is our biggest hit, the Southwestern Buffet, that includes skirt steak, chicken, salted caramel layer cake, churros, plus the healthy salad, roasted veggies and more. Social Time, Meet w/ Sponsoring Exhibitor 4:30-5:30 PM, Buffet Dinner and CSSA Professional Development Meeting 5:30-7:30. To register and for more info, click on: <http://www.cssaonline.org/dinner-meetings.html>

MORE DATES TO RESERVE FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR:

Attention science teachers and teachers of science: Save the date for this year's CSTA/CSSA **Connecticut Science Education Conference, Saturday, November 19.** CSTA is in the process of updating the registration process and a brand new website with easier registration and membership renewal will be up soon. For now, keep this date open and tell a friend! This year's conference is packed with quality presentations for educators at all grade levels. See the attached flier for a sneak peek. [You can register now via the current website!](#)



Connecticut Science Educators Annual Conference
Hamden Middle School, 2623 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden CT
November 19, 2016
8 am - 3 pm



Jeff Greig
State Department of Education
Assessment and Implementation



Ted Willard, NSTA
Keynote Speaker
NGSS Resources



TJ McKenna
Connecticut Science Center
Using Phenomena

Here are samples of some of this year's 80 workshops that cross all disciplines!

<p>Elementary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> STEM: Discovering Elementary Engineering NGSS in the Digital Classroom <p>Middle School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NGSS: Exploring Waves and their Applications Car Crash - Course in 3-D Learning <p>High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newton's Laws: Not Just for Physics Anymore! Creative Clay Anatomy: Explore Structure of the Human Body 	<p>General Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing ESRI GIS Geoinquires in the Classroom Make Your Students NASA scientists with GAVRT <p>NGSS Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PBL for NGSS Crosscutting and Engineering Practices Introducing Argumentation - Sudoku & the Mystery Cube <p>Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn from Scientists and Teachers Worldwide NGSS Roundtable Discussion
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Check out our full conference program and register at www.csta-us.org.




CSTA's 2016 - 2017 Excellence In Science Teaching Awards

Nominations due November 30, 2016

Please consider nominating a deserving colleague!

The nominating process is easy - either [email your nomination](#), including the Name, Address, and Grade Level of the nominee, or send it in the mail to:

- Ralph Yulo, Box 217, Eastford, CT 06242;

Nominations for CSTA's 2014 - 2015 Excellence In Science Teaching (EST) Awards must be postmarked no later than Monday, November 30, 2016;

Please [check the criteria](#) for the EST awards before nominating.

Please visit the [CSSA](#) or [CSTA](#) websites for more opportunities to recognize the talents of Science Teachers in CT!

The PD

session schedule

for this Fall.

The CIC has teamed

up with CREC's Institute of Teaching and Learning to present two wonderful and very valuable types of PD sessions.

Intro to CIC: (Connecticut Invention Convention)

A overview of what the CIC is, why it's important, how you can teach it and how it will impact your students. Topics covered include: How can the CIC program enhance your students' STEM experience? How can you bring this program to your school? What new changes to the Curricular Resources have been made this year? How will the Regional Events work?

Who should attend? This is an essential session for new teachers with limited CIC experience. But **even the experienced teachers will find this session very valuable** in explaining the new CIC features and policies that they never saw before. You don't know what you don't know and this session will fill in the holes.

Saturdays, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm; \$75

DATE LOCATION REGISTER
(Saturdays)

10/15/16	Norwich	Click to Register
10/22/16	New Britain	Click to Register
11/5/16	Windsor	Click to Register
1/7/17	New Britain	Click to Register

CIC and NGSS:

The Invention Dimension - Maximizing Next Generation Science Standards with aligned instructional time through invention. This hands-on session will give you the theory and the realities of achieving NGSS and Connecticut Core standards in your classroom through the CIC program.

Who should attend? This session is **vital for any teacher who wants to achieve standards success** and needs the information and skill about how to do that. The session will show you how to address the NGSS and CT Core standards by using the CIC materials and activities in a way that can be done at any grade level by any teacher.

