

## Questions in the Chat Log – Webinar #2

### Introductions

- Natalie K. James, Brenham ISD Outdoor Education, Brenham, Texas [njames@brenhamk-12.net](mailto:njames@brenhamk-12.net)  
@NatalieKJames
- Mirit Friedman, Visitor Services, National Park Service - Chattahoochee River,  
[Mirit\\_friedman@nps.gov](mailto:Mirit_friedman@nps.gov)
- Paul Overy, Ontario Ministry of Education, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Allison from Forests Ontario
- Vijaya Hogan, WKKF, Battle Creek, Michigan
- Clifton C. Esteban, Habi Education Lab Co-Founder, <http://habieducationlab.org>,  
[clifton@habieducationlab.org](mailto:clifton@habieducationlab.org), Manila, Philippines
  - Further comment: Hi guys. What a great pool of people. My team and I work on making and measuring learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom in the Philippines. Let's connect! [clifton@habieducationlab.org](mailto:clifton@habieducationlab.org)
- Marilyn Wyzga from the NH Children in Nature Coalition. Our leadership team took on network mapping and several other exercises from the book when we met in June
- Magda Hernandez, WKKF, Mexico City
- Janice Furchner from Ontario Canada
- Mélissa Greene from GUEPE, Montreal, we do in class workshop, field trips, day camp, summer camps... and many more! [melissagreene@guepe.qc.ca](mailto:melissagreene@guepe.qc.ca)
- Rachel, Volunteer Coordinator for Coalition for the Upper South Platte, Colorado
- Brenda Plakans, the Development Director from Welty Environmental Center in Beloit, WI
- Cathy Wilmeth, Nature Rocks Homer - Homer, Alaska
- Naomi Law from the Cayman Islands, Community Development Project Manager, for Dart Enterprises
- Andrea Welz - ECE program - Sault College.
  - Further comment: I am interested in connecting with people who are connecting children with nature in early years programs and in ECE training programs. My email address [awelz@shaw.ca](mailto:awelz@shaw.ca) and location: Sault Ste. Marie, ON
- Diane Offutt from Owls Crossing Ranch in Pleasanton, CA
- Briane Willis, nature program specialist at The Meadows Center in San Marcos, TX
- Mary Jo Grieve Ready To Learn Project Manager PBS KIDS
- Tammie McCole, CM University Early Education, Grand Junction, Co
- Ted Allen, south east New Mexico. Lincoln County Juvenile Justice Board and the Assurance Home
- Samantha Pitts, Pickering Creek Audubon Center MD
- Chantelle from Halton Green Screens in Ontario Canada
- Paige Engelbrektsson, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust in southwestern NC

