

NOVEMBER 2022



## NEWSLETTER

Updates on the SEEA Affiliate Network

# SEEA Project Updates

## Landscape Analysis

Phase 2 of the Landscape Analysis is technically done. Some states didn't reach the goal of 100 participants so those states keep trying to get teachers to answer the survey. It will be left open for a little while.



2023 SEEA Conference  
Hosted by TEEA  
at  
Falls Creek Falls State Park

## Upcoming Events

Nov. 30th - Dec. 1st.  
KAEE Annual  
Conference

June 21-24, 2023  
EEASC Conference



WE WANT TO GIVE A BIG SHOUT OUT TO GEORGIA  
FOR HAVING SUCH A GREAT CONFERENCE IN A  
BEAUTIFUL PLACE. IT WAS BOTH EDUCATIONAL  
AND SOUL REJUVENATING!



The Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA) is a network of state affiliates of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) located in the southeastern United States. Member states include AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN. SEEA offers a regional conference and provides networking and professional development opportunities for the southeastern states.

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## *NEWSLETTER*

Updates on the SEEA Affiliate Network

### *NAAEE Updates*



#### **Thank You for Joining Us at NAAEE 2022!**

We are grateful for the thoughtful resources, enlightening ideas, and rich discussions your work and presence generated at this year's gathering. NAAEE strives to provide the best experience possible for those attending the NAAEE Annual Conference and Research Symposium. Share feedback on your experience at the NAAEE 2022 in-person and virtual Conference and Research Symposium by taking our survey.

<https://eeepro.naaee.org/eeepro/blog/naaee-2022-thats-wrap-please-share-your>

#### **New Affiliate Fund: Call for Advisors**

Affiliate leaders are needed to help inform a new Affiliate Fund at NAAEE. We anticipate engaging approximately 8 individuals, including Affiliate leaders to advise the design of an RFP and serve as reviewers for funding requests.

March 17

**naaee**  
Affiliate Network

Event





## *NAAEE Updates*

### WEBINARS

The Blueberry Awards: Children's books that can change the world

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 1:30ET

Hosted by: NAAEE Natural Start Alliance, Registration is Free!

More information and to register: <https://eeepro.naaee.org/eeepro/learning/webinars/blueberry-awards-childrens-books-can>

This webinar will explore the books that make up the 2021 Blueberry Award winner, honors, and changemakers. We'll be looking into what makes a children's book about nature stand out, how books written for young children are exploring nature connection, sustainability, and environmental stewardship, and why that matters.

### ONLINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

What We Have Learned Since 2020: Understanding our students in the here and now

Sunday, January 15, 2023, from 1-3:30pm ET

Hosted By: Community Works Institute, Registration: \$149

More information and to register: <https://eeepro.naaee.org/eeepro/learning/workshops-training/what-we-have-learned-2020-understanding>

This interactive virtual workshop, led by veteran educators and national leaders, will help us reflect on this new reality and model new approaches to our understanding of our students' needs. We will unpack the layered impact of the last two years on students, from kindergarten through college. We will look at practical and pragmatic tools and strategies to support our students.

We updating the eePRO website, and we need your help. Please check your account and confirm that your email address and username are current.



**Connect with the Affiliate Network:** [Jump on board with the Affiliate Network eePro group to improve our effectiveness and build a stronger and more unified voice for EE.](#)

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## reports from the SEEA Affiliates

### ALABAMA

#### ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA (EEAA)

Toni Bruner and Kimberly Murray, EEAA Board Members, attended the SEEA conference at Unicoi State Park and Lodge in Helen, GA. This was held in conjunction with EEA's 30th Anniversary Conference, September 29 - October 1. The annual SEEA conference provides a unique opportunity for educators to learn from leaders in the field and network with hundreds of education professionals. The conference had a variety of field trips, workshops, and presenters that were informative and educational. We wanted to send out a huge thank you to everyone at the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia for hosting a premier conference for environmental educators across the southeast.





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reports from the SEEA Affiliates

## FLORIDA

### LEAGUE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS IN FLORIDA (LEEF)

LEEF welcomed its first full time staff member, Trina Hofreiter, who started her role as LEEF's Development and Outreach Manager just as Hurricane Ian arrived to make history across the State. Trina has a Master's in Environmental Education from the University of Florida with Dr. Martha Monroe and a background in developing and evaluating EE programs for The Nature Conservancy, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Disney's Animal Kingdom, Florida Ag in the Classroom and Leu Gardens. Trina has a passion for community, school and therapeutic garden programs, loves building networks of support, and has done a fair amount of successful grant writing, too. After digging out from under both hurricanes, Trina is happy to have joined LEEF's Board and is looking forward to all of the projects on the horizon.