Weekdays, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$50

DATE	DAY	LOCATION	REGISTER
10/20/16	Thursday	North Haven	Click to Register
11/30/16	Wednesday	Norwich	Click to Register
12/14/16	Wednesday	Windsor	Click to Register
1/18/17	Wednesday	New Britain	Click to Register





**CIPWG SYMPOSIUM:
Invasive Plants in Our
Changing World: Learn
from the Past, Prepare for
the Future**

**Presented by the
Connecticut Invasive Plant
Working Group (CIPWG)**

**Tuesday, October 11,
2016, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Student Union, University
of Connecticut, Storrs, CT**

This 8th biennial conference features national, regional, and local experts as well as citizen volunteers sharing practical solutions for invasive plant management and actions needed to promote native species and improve wildlife habitat. The symposium is open to the public and will include introductory information about invasive plants. People with all levels of interest and experience are invited to attend.

Nationally-recognized Keynote speaker, Jil Swearingen, co-author of *Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas* will present, “**We’re Moving on Up: Invasive Plants Heading North**”. Karl Wagener, Executive Director of the Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality, will speak on “**Connecticut’s Future: Rooted in Choice**”. William Hyatt, Vice Chair of the Connecticut Invasive Plants Council, will provide a legislative update.

Charlotte Pyle, formerly with the USDA Natural Resources

Conservation Service will deliver closing remarks.

Concurrent afternoon sessions will include:

- *What Are Other States Doing?* Panel discussion with New England invasive plant experts.
- *Native Plants for our Pollinators* – Creating a balanced and healthy pollinator environment.
- *Management of Key Invasives: Success Stories and Progress Reports*
- *Biological Control: No Animal Too Small* – Learn about these valuable invasive plant management tools.
- *Aquatic Invasive Plants* – Updates on Hydrilla and other new aquatic invasive plant threats.
- *Plants to Watch Out For: Future Threats* – What are the new invasives that threaten our borders?

Research and management posters, an invasive plant identification area, and other educational exhibits will be featured throughout the day. The registration fee includes parking and lunch. **Pesticide Recertification Credits** and other continuing education credits (CEU’s) will be available. All information **available at**

<http://cipwg.uconn.edu/2016-symposium/>.



TRAINING! From our Guru of Safety Ken Roy! The annual calendar for the Science Safety Workshop Series is ready! I’ve attached the overview and more specific details about each workshop along with registration information can be found at

[:http://www.wesleyan.edu/greenstreet/professionaldev/sciencesafety.html](http://www.wesleyan.edu/greenstreet/professionaldev/sciencesafety.html). This year we are excited to announce that each registration includes a copy of Dr. Ken Roy’s latest book – *Science Laboratory Safety Manual*. A \$99 value with over 450 pages of legal safety standards, best practices, and more for your reference!

October 13, 2016 – Developing and Updating a Chemical Hygiene Plan

October 27, 2016 – Training for Chemical Hygiene Officers

November 10, 2016 – Chemical Management Safety

December 1, 2016 – Safety in Technology Education and Engineering Labs

February 16, 2017 – Safety in the Art Classroom/Studio

March 9, 2017 – Safety in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

March 23, 2017 – Science Lab Safety and Liability for Administrators
Please share the 2016-2017 Science Safety Workshop Series with your colleagues and be in touch if you have any questions about registration.

SENEME Annual Fall Meeting & Special Event at Mystic Aquarium

If you use or would like to use the aquatic realm to motivate student learning of the sciences, Southeastern New England Marine Educators ([SENEME](#))* invites you to join and attend...



**SENEME Annual Fall
Meeting & Special
Event at
Mystic Aquarium**

**Saturday, October 15,
2016, 1:00 – 3:30 PM,**

Mystic Aquarium, Mystic, CT

As part of SENEME's Annual Meeting, come and explore Mystic Aquarium's new interactive [Frogs exhibit](#) that features over 30 different species of amphibians. In this program, MaryEllen Mateleska, Director of Education & Conservation at Mystic Aquarium, will engage participants with information on amphibian species, their fascinating adaptations as well as the conservation efforts that are imperative for their survival. ***As a vital measure of the region's environmental health, she will also discuss how you, your family or class can become engaged as citizen scientists*** to collect data that will aid in establishing a baseline population size of amphibians in New England. Populations of frogs, toads, and salamanders are drastically declining worldwide and collecting this data is an important first step in protecting these species for the future.