- Sara Wilson of Mayes Wilson & Associates. I'm work with nonprofit boards in the conservation and nature center world. I'm also on the board of the Urban Ecology Center in Milwaukee WI
- Jessica Miller, Naturalist at Mosquito Hill Nature Center in New London, WI
- Jennifer Gasperini, Voyageur Outward Bound, Minneapolis, MN [jennifer.gasperini@vobs.org](mailto:jennifer.gasperini@vobs.org)
- Tom Neppl, Landscape Architect and Senior Lecturer in Landscape Architecture at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa
- Ramsha Ahmed Program Coordinator for the Greening Sacred Spaces Program in Halton Peel, Ontario, Canada. [greeningsacredspaces.net](http://greeningsacredspaces.net), [rahmed@faithcommongood.org](mailto:rahmed@faithcommongood.org)
- Elizabeth Boileau, graduate student. Winnipeg, MB
- Lisa McGurk, Dayton, Ohio Site Director for Notre Dame AmeriCorps, [dayton@ndmva.org](mailto:dayton@ndmva.org)
- Lisa Gordon, Programs & Events Coordinator, Asst. Director at the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center in Fort Davis, TX
- Melody Alcazar, Dallas Zoo & Texas Children in Nature - North Texas
- David Cohen, The Intertwine Alliance, Portland, OR [www.theintertwine.org](http://www.theintertwine.org)
- Jeff Falyn & Lyndsay Dawkins Nature's Theater Using stories Outdoor stories to connect children with Nature
- Jodi Schwarzer, Girl Scouts of the USA
- Cheryl Charles, Children & Nature Network, [cheryl@childrenandnature.org](mailto:cheryl@childrenandnature.org)
- Barb McKean, Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington Ontario
- Jim McHardy
- Amy Spark, piloting some new outdoor programs at Telus Spark Science Centre in Calgary, Alberta
- Andrea Donnell, Ontario, Canada. ECE educator and higher education instructor
- Karen Knight, volunteer & advocate for the Living Building & Living Community Challenge (ILFI), Shoal Creek Conservancy and Families in Nature, Austin, Texas
- James Allen, father and developmental and cultural psychologist at Trent University Durham in Oshawa, Ontario. I'm interested in work connecting children with nature and cultural traditions on the land. [jamesallen2@trentu.ca](mailto:jamesallen2@trentu.ca)
- Victoria F. Serna, Natural Leader and Diversity Engagement Coordinator in Dallas-Fort Worth for Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., [victoria.serna@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:victoria.serna@tpwd.texas.gov)
- Lydia Martin, Director of Education - Lancaster County Conservancy, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- Alex MacDonald, Senior Conservation Program Manager and national manager for NatureHood (Ottawa Ontario), Nature Canada's collaborative program to connect urban Canadians to nearby nature. [amacdonald@naturecanada.ca](mailto:amacdonald@naturecanada.ca)
- Kate Morgan: just joining from Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District where I am the Outreach Program Coordinator working with EE centers
- NATALIA LUQUE: Hi, I'm from Colombia (South America) I'm here because I'm starting to build a project to connect all the marvelous natural diversity of my country as a way to help building the peace project that's actually starting today!! By signing a peace agreement with the guerrillas after more than 50 year of war. [nlukes@unal.edu.co](mailto:nlukes@unal.edu.co)

- Douglas Horvath Five Rivers MetroParks representing Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside in the Dayton Ohio area. Working on a Connection to Nature Site Certification for schools, libraries, places of worship, parks right now with great partners like Miami County Park District (Cinda Hanbuch-Pinkerton). Our group had created a board to help with support and guidance with our projects, organizing summits, networking with other state LNLI regions and organizations. Looking forward to reviewing the toolkit. [dhorvath@metroparks.org](mailto:dhorvath@metroparks.org)
- Ashley Bangsund: [abangsund@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:abangsund@vsb.bc.ca) I'm the sustainability coordinator for the Vancouver school district, and I chair a network full of non-profit groups called the Vancouver School Food Network
- Georgia Ackermann, outreach/outings volunteer Apalachicola Riverkeeper
- Judy Joyce here from Take A Kid Outdoors in Iowa, [judy@takeakidoutdoors.org](mailto:judy@takeakidoutdoors.org)
  - Tom Neppl: Judy, please send an email to [tomneppl@iastate.edu](mailto:tomneppl@iastate.edu)
- Henryk Teraszkiewicz at Audubon Bent of the River in Southbury, CT. I'm also 4E outdoor curriculum and public engagement, and ReConnect Newtown in association with the Catherine Violet Hubbard Foundation in Newtown, CT. I just finished research regarding the connection between nature and healing primary, secondary, chronic and other types of stress
  - Henryk Teraszkiewicz: Thank you! If anyone wishes to discuss Forest Healing, Nature / Traumatic Stress feel free to contact me at [hentera71@gmail.com](mailto:hentera71@gmail.com)
  - Ted Allen: Henryk...email me please...tedallen59@gmail.com
- Mary Ellen Mannix: thank you - had joined late - look forward to the slides sent as well. Would like to learn more about outdoor programs in urban areas and ECE programs. Thanks

