



Happy 20th Anniversary to EEA!



Whether you're a new member, a long time member, or perhaps even one of our founding members, we all have something to celebrate as EEA kicks off its 20th year! The Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia has been serving environmental educators throughout Georgia since 1992 through conferences, workshops, grants, access to information and networking, and so much more! From a small group of dedicated members 20 years ago, EEA has grown to a statewide organization promoting a culture of environmental literacy and stewardship. EEA believes environmental education encourages inquiry, investigation, and the development of skills that enable responsible decisions and actions that impact the environment.

This is a great time to be a part of EEA! In celebration of our 20th anniversary, EEA is offering a 20% discount on individual membership dues, taking them down to \$20 in 2012. So be sure you renew your membership and encourage your co-workers, friends, and organizations to join EEA as we embark on our 20th anniversary celebration.

In addition, EEA is planning "20 Events in 2012" to celebrate all year long. We will be celebrating around the state, so find an event near you (or plan a fun excursion!) and join us to celebrate EEA's history, hear about our plans for the future, and connect with other educators.

Some of our 20th anniversary events include:

- Our annual conference in March
- An EEA Legacy Project Contest
- A river snorkling trip just for members

...And many, many more! There is something for everyone, and lots of family friendly activities, so be sure to check out the calendar at www.GaKidsInNature.com. You won't want to miss it!!



The Art and Science of Environmental Education

at the 2012 EEA Conference

March 30-31, 2012

Southwest Arts Center, Atlanta

There are two kinds of ways to know something - intellectually, with the knowledge acquired through reading, lecture, etc., and intimately, having deeply experienced it and involving your emotions.



The Theme

The idea behind the 2012 conference theme is that direct, intimate experience with nature is a crucial element to connect ourselves with our natural world. Art and the creative act of making art engages our emotions, which in turn, when combined with scientific knowledge of the subject, engages our whole selves making learning more readily retained.

Join us!

Educators from all fields are invited to attend the 2012 Annual Conference to be held on March 30-31, 2012, at the Southwest Arts

EEA Annual Conference Keynote Speaker:

Pam Longobardi, Professor of Art, Georgia State University

Pam Longobardi has had over 40 solo exhibitions and 65 group exhibitions in galleries and museums in the US, China, Italy, Spain, Finland, Poland, Japan and elsewhere. Her artworks are in numerous collections. Friday morning Pam will discuss her point of view on the synergistic intersection of art, science and activism to address global environmental problems with the specific example of her Drifters Project Initiative. She will speak about the environmental crisis of plastic pollution, her firsthand experiences, and the artwork she makes with the recovered plastic.



In her own words Pam has “worked for the past 15 years on two-dimensional paintings and works on paper, and on installations that explore the themes of the psychological relationship of humans to nature and the physical world. This two-pronged aspect to my artistic production has enabled me to have a multitude of exhibition opportunities, ranging from galleries and museums to alternative spaces and experimental art venues in the US and abroad.



“I have explored the ideas from two perspectives: the philosophical (utilizing intellect in the development of self-awareness) and the phenomenological (elevating the experiential nature of existence in furthering understanding of the work of art, and by extension, the self). I often involve elements of natural phenomenon as processes in the physical construction of my work, processes such as chemical patination, light-sensitive photo imaging, magnetism, mirror reflection, after-image, and phosphorescence.”

Pam’s first-hand experience and love of art and the environment comes through loud and clear in her work, her art, and herself. We look forward to hearing her speak at the opening of the conference! Pam will be available on Friday to sign her new book, *Drifters*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

EEA Seeks Hardworking Volunteers!

In an effort to build capacity within the Environmental Education Alliance (EEA) of Georgia and to provide more opportunities for membership involvement, the EEA Board is developing a volunteer management committee. The purpose of the committee is to help recruit volunteers to work and to provide a framework in which volunteers can effectively work on EEA initiatives. The initial focus of the committee will be to create the infrastructure to support volunteers including: identifying the needs of the organization, selecting and matching volunteers with needs, orienting and training volunteers, utilizing volunteers over time, and volunteer recognition.