MaryEllen will then guide the group through the exhibit highlighting the unique species and their funky features. **Expand your knowledge of frogs by leaps and bounds!**

Event Agenda:

1:00 Welcome & Annual Meeting
Part I

1:30 Presentation, MaryEllen
Mateleska, Director Education &
Conservation

2:00 Guided tour of the Frogs
Exhibit

2:30 Reception & Annual Meeting

SENEME Part II

3:30 Adjourn

Registrants may enter Mystic Aquarium starting at 12PM.

REGISTER TODAY! (<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventR?eg?llr=6t9mnbeab&oeidk=a07ed8nfugz7d0e1d98>)

Registration Costs:

Registration fee includes entry into Mystic Aquarium, presentation, guided tour of the new Frogs Exhibit and reception.

- SENEME Members: \$5.00
- SENEME Non-Members: \$20.00 (includes one-year SENEME membership)

Each registrant can bring up to three (3) guests at \$10 each.

***Just like CSTA is a regional partner of the far-reaching NSTA, SENEME is also a regional partner of the far-reaching NMEA, the National Marine Educators Association. Both NMEA and members of SENEME were instrumental in ensuring the inclusion of key Ocean Literacy Principles into NGSS. NMEA is also a partner of NSTA.** For more information, contact senemeinfo@gmail.com or visit, <http://tinyurl.com/jykw8wr>



**CONNECTICUT
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING**

The 2016 CASE Fall Bulletin is [now available](#).

In this issue:

- ***Cybersecurity: Implications and Prevention, What Can We Learn***

from the NIST Framework?

- **SoundWaters' Science Stars: All Girls, All Science, All Week**
- **News from the National Academies:**
 - 'Gene-Drive' Organisms Not Ready for Release
 - Lessons From Corrosion Crisis in Flint: A More Proactive Approach to Technology Stewardship
 - Report Urges Congress to Create Commission to Review Protection of Human Participants in Research
 - Support for Science May Not Always Translate into Support for Specific Issues
 - 'Time Has Come' for Direct User Charging for Roads

- **IN BRIEF: Science and Technology News from Around the State**

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- **Connecticut Green LEAF Schools has been awarded a Teacher Quality Partnership Grant** through the CT Office of Higher Education. . More information about Connecticut Green LEAF Schools can be found at www.ctgreenleaf.org

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- **NEW MATERIALS AND PROJECTS FROM NASA!**
<https://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/index.html>

2016-2017 Lecture Series



The Edwin Way Teale Lecture Series developed as a joint effort of a number of departments, out of discussions initiated in 1995 by faculty

members and graduate students with common interests in the many facets of environmental issues. The Lecture Series is designed to bring a variety of distinguished speakers to the University to speak on various aspects of nature and the environment.

All lectures are free, open to the public and, unless otherwise noted, held at 4:00 pm in the Konover Auditorium at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

[Downloadable PDF .pdf](#) poster for the lecture series.

The UConn Museum and Archeology Center has much to offer this fall.

From Poultry to Penguins! What Came After UConn, Mystic

Aquarium Saturday, November 12, 3 pm – Biology/Physics Building, Room 130, UConn. Mystic Aquarium staff Laurie Macha, Josh Davis, and Eric Fox all began their careers working with endangered African penguins shortly after graduating from the University of Connecticut with Animal Science degrees. Through activities such as oil spill cleanups, rehabilitation work, and interactive programming all three have been integral in Mystic Aquarium's African penguin conservation efforts both in Mystic, Connecticut and abroad in South Africa. They will share the paths they took to their careers and why their work is so important to a species threatened with extinction.