### Shout Outs & Connections

- Paige Engelbrektsson: Lisa McGurk - shoutout for AmeriCorps! I'm serving as an AmeriCorps member at my site.
  - Lisa McGurk: Paige Engelbrektsson- Thank you for your service!
  - Paige Engelbrektsson: Lisa McGurk - thank you for making service like mine possible!
- Ted Allen: Lisa I'm using AmeriCorps NCCC in New Mexico, curious about your program...tedallen59@gmail.com...also anyone else who is linking service leadership and nature...
  - Paige Engelbrektsson: Ted Allen - you might be interested in Project GEOS in NC, which is doing just that.
  - Ted Allen: Thanks Paige...
  - Lisa McGurk: Ted Allen, my email is dayton@ndmva.org. Our website is [www.ndmva.org](http://www.ndmva.org)
  - Ted Allen: Thanks Lisa
  - Paige Engelbrektsson: Ted - Email me at [paige.hclt@earthlink.net](mailto:paige.hclt@earthlink.net)!
  - Ted Allen: thanks everyone...if you have thoughts about service-leadership, nature and justice [reform..tedallen59@gmail.com](mailto:reform..tedallen59@gmail.com)
  - Kate Morgan: Tom, let's connect and keep apprised of each other's work

- Tom Neppi: Sounds great, Kate! [tomneppi@iastate.edu](mailto:tomneppi@iastate.edu)
- Ted Allen: What a great experience to be able to share directly with people with common passion for positive action
  - Mary Roscoe: Ted, yes -- it is wonderful to hear from so many of you -- inspiring!
- Kate Morgan: would love to connect with folks here in the webinar. [kmorgan@mmsd.com](mailto:kmorgan@mmsd.com)
  - Bill Kilburn from Burlington, Ontario: Love to chat any time Kate: [bkilburn@rbg.ca](mailto:bkilburn@rbg.ca)
  - Kate Morgan: We are working with nature centers to leverage their work and our shared goals
  - Tom Neppi: Kate Morgan - we're working with a neighborhood group related to a Monarch waystation garden here in Ames, Iowa. We're just getting started but I'm interested in hearing your experiences, and others', on such projects
- Bill Kilburn: Glad you made it Doug [Horvath] - let's stay in touch!
  - Douglas Horvath: Bill we are making progress on our certification and got some great support from Richard Louv with his recent blog. Check out the links in that blog again we have updated the google forms as we advance our thinking
  - Bill Kilburn: Thanks Doug - I'll check out the links.
- Mary Helen Gillen, Pickering Creek Audubon Center in Easton, MD. [mgillen@audubon.org](mailto:mgillen@audubon.org)  
Interested in supporting collaboration on collective climate change actions (youth of all ages and adults/public) (Hi Lisa McGurk!)
  - Lisa McGurk: Hi Mary Helen!
  - Paige Engelbrektsson: Mary Helen Gillen - Have you heard of the Adirondack Youth Climate Summit? It's a great format for catalyzing conversations and action in high school and college youth. <http://www.wildcenter.org/our-work/youth-climate-summit/>
  - Melody Alcazar: Mary Helen - have you looked at NNOCCI?
  - Mary Helen Gillen: Hi Kate, Paige and Melody-- Thanks! We do have a couple trained NNOCCI staff members and we do offer some climate change messaging workshops. Trying to find ways to take the next step towards collective solutions. I'll check out the Adirondack Youth Climate Summit. Thanks!
- Jeff Faly: Victoria Serna - we have a walking Quest story called Nature Heroes where young kids learn about diversity-you can reach us at [jfaly@naturestheater.org](mailto:jfaly@naturestheater.org) Teens in costume run the outing for other kids
  - Victoria Serna: Thank you, Jeff! I will be reaching out
- NATALIA LUQUE: I'm going to start looking for people interest in helping me building the project in Colombia. My question is how to find funds to start?
  - Alison Paul: Natalia, I have a few Colombia contacts that might be useful to you. I work in Chicago at the Field Museum, managing our Youth Conservation Action programs. [apaul@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:apaul@fieldmuseum.org)
  - Alison Paul: Also, congrats to Natalia and Colombia for today's Peace Agreement signing!
  - Rachel Gurfinkel: Natalia- have you looked at grants or kickstarter? I'm interested in what you have going on! [Rachel@uppersouthplatte.org](mailto:Rachel@uppersouthplatte.org)

- Rachel Gurfinkel: Alison Paul- I'm interested in the type of programs you do! I am the Program Assistant for a watershed conservation group.
- NATALIA LUQUE: Actually I'm just starting, so thanks for the information Rachel. I took your mail
- Alison Paul: Hi Rachel - check out our programs at [www.fieldmuseum.org/yca](http://www.fieldmuseum.org/yca) and drop me a line at [apaul@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:apaul@fieldmuseum.org)