We are excited to grow in the area of volunteerism, as we recognize what a valuable resource volunteers can be for organizations! Research shows us that over 62 million people volunteered in the United States last year giving a median of 52 hours of their time. Research also shows us that most people volunteer because someone in the organization asks. We hope you will consider giving some of your time and talents – consider this the first, of many, asks from EEA for new volunteers.

For more information on volunteering for EEA, contact volunteer@eealliance.org or fill out the volunteer application online at www.eealliance.org.



Individual Giving Campaign Kicks off in 2012!

Even though football season is over, we still want to score as many “touchdowns” as possible during our annual Individual Giving campaign. We are reaching out to members, volunteers, friends and family to help us improve and sustain the programs and initiatives for EEA through individual tax-deductible donations. Because of our collective vision and passion for environmental education, we support initiatives that increase public awareness, promote environmental literacy and knowledge, and heighten interest in becoming stewards of precious resources.

Why Give? Giving is a very personal decision. You may want to donate because of personal experiences that have molded your beliefs and commitment to environmental education. Or you may value the act of giving to an organization that mirrors your interests and your chosen profession or volunteer activities. Your donation supports our vision of a statewide culture of environmental literacy and stewardship.

Where does your donation go? Donations support all programs and activities of EEA such as the Outdoor Learning Symposium, Advanced Training for Environmental Education in Georgia (ATEEG), Monarchs Across Georgia (MAG), the Annual Conference, and the position of Executive Director. These programs impact hundreds of environmental education professionals and classroom teachers year after year. Donations can be made in honor or memory of someone to support EEA.

How can you help?

- Make a one-time or recurring donation at www.eealliance.org (check or credit card)
- Encourage others to participate
- Join us in seeking corporate sponsors
- Seek foundation partners



Giving is just one click away: Go to www.eealliance.org to click on the GIVE button and follow the prompts. It's as easy as that and only takes a minute. You will receive an email confirmation of your donation for tax deduction purposes.

SAVE THE DATE

COUNCIL OF
OUTDOOR
LEARNING

OUTDOOR LEARNING
SYMPOSIUM

September 21, 2012

Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center

Visit our website for more information
www.eealliance.org/outdoor-learning-symposium

ATEEG Announces 2012 Course Dates

Advanced Training for Environmental Education in Georgia (ATEEG) is offering the following courses in 2012:

Core Course 3: Assessment and Evaluation
February 24-26. Registration deadline February 14.

Core Course 1: Foundations of EE
June 15-17. Early bird registration through May 25.
Registration deadline June 5.

Core Course 2: Fostering Learning
July 27-29. Early bird registration through July 6.
Registration deadline July 17.

Core Course 3: Assessment and Evaluation
September 28-30. Early bird registration through
September 7. Registration deadline September 18.

All courses will be held at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center in Mansfield, Georgia.

For more information about ATEEG and to register, visit <http://www.eealliance.org/advanced-training-for-ee>.

EEA Annual Conference

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Center in Atlanta. Anyone who wishes to integrate the arts into scientific or nature related lessons will benefit from our wonderful assemblage of sessions. Or, if the goal is to “green” an art, drama, language arts, or other class, we will also have sessions with ideas about how to incorporate research-based environmental education into lesson plans.

One needn't be an artist or a scientist to benefit from the sessions and workshops we will be offering. Session leaders will guide attendees on how to lead students through the process of self-expression through art and how to balance the delivery of background knowledge with the hands-on artistic portion of the lesson.

Registration

Early bird registration is open now and is only \$105 for EEA members and \$125 for new or renewing members. After March 2, 2012, the price will increase by \$10. The registration fee includes full access to the conference: Friday breakfast and lunch, Friday sessions, the Friday Afternoon Social, awards ceremony, silent auction, Saturday breakfast and lunch, your choice of a workshop or field trip on Saturday morning, and the service project.