The Botany of Thanksgiving

Dr. Pamela Diggle, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UConn

Saturday, November 19, 1 pm – Biology/Physics Building, Room 130, UConn

In the eyes of a botanist, the year's biggest meal is a celebration of the plants in our lives: the potatoes, carrots, cloves, lettuce, celery and sage, and of all the holiday foods that people savor, from stuffing to cranberry sauce to pumpkin pie. Turkey may be the star of the day, but the plants on the menu give it that extra oomph. Thanksgiving's plants are just doing what we all do: making a living, setting something aside for a rainy day, and looking for love. It's the strategies that particular plants employ in those pursuits that make them delectable. Explore the biology of the plants we eat, what makes them so delicious, and role of that deliciousness in the lives of those familiar plants

Schoolyard Habitat Leadership Summit 2016

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES
THROUGH NATURE



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

9:00AM - 3:45PM

At the **Audubon Greenwich Center**
613 Riversville Rd. - Greenwich, CT

Connect with others interested and engaged in outdoor learning and schoolyard habitat creation. This day-long summit will include opportunities for professional development, networking, and learning about and sharing best practices in outdoor education.



Workshops include:

- Making Connections that Matter
- Engagement Round Tables
- Integration into the Curriculum
- Citizen Science for the Classroom

Designing Wildlife Habitats

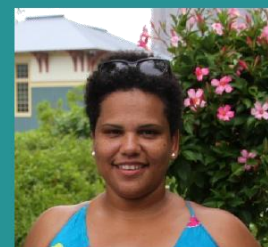
ct.audubon.org/2016summit

Free for Partner Schoolyard Habitat Schools
\$40 Regular fee- scholarships available
Lunch and Refreshments will be provided!



COMMON GROUND
HIGH SCHOOL, URBAN PARK, AND
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Yale PEABODY MUSEUM
OF NATURAL HISTORY



Keynote Speaker:
Akiima Price

Akiima is one of the leading African-American environmental educators in the country, helping to bring more capacity and inclusion to the field.

She currently works through the DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative (DCPNI) a social service organization working to end poverty in communities throughout the District of Columbia. She uses nature as a medium to bring together various leaders and organizations to collaborate on providing nature based programming to local communities.

Akiima will also lead a workshop during the summit- "Making Connections that Matter."

For more information:

email: Katie Blake at
kblake@audubon.org

Register online:

ct.audubon.org/2016summit

http://ct.audubon.org/sites/g/files/amh426/f/syh_summit_2016_flyer.pdf



Discover
[Seminars on Science](#), the American Museum of Natural History's

online professional learning program. The 6-week online courses in the life, Earth, and physical sciences are developed by the Museum's world-class scientists and accessible on your schedule. Gain exciting new knowledge and powerful classroom resources this fall and earn graduate credit from one of our [university partners](#).

The [next session](#) starts October 31st. Sign up today and receive \$50 off your registration fee! Use code SCIENCEMATTERS. *Seminars on Science* courses include: *The Brain; Climate Change; Earth: Inside & Out; Evolution; Genetics, Genomics, Genethics; The Ocean System; The Solar System; Space, Time and Motion; Water and more*. For more information about the program, check out *Seminars on Science* at amnh.org/learn. If you have any questions, send us an email at learn@amnh.org, or call us at [800-649-6715](tel:800-649-6715).



Subject:
\$1000
Scholarships
for Amazon
Rainforest

PD Workshop Educator Academy in the Amazon Rainforest + Machu Picchu The July 1-11, 2017 Educator Academy in the Amazon Rainforest of Peru is a cross-curricular professional development workshop for K-12 formal and informal educators to learn and use:

21st Century Instruction: 5E Lesson Design ~ Inquiry-Based Exploration ~ STEM

- **Inquiry Protocols & Resources:** [Project Learning Tree](#) ~ Cornell Lab of Ornithology ~ & More!
- **Global and Cultural Perspectives:** Service Learning ~ Sustainability ~ Global Education

Join Al Stenstrup, Project Learning Tree; Dr. Nancy Trautmann, Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Dr. David Pearson, Wildlife Travellers' Guide to Peru; along with scientists Dr. Steve Madigosky, Widener University; and Randy Morgan, Curator/Entomologist, Cincinnati Zoo as you:

- Participate in **citizen science projects** and **inquiry based field studies** on a 1/4-mile **Rainforest Canopy Walkway** in one of the most biologically diverse environments on the planet.
- Spend **a day in an Amazon village** as you **explore the complexities of sustainability** and the role of education in creating a sustainable future for Amazon children.
- **Work with fellow educators** to explore strategies for using the Amazon as a vehicle for incorporating STEM education, inquiry-based learning, and sustainability science education into your classroom.