### Program Comments

- Tom Neppel: We created a draft Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights for the American Camp Association Great Rivers (represents IA, KS, MO, NE) a few years ago. We'd like to breathe new life into that initiative. I'd like to connect with those of you who have done the same. Tom Neppel - [tomneppel@iastate.edu](mailto:tomneppel@iastate.edu)
  - Bill Kilburn: Be glad to connect on this Tom! [bkilburn@rbg.ca](mailto:bkilburn@rbg.ca)
  - Lauren Garrott: Hey Tom I work with a non-profit that connects children to nature in Kansas City!
  - Tom Neppel: Thanks, Lauren! I'd like to learn more about your non-profit.
- Cathy Wilmeth: Homer, Alaska has a Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights. I'm intrigued by the Childrens Outdoor Charter. [cewilmeth@gmail.com](mailto:cewilmeth@gmail.com)
  - Bill Kilburn: Let's connect Cathy: [bkilburn@rbg.ca](mailto:bkilburn@rbg.ca)

### Content-Specific Questions

- Can you share quick tips for creating sustainable partnerships or links to resources that might have a tip-sheet? I'm developing something similar to share with some of our councils to help them strengthen adult outdoor training and programs and increase the number of outdoor experiences available to girls.
- I think, of the four types of support system, money is the most difficult to obtain. Is this normal and do you have specific suggestions on how to apply for funding?
- How do you manage liability concerns for events where anyone can show up to help?
  - Rachel Gurfinkel: Legal release forms!
  - Rachel Gurfinkel: We invite the public to various projects & have them sign a waiver for liability (minors need a signature from guardian or parent) here is our release form if this helps anyone dealing with liability - <http://volunteer.cusp.ws/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/CUSP-2016-Release-Form.pdf>
  - Alex MacDonald: Use Eventbrite or a similar tool to register people and embed a liability form
  - Barbara McKean: Have clipboards with info sheets/waivers and use them to collect email addresses so that you can maintain a connection with them
- Has anyone worked with neighborhood associations to connect them to children/nature initiatives?

- Hi, it seems that the underlying assumption is that we have individuals who are honest, committed, responsible and cooperative. This may not be the case in reality, how would you deal with those individuals who are problem makers and also want to stay in the group?
  - Choose your partners for commitment, reliability and collective thinking
- Diane Offutt: Question: who has used private property for children in nature? My goal is to give urban families the experience of being in nature on a farm with animals and wildlife. Thanks.  
Diane @ Owls Crossing Ranch
  - Natalie James: Diane, Our programs are divided between public parks, school property, and private property. What questions do you have?
  - Cathy Wilmeth: We've used private property, too
  - Lisa McGurk: Diane Offutt, you may want to check out the Learning Tree Farm in Dayton, Ohio
  - Natalie James: Diane, feel free to email me with questions. njames@brenhamk-12.net I'd love to help in any way I can!

### Commitments to Action

- Tom Nepl: I'll share these materials with colleagues, and will connect with Bill Kilburn and Lauren Garrott and Cathy Wilmeth about Outdoor Bills of Rights!
- Ted Allen: Thank you I will connect with Lisa McGurk and Paige E. related to nature and service-leadership...
- Cathy Wilmeth: Our beloved Nature Rocks Homer coordinator recently passed away. I'm trying to be the catalyst to keep the group going and continue the work she started!
- Janice Furchner: I am at the stage where I will be supporting others in their initiatives. I would like to make contact with a presenter where I can access Canadian studies on the importance of connecting children with nature. Can I have any suggestions other than the studies from the Children and Nature Network?
  - Bill Kilburn: Let's chat Janice: [bkilburn@rbg.ca](mailto:bkilburn@rbg.ca)
- Natalie James: In the process of planning a volunteer training scheduled for next month. Should be a great time to share and start the transition from do-er to coach!
- Mary Jo Grieve: Thank you all. I will share these tools with my Active RVA group!
- Carrie Seltzer: I have been listening to learn how I can better help the virtual iNaturalist community more effectively self-organize