Right now, LEEF is working on building a database of Climate Resilience and Watershed education materials for use as a resource for our members and supporters. This digital collection will support the work of a new statewide Advisory Council we're forming, comprised of EE professionals and champions across Florida who will help bring more resources and opportunities in climate literacy and watershed education to K-12 students. This is a 2 year NOAA B-WET grant that we see developing into a multi-year statewide partnership - and the timing is perfect, as Hurricanes Ian and Nicole reminded us.

In lieu of our Fall Mini-Conference, LEEF decided to create a Day of Service initiative to support our members in rebuilding after the storms. We asked our members to nominate one EE provider in each of 10 regions - those Environmental Education centers will be highlighted in a special newsletter and social media post next week, and members encouraged to donate and/or contribute a day of volunteering, to help in the cleanup efforts. LEEF is also looking forward to expanding our fundraising support and membership offerings, including more professional development opportunities.



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reports from the SEEA Affiliates

## GEORGIA

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ALLIANCE OF GEORGIA (EEA)

### Conference Highlights

**The Environmental Education Alliance was happy to host the SEEA Conference and Research Symposium in the north Georgia mountains at the end of September. More than 125 people from eight southeastern states participated in field trips and workshops, attended sessions, celebrated awardees, hiked and kayaked at Unicoi State Park, and visited OktoberFest in nearby Helen.**



**We were honored to have three inspiring keynote speakers: climate change expert Jairo Garcia, Greening Youth Foundation CEO Lesford Duncan, and EPA Region 4 Administrator Daniel Blackman. Many thanks to all the researchers, presenters, and speakers who did a fantastic job leading conference sessions. Of the 157 session evaluations received, the average rating was 9.6 out of 10.**



**Thanks also to the silent auction donors, whose contributions made it possible to replenish the conference scholarship fund. EEA is also very grateful to sponsors 2nd Nature Trec, Little Otter Skincare, Soil3, Lowe Engineers, Acorn Naturalist, The Outdoor Learning Store for making it possible to keep conference registration costs low.**

**We are already looking forward to next year's SEEA Conference, to be held at Fall Creek Falls State Park in Tennessee on September 21-24, 2023.**



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reports from the SEEA Affiliates

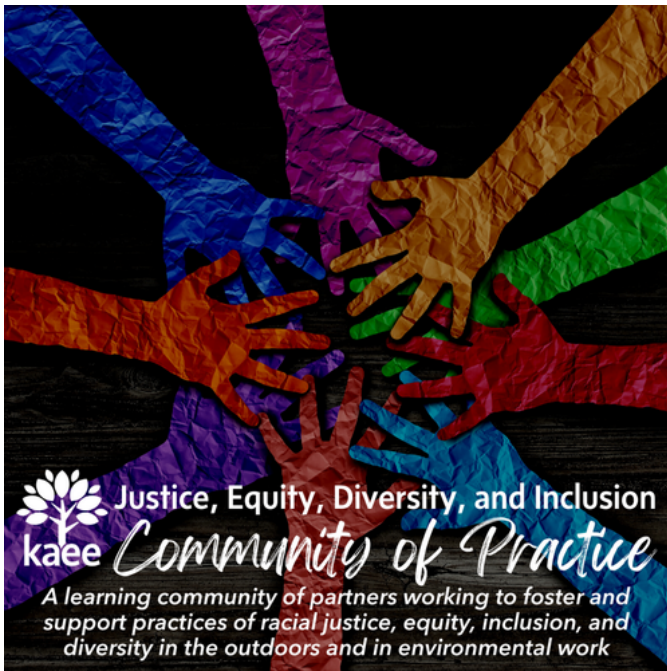
## KENTUCKY

KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
EDUCATION (KAEE)



### KAEE Annual Conference

The 46th Annual KAEE Conference will be held at the Historic Boone Tavern and Berea College on Wednesday, November 30, and Thursday, December 1, with pre-conference tours and workshops on Tuesday, November 29. We expect between 150-180 attendees for three days of learning, connection, and fun!



### Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Community of Practice

In mid-November we launched our new JEDI Community of Practice, a learning community of individuals working to foster and support practices of justice, equity, inclusion, and diversity in the outdoors and in environmental work. Our next meeting will be held on Zoom on Jan. 12. All are invited!