PLT Certification, BirdSleuth resources and 50 Arizona State University PD Hours included. Academic credit and Machu Picchu extension optional. \$1000 scholarship deadline February 1, 2017. **With a scholarship, program fees are \$1375 + air.** Space is limited to 30 educators! Register early to secure your spot!

Get the details and download a syllabus and scholarship application at:
<http://www.amazonworkshops.com/educator-academy.html>
Contact christa@amazonworkshops.com or 1-800-431-2624 for more information.



supports curiosity, critical thinking, creativity, confidence and citizenship. [Learn more!](#)

Imagine Nation – A Museum Early Learning Center located in Bristol, CT is **committed to the development of inquisitive and imaginative life-long learners. Our unique environment inspires young children and families to investigate tangible, interactive learning experiences. The Imagine Nation community encourages and**



Have you registered, yet, for the [2016 Ocean Literacy Summit](#) hosted by the [New England Ocean Science Education Collaborative \(NEOSEC\)](#)? Better yet, have you signed up to present during the [Science and Education Fair](#)? There is still time to register and be part of this **new and exciting component** of the [Ocean Literacy Summit program](#)!

The Science and Education Fair was added to the Summit agenda to address feedback from previous participants that had hoped to gain more **hands-on ideas** of how to **teach ocean literacy concepts**.

To be a part of the Science and Education Fair, you will need to [register for the Summit](#). “Fair Presenter” is now an option in the initial drop-down menu of the online registration system, and proposed activity details can be included with your registration. Please also email abstracts and/or activity descriptions to Aimee Bonanno, abonanno@neaq.org. **Registration for the Fair will close with online Summit registration on October 20, 2016.**

If you haven’t already marked your calendars, the 2016 Summit will take place along the working waterfront of **Portland, Maine**, on **November 3 and 4, 2016**, and will focus on the latest research and education activities surrounding Ocean Literacy principle #3: “The ocean is a major influence on weather in climate.”

Green Teacher has 3 exciting webinars lined up for the next month and a half. As with our past webinars, these 3 are free, and can be freely viewed up to 30 days after the live session by those who do not subscribe to our non-profit magazine. And we provide certificates of participation afterwards to those that need them.

But you need to register well beforehand, in order to receive instructions about logging in – and if this is your first Green Teacher webinar – how to insure that your computer or tablet is in synch with the Blackboard Collaborate platform that we use. (Note: do not plan to view the webinar on a smart phone.) Please share this with any friends or colleagues who might be interested.

Thanks,

Tim Grant (webinar host & GT editor)

Upcoming webinars



Transforming School Food :Presenters: Jonathan Foley and Dan Hendry, Tuesday, September 27 2016 7:30-8:30pm EST. [Register](#) Our two presenters will share two different approaches that are currently underway. In the first, we’ll learn about California

Thursdays, wherein participating school districts in that state serve locally grown, healthy foods in their cafeteria every Thursday. Following that, we’ll learn about the Slow Cookers for Kids project where a



partnership with the culinary arts program at a local community college, teaches grade 7-8 students how to shop and prepare inexpensive, healthy meals. Please be prepared to share your own ideas for transforming school food with all the participants in this upcoming session

Jonathan Foley is the California Thursdays network coordinator at the Center for Ecoliteracy in Berkeley, California. For the past five years, he has been working within San Francisco Bay Area nonprofits promoting school food systems. His passion lies in enabling students to understand and engage with the food systems around them, thus allowing them to become informed and conscious stewards of our planet. He has a well-rooted sense of wonderment with the outdoors, where you will likely find him if he is not in the office. Dan Hendry is the Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator at the Limestone District School

Board in Kingston, Ontario. His “Slow Cookers for Kids” article was featured in *Green Teacher* #107, the Fall 2015 issue.