Friday Sessions

Myriad subjects will be addressed in the classes offered on Friday, including the art and science of EE, the philosophy of EE, program development, and hands-on EE programs. Instructors will come from a diversity of backgrounds, including college professors, naturalists, and professional artists. There will be something for everyone!

Saturday Activities

On Saturday attendees will have the choice of participating in a workshop or taking a field trip from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Mixed media painting, botanical illustration, paper-making, and a Project WET facilitator refresher are the workshops being offered. Field trips include a live bat presentation at Cochran Mill Nature Center, Boulderling demonstrations at the Boat Rock Preserve, and a farm tour with Rashid Nuri from the Truly Living Well Center for Natural Urban Agriculture. How to choose?!? After lunch you are invited to give thanks to the SW Arts Center for being such a wonderful host to us by participating in the service project.

As always, EEA plans to make the conference as “green” as possible. Attendees will bring their own re-usable tote bags, water bottles, and coffee mugs to cut down on waste. We will also offer free electronics recycling, including TV's, for all conference participants.

**To register or learn more about the conference,
visit our website at www.eealliance.org.**

The State Environmental Education Awards are now Accepting Nominations!



Do you know of an awesome educator, formal or non-formal, who deserves an award for all the hard work they have contributed to environmental education? Now's the time to make sure he or she gets recognized!

On Friday, March 30, 2012 the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia and its conference supporters will recognize and honor exceptional contributions to environmental education at an awards ceremony at the Southwest Arts Center in Atlanta, Georgia.

Nominations are now being accepted through February 14, 2012 for the following categories:

***Eugene Odum Lifetime Achievement
Award***

***Outstanding Service to Environmental
Education by an Individual***

***Outstanding Service to Environmental
Education by an Organization***

Pre K-16 Formal Educator of the Year.

Please visit <http://www.eealliance.org/awards> for more information about eligibility, awards criteria, and to fill out an online nomination form.

Friday Night Festivities at the Annual Conference!

Come together with your fellow EEA members to enjoy good food and great company as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of EEA with the presentation of the 2012 State EE Awards, door prizes, the silent auction, a special art exhibit, and a party! The Friday social which has traditionally been held in the evening will be held earlier in the afternoon, from 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

The Awards

The statewide EEA awards are presented each year at the annual conference. Awards will be given by EEA in the following four categories: Dr. Eugene Odum Lifetime Achievement, Outstanding Service to Environmental Education by an Individual, Outstanding Service to Environmental Education by an Organization, and PreK-16 Formal Educator of the Year. Other awards will also be presented by Monarchs Across Georgia, Project WET, and DNR.

The Party

EEA is celebrating 20 years! And in fine EEA tradition, we are putting our own

twist to the traditional 20th anniversary gift of china. Instead of giving you china, we are putting an international spin on things and giving you a China party, complete with traditional Chinese games, foods, and decorations!

The Auction

Fabulous items are up for bid at our silent auction, but watch out... someone will sneak in a higher bid when you aren't looking! Bids close at 5:30 pm so that you can pick up your items before the end of the Social. Remember, all proceeds from the silent auction are used to fund conference scholarships!

The Exhibit

The Southwest Arts Center will open a special exhibit in honor of the conference. The exhibit is entitled "Occupy: Repossessing Our Planet", and is an environmentally conscious exhibition in which artists express their love and devotion to the perseverance of the planet. The work in this exhibit, on display March 30 through April 20 in

the Performance Theater and Gallery, either supports the efforts in its content or was created with recycled material or both. One special piece in the exhibit by artists Brian Hebert and Brian Walker, entitled "Keyboards Don't Slay Lions on the Serengeti", addresses global issues and society's



dependency on technology. The yin and yang symbol of balance is disguised as a planet with one side representing technology and the other representing nature. Nature and technology are at odds, so robot arms were used to attack nature and vines to attack technology. Within the piece each side incorporates elements that are opposite of one another.

Donate Auction Items to Benefit EEA!