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reports from the SEEA Affiliates

## KENTUCKY

KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
EDUCATION (KAEE)

### New Board of Directors

We welcomed four new board members to our team this fall and had a wonderful board retreat in early November.

### Strategic Plan

At our fall board meeting, our board of directors approved our Strategic Plan for 2023-2025. We will share the plan with our community at our upcoming conference and more widely in the coming months.



End-of-Year Giving  
Campaign Under Way  
Our end-of-year giving  
campaign is under way with  
a goal of raising \$20,000.





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## MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ALLIANCE (MEEA)



The MEEA Board met at the Hattiesburg zoo to talk about our Needs Assessment that Dave Chase did for us. Out of that discussion 5 summit meetings were planned for late January and early February to network with other EE providers in the state.



The MEEA website is open for business!  
[www.meeainms.org](http://www.meeainms.org)  
Check it out



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## NORTH CAROLINA

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS OF NORTH CAROLINA (EENC)

### Upcoming Events for EENC

- Accessibility in Outdoor Learning (Outdoor Learning Store Webinar)  
Tue, November 29, 2022 7:00 PM Virtual
- 12th Annual Nonformal Educators Meeting (Hosted by DPI + NC Office of EE) Thu, December 08, 2022 9:00 AM
- Behind the Scenes Tour of the WNC Nature Center  
Sat, December 10, 2022 1:00 PM. WNC Nature Center 75 Gashes Creek Road, Asheville, NC 28805

EENC offers workshops, webinars, trainings, social events and more throughout the year!

Find upcoming events and register for specific opportunities on our calendar page. <https://eenc.org>

**EENC Now on  
Twitter!**

*Tweeting isn't just  
for the birds.*



Follow

@EENC\_online



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reports from the SEEA Affiliates

## SOUTH CAROLINA

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA (EEASC)



### EEASC Annual Conference

2023 Conference

EEASC's 2023 conference will be held June 21-24, 2023, at the Penn Center on St. Helena Island, SC. The conference theme is **Inclusivitee: Environmental Education for Everyone.**

### Mini-Grants

EEASC has awarded three mini-grants to members:

- Sarah Rubin, \$1,000 for a Professional Development grant for Project Wild and Aquatic Wild Training for Teachers
- David Cann, \$500 for a Service Project Grant to establish a blue bird trail, enhancing the habitat with native plants, and building a greenhouse
- Stephanie Eidt, \$500 for a Service Project Grant for a School Garden with Raised Beds

### SEEA Conference

- Five EEASC representatives attended the 2022 SEEA Conference at Unicoi State Park in Georgia and had a wonderful time networking and learning from our colleagues throughout the region!

### Landscape Analysis – Phase II

- SC has recruited 88 survey responses and looks forward to the results of the Phase II Analysis.

### Recent Events

- Western Section Meetup at Greenville Zoo
- October Midlands+ Meetup at Walther Farms
- Green Steps School Gathering
- EEASC Eastern Section and SCMEA Meetup:  
Folly Finds and Fish Printing
- November Midlands+ Meetup
- Roper Mountain Planetarium – Private Planetarium Show





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## TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION (TEEA)



2023 SEEA Conference  
Falls Creek Falls State Park  
Check it out!





[SEEA Website](#)

[2021 SEEA Leadership Team Roster](#)

[SEEA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021](#)

ZOOM Video Conferencing available to all SEEA States if needed. Please email Ashley (director@kaee.org) to request date/time.

### Resources from NAAEE and the Affiliate Network

[eePRO Affiliate Group](#) (NAAEE membership is not required for most eePRO resources)

[EE Research Bulletins \(EERBs\)](#)

[eePRO Research & Evaluation group](#)

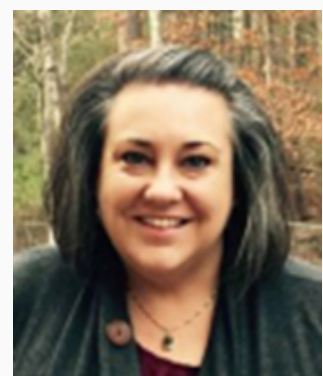
[NAAEE's Research Programs](#)

[Children and Nature Network's Research](#)

[Applying Systems Thinking for Our Affiliates Webinar](#)

[EENC's Environmental Education is Essential Document](#)

# SEEA Executive Leadership Team



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**ANSLEY EICHHORN**  
**Leadership Team Chair**  
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**DEB VEEDER**  
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**RENEE STRNAD**  
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