Introducing Biomimicry, Inspiration and Innovation for Today's Students and

Tomorrow's

WorkforcePresenter: Dorna

Schroeter: Tuesday, October 25 2016 7:30-8:30pm EST

[Register](#)

Are you looking for a way to inspire the next generation of world-builders – engineers, research scientists, chemists, architects, city planners? Biomimicry is a new discipline that offers teachers a compelling way to engage students of all ages and cross the boundaries traditionally found in education. It supports the goals of NGSS, CCLS and STEAM and offers solution-based thinking while inspiring young people with a sense of the possible. As a link between design (arts) and science, it offers a model of relevancy because it will be part of many of the jobs of the future when today's students are in the workforce. From elementary to high school, Biomimicry also provides a plethora of literature for linking ELA to science and the Reading Standards for Literature.

This webinar will explore:

- What is Biomimicry
- Why Biomimicry
- How we view nature and how we view nature through a biomimicry lens
- Principles of Biomimicry
- Levels of Biomimicry
- 3 – Bio-Inspired Case Studies
- Resources
- Biomimicry Today

Dorna Schroeter has been the coordinator of the P/NW BOCES Center for Environmental Education since 1982. This program serves some

30,000 students each year from schools in southeast New York State. In the last decade, her focus has been to integrate Education for Sustainability into the K-12 curriculum. She is a member of the Biomimicry Institute's Leadership Team and is an advisor to their Biomimicry Educator's Network (BEN) and organized the first-ever biomimicry camp for kids. Dorna's article, *Introducing Biomimicry, Inspiration and Innovation for Today's Students and Tomorrow's Workforce*, was published in the spring 2010 issue of Green Teacher Magazine. She also runs a series of introduction to biomimicry workshops.

Planet Protecting Superheroes Presenter: Vanessa LeBourdais Thursday, November 3 2016 7:30-8:30pm EST [Register](#)

Using story, arts and gamification to engage diverse learners in environmental education. Vanessa LeBourdais is the Executive Producer and Creative Director at [DreamRider Productions](#) a national Canadian environmental education charity. Over the past 18 years, Vanessa's and her team's arts-based and digital programs on zero waste, climate, water and littering have reached over 900,000 elementary school children in 900+ schools in five provinces. Their latest digital classroom resource, the [Planet Protector Academy](#) won the 2015 TELUS Innovation Award, is now in five Canadian provinces, and is launching in the US this fall. Not yet a Green LEAF School? [Learn how to register](#). Preference given registered CT Green LEAF Schools!!



Are you looking for \$500 to \$1500 to boost your school recycling program? This grant is open again. Apply by November 15, 2016
Note: there is also a [\\$2500 to \\$10,000 Innovation Grant available](#), application due 1.20.17.



Travel the world affordably, earn professional development credit, and bring global understanding into your classroom! Founded in 2007, [Global Exploration for Educators Organization \(GEEQ\)](#) is a

501c3 non-profit organization that has sent over 1600 teachers abroad on adventurous travel programs. With GEEQ educators can earn professional development credits and optional graduate credit while seeing the world. GEEQ's trips are 7 to 21 days in length and are designed and discounted to be interesting and affordable for teachers. In addition to amazing tour leaders, many of the programs are accompanied by university faculty that are experts on the destination. . The deposit is \$250 for each program and then the final payment is due 60 days before departure.

GEEQ also provides teachers educational materials and the structure to help them bring their experiences into the classroom. The trips are open to all nationalities of K-12 and university educators, administrators, retired educators, as well as educators' guests. GEEQ is offering the following travel programs for 2016: Bali/Lombok, Bangkok to Hanoi, China, Costa Rica, Eastern Europe, The Galapagos Islands, Greece, Iceland, India/Nepal, Bhutan, Ireland, Armenia/Georgia, Italy, Multi-Stan, Antarctica, Morocco, Myanmar (Burma),

Peruvian Amazon, Peruvian Andes, Southern Africa, Vietnam/Cambodia, Balkans and, a Mt. Kilimanjaro climb. The registration deadline is June 1st, but space is limited and many programs will be full well before the deadline.

Detailed information about each trip, including itineraries, costs, travel dates, and more can be found at www.geeo.org. GEEQ can be reached 7 days a week, toll-free at 1-877-600-0105 between 9 AM-9 PM EST.