EEA is seeking donations for our silent auction to be held at the annual conference! Auction proceeds will provide scholarships for classroom teachers and other environmental educators to attend future conferences. The success of this fundraiser depends on the kindness of friends of environmental education like you! We are seeking donations from businesses, but we also need donations from our dedicated co-workers. For example, you can donate your:

- TALENTS: an item of your own creation...arts, crafts, bird houses, bird feeders, yard art, baked goods, jellies, candies, etc.
- TICKETS: to any sporting event, cultural event, or to a theme park, museum, zoo, comedy club, or anything fun!
- TRIPS: a relaxing stay at a beach, lake or mountain cabin, resort or condo.
- TIME: perform a service such as yard work, a computer check-up, a garden consultation, etc. Offer to teach a program or speak to a classroom. Give a "how to" lesson on anything from baking bread to painting, fly-fishing, whatever. (Make your own gift certificate or fill out one of ours.)

Still can't think of just the right thing to donate? The EEA auction committee will gladly accept monetary donations to be used to purchase special items to complete auction packages. (Make checks payable to "EEA".)

To donate, please download a donation form online at <http://www.eealliance.org/assets/Documents/conference2012/donationrequest2012.pdf>. Donations will be accepted until March 16, 2012.

Other Opportunities

National Green Ribbon Schools Offering \$10,000 Prize!



The U.S. Department of Education's National Green Ribbon Schools program seeks to showcase schools that have made progress in three pillars of green school activity: 1) optimal efficiency in energy, water and waste management; 2) healthy students and school environment; and 3) environmental education. The Turner Foundation has generously pledged \$10,000 for the school or schools who are recognized with a National DOE Green Ribbon. Public and private schools in Georgia can complete the application at <http://www.usgbcga.org/green-schools/green-ribbon-schools>. Applications are due February 24. For questions about the application process or program, please contact Keisha Ford-Jenrette at kford@gadoe.org or (404) 657-2949.

Georgia Association of Marine Educators Retreat



Join the Georgia Association of Marine Education (GAME) members for the annual weekend retreat on Sapelo Island, April 20-23, 2012! Become immersed in the field work of coastal and marine scientists involved in Georgia Coastal Ecosystems Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) on Sapelo Island, July 8-13, 2012. For more information on the GCE LTER Schooyard Program, go to <http://gce-lter.marsci.uga.edu/public/education/schooyard/schooyard.htm> or contact venetiabutler@bellsouth.net

2012 Green Eggs and Sand Horsehoe Crab Teacher Workshops

The Green Eggs & Sand workshop, co-sponsored by Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve (SINERR), will take place May 4 - May 6. Interspersed with expert presenters on horseshoe crabs (HSCs), shorebirds, biomedical use of HSCs, and HSC management, are sessions that explore the NEW 2012 GE&S curriculum and provide demonstrations of the rich assortment of hands-on activities it offers. A site visit to view spawning horseshoe crabs is a special highlight of the weekend. Six partial scholarships (\$50 off the \$75 registration fee) are available! E-mail Dodie Sanders at sandersd@uga.edu with questions or for registration forms.

Georgia Coastal Ecosystems Summer Workshop

The Georgia Coastal Ecosystems Long Term Ecological Research Program (GCE-LTER) studies changes caused by climate change, sea level rise, and human alterations of the landscape. The GCE Schooyard Program provides critical in-service training for K-12 educators in field ecology, immersing science and math teachers in hands-on research activities to enable them to bring lessons and research data back to the classroom. The 2012 summer workshop will run from July 8-13, 2012. For more information, please visit the GCE Schooyard Program website at <http://gce-lter.marsci.uga.edu/> or email Travis Douce at tdouce@uga.edu.



**Environmental
Education
Alliance
of Georgia**



EEA works to promote environmental education by providing opportunities for members, schools, organizations, and the general public to get involved through the annual EEA conference, Outdoor Learning Symposium, Butterfly Symposium, and other special events.

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