Population Education's *World of 7 Billion* student video contest is back for the 2016-2017 school year. Would you consider helping us spread the word to Connecticut environmental educators? The contest is open to all high school and middle school students and the deadline for submissions is February 23th, 2017. We're hoping that by giving teachers enough lead time, they'll be able to incorporate the contest into their syllabi. Participating teachers can receive free curriculum resources and the student winners receive cash prizes.

This year's challenge:
Students will create a short video (up to 60 seconds) about human population growth that highlights one of the following global challenges:

- Climate Change
- Ocean Health
- Rapid Urbanization

***All videos must include a) how population growth impacts the issue, and b) at least one idea for a sustainable solution.**

We are happy to send copies of our [contest flyer](#) for you to share with environmental education teachers. Below you'll also find a short blurb to include in your newsletter, sent out on your ListServ, or included in any other NAAEE outreach.

We are looking forward to the videos students from Connecticut create. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Thanks for your help,

Katie Luoma

Population Education Fellow

World of 7 Billion: www.Worldof7Billion.org

Population Education: www.PopulationEducation.org

Earthwatch Teach Earth USA Fellowships:

Extraordinary Teachers, Inspiration in the Classroom



Teach Earth is built upon the principle that every individual can contribute to a sustainable planet, regardless of scientific background or skill. Each year, we select talented teachers from all subject areas to work side by side with world-class scientists on field research expeditions

around the world. From the edge of the Arctic to the coast of Maine, these teachers collect data on climate change, ecology, wildlife, and more. Teachers have the opportunity to learn the scientific process first hand and help to solve some of the world's most pressing environmental challenges. Teachers return to the classroom with new perspectives and knowledge, invigorated and inspired to share the experience of real discovery with their students..

Interested in learning more? Click on

<http://earthwatch.org/education/teacher-fellowships/teach-earth-united-states>

In response to concerns about the date,
we have moved the date and location of the

Eastern Regional Event
to
Sunday, April 9
at
Goodwin College, East Hartford

The dates and locations of all the other Regional Events will remain the same.



[CLICK HERE](#) for a CLEAR, SHARP PDF file of this information

Regional Events Info After competing in a Local Invention Convention, selected students must then be registered for the Regional Event DATE REGIONAL LOCATION SCHOOLS IN THESE COUNTIES REGISTER BY 3/25 Southern Quinnipiac Univ, Hamden New Haven & Middlesex 3/18 4/1 Western Western CT S.U., Danbury Fairfield & Litchfield 3/25 4/8 Central Goodwin College, E Hartford Hartford 4/1 4/9 Eastern Goodwin College, E Hartford Tolland, Windham & New London 4/1 *NEW DATE & LOCATION a. Student must be registered in the Regional Event for your school before the Register By date. b. Your students must attend the Regional Event of the counties where your school is located. You cannot change the Regional Event they attend. c. Students must participate in a Regional Event before they can be invited to the CIC Finals on April 29, 2017. d. Teachers or parents must register students and pay \$20 per student, paid by Credit Card. e. If school is paying by invoice, then teachers must register the student, and forward the invoice to their billing office for prompt payment. Student registration fees must be paid before students can attend the Regional Event. f. Unpaid entrants will not be allowed to participate. Please plan for this expense and the payment process in advance. g. At the Regional Events, inventors will receive CIC Regional shirt, Certificate of Participation and other goodies, and will participate in Judging Circles just like they will at the CIC Finals. h. More detailed information about the location, schedule and activities at the Regionals will be sent later.

Understanding Ebola Virus Disease

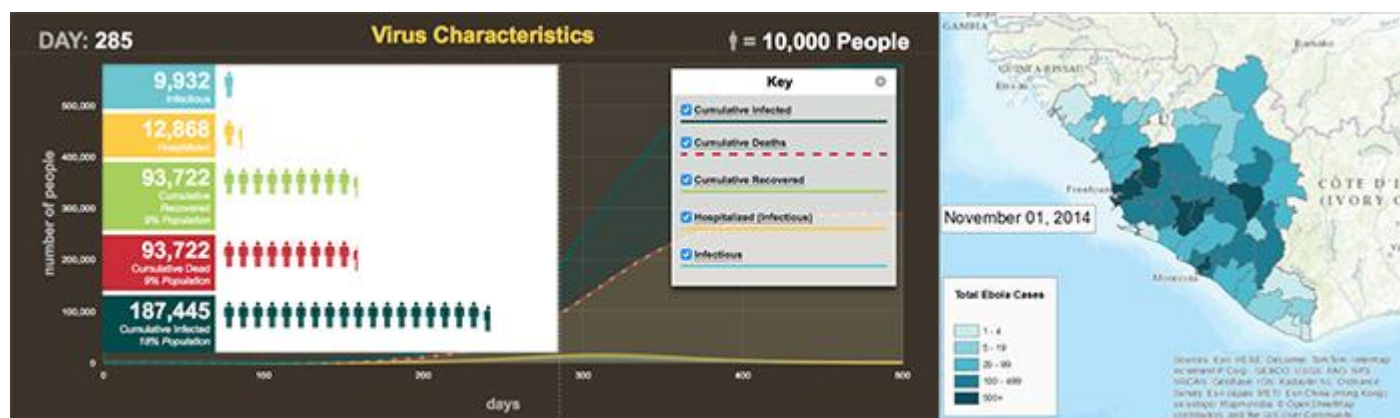
This free, digital learning resource for teachers, students, and the general public lets the user explore important factors that contribute to the spread of Ebola and discover how these factors can interact to produce an epidemic.

The *Understanding Ebola Virus Disease* resource is composed of the following sections and includes an optional knowledge survey.

- Introduction
- Modeling Disease
 - Ebola Virus Characteristics
 - Medical Response to the Ebola Outbreak

- Putting the Virus Model Together
- Mapping Disease
 - Ebola and Population Density
 - Locating Treatment Centers
- About the Project

Access the [Understanding Ebola Virus Disease](#) resource



NGSS K-8 Evidence Statements Now Available The NGSS Evidence Statements for elementary grades (K-5) and middle grades (6-8) are now available. These statements were developed and reviewed by educators and scientists, including many members of the NGSS writing team. The evidence statements are intended to identify clear, measurable components that, if met, fully satisfy each performance expectation (PE) described within the NGSS. Given that each PE is three-dimensional, the statements describe how students can use the practices, crosscutting concepts, and disciplinary core ideas together to demonstrate proficiency on the PEs by the end of instruction. They are not meant to limit or dictate instruction and were written to allow for multiple methods and contexts of performance, including students' performance on multiple related PEs together at the same time.

For more information, see the Introduction and Overview, which applies to the evidence statements for all grade levels. Additional materials, including appendices for K-2, 3-5, and middle school are coming soon.

AN IMPORTANT LINK FOR EDUCATORS TO VISIT FOR INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF SCIENCE STANDARDS IN CONNECTICUT: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2683&Q=333862>



What Is Science Matters? Science Matters is an initiative by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) to bring content, news, and information that supports quality science education to parents and teachers nationwide. Science Matters builds on the success of the Building a Presence for Science program, first launched in 1997 as an e-networking initiative to assist teachers of science with professional development opportunities. Building a Presence for Science—now Science Matters—reaches readers in 34 states and the District of Columbia. Why does Science Matter? Science is critical to understanding the world around us. Most Americans feel that they received a good education and that their children will as well. Unfortunately, not many are aware that international tests show that American students are simply not performing well in science when compared to students in other countries. Many students (and their parents!) believe that science is irrelevant to their lives. Innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy, and this innovation depends on a solid knowledge base in science, math, and engineering. All jobs of the future will require a basic understanding of math and science. The most recent ten year employment projections by the U.S. Labor Department show that of the 20 fastest growing occupations projected for 2014, 15 of them require significant mathematics or science preparation to successfully compete for a job. This is why Science Matters. Quality learning experiences in the sciences—starting at an early age—are critical to science literacy and our future workforce. Feel free to publish this information in school newsletters and bulletins, and share it with other parents, teachers, and administrators.