

2003

Environmental Education Awards



caee colorado alliance for environmental education

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CH2MHILL

CAEE is grateful for the wonderful bluegrass music provided by **The Woody Johnson Trio.**

CAEE would also like to thank the volunteer members of the 2003 Awards Committee:

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Patty Breece, Manitou Springs Middle School

Roxanne Brickell-Reardon, Colorado State Parks — Eldorado Canyon

Susan Buhr, Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences,
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Stacie Gilmore, Environmental Learning for Kids

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Wendy Hanophy, Colorado Division of Wildlife

Karin Hostetter, Interpret This

Gwen Pratt

Jeff Rucks, Colorado Division of Wildlife — Project WILD

Diane Simmons, Colorado Academy

Janna Six, Consultant



Enos Mills Lifetime Achievement Award

Shawna Crocker

Shawna Crocker has served the EE community for the last 30 years as a science and environmental educator in Colorado and across the world, educating pre-school children through adults in formal, non-formal, public and private settings, including time with the Peace Corps in Swaziland. For the last ten years, as the state Project Learning Tree (PLT) Coordinator for the Colorado State Forest Service, Shawna's main focus has been maintaining a facilitator network and training 500-700 teachers per year to effectively use PLT and other EE materials in the classroom. Truly a leader, motivator, and innovator, Shawna was quick to recognize the potential and importance of fire education – and was already making it an integral part of her PLT program several years before the terrible forest fires ravaged the state during 2000-2002.

Yet, these tangible accomplishments do not fully represent what makes Shawna an exemplary environmental educator. The real story of Shawna Crocker is her passion, spirit, leadership and determination. She continuously strives to improve her programs, but also spends significant time working to advance the entire EE field, for example in supporting CAEE activities, and serving on the state EE Advisory Council. She helped develop many innovative projects including the Green City Project and two annual Fire Ecology Institutes. She set a precedent in receiving the first science grant from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District in 1991, and as a result many nature centers now receive funding. She plans and presents at education conferences around the state, always on the lookout for new opportunities for networking or partnering with others in the EE community. Often, it seems there must be several Shawna clones working during evenings and weekends.

Shawna is a native Coloradan certainly making a major impact in our state and community, but also makes time for those in need elsewhere on the planet. This fall, she traveled to Zambia to conduct the first PLT, WET, and WILD workshops in Africa for Peace Corps volunteers who will use EE in schools and game parks. We salute her for her innovative sense of leadership.

Shawna is a role model and mentor for many in the field, and an inspiration to us all.

Project Learning Tree

Sponsored by Colorado State Forest Service

PLT uses the forest as a “window” on the world to increase students’ understanding of our environment; stimulate students’ critical and creative thinking; develop students’ ability to make informed decisions on environmental issues; and instill in students the commitment to take responsible action on behalf of the environment.

Enos Mills Award

This award for significant achievement is named after Enos Mills, “founder” of Rocky Mountain National Park and is presented by CAEE each year to an individual for long-term, outstanding achievements and contributions to environmental education (EE). Enos Mills spent his life discovering and experiencing nature, and working tirelessly to preserve it, by sharing its benefits with others through guiding, writing and photographs. Like Enos Mills, the award recipient has demonstrated leadership and commitment to the field of EE through a significant body of work.



Shawna in her element leading a group of facilitators.



Shawna working with the next generation of environmental educators.



Shawna leading a PLT activity in Zambia.



Shawna Crocker

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Non-Profit Award

HawkQuest's Raptor Education Programs

HawkQuest's mission is dedicated to providing an educational opportunity for people to understand and appreciate the interactions of wild living things in their natural environment and the importance of preserving the world in which they live. Offering five distinct outreach raptor programs, HawkQuest strives to impress upon students the importance of preserving ecosystems and the wildlife that depend on them. Understanding the world around them, diverse populations will appreciate that they can influence the environment positively.

Birds of Prey Lecture – This one-hour program features a free-flying hawk, an eagle, an owl and a falcon. Students learn about the importance of different raptors, their specially adapted tools, and their unique roles in our ecosystems.

Classroom-in-the-Wild – Expanding on the experience of the Birds of Prey Lecture, HawkQuest's one-of-a-kind field program gives participants the opportunity to view the predator/prey relationship up close. This program was devised from a strongly held belief that being able to experience wild creatures in their natural habitat truly opens the door to understanding. Participants are accompanied by free-flying hawks, pursuing and sometimes catching their prey. Emphasis is placed on the food chain, on habitat encroachment and on appreciating animals and plants living in the prairie ecosystem. Students leave this living classroom with images of the cycle of life that textbooks cannot illustrate.

HOOT – Hands on Owl Teaching, or HOOT, enables young people to understand the necessary role of the owl as a predator in its natural habitat. This program brings three live owls into an intimate classroom setting and gives students the opportunity to study the birds up close. Students, using Owl Discovery Kits, are led through an imaginary mouse hunt, with guided discussions, visuals, experiments and hands-on demonstrations.

Owls of the World – HawkQuest's newest program takes students on a trip around the world, featuring owls from four continents. The program focuses on similar tools used by owls worldwide and their importance to global ecosystems by hunting the rodents and insects that threaten our food supply.

Soaring High Without Drugs – This award-winning program, with the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Department, features a Bald Eagle who suffers from mercury poisoning. This program discusses how foreign substances can make young people ill and cause permanent bodily damage. Students are encouraged to make positive choices in their lives that not only affect them personally but can be applied to the world around them.



The true measure of success is how the "feathered teachers" capture the attention and the imagination of their audience.



Through our programs and special events, HawkQuest shared its conservation message with over 2.5 million adults and children in the past five years alone.



Birds of Prey Lecture.



Kin Quitigua, Executive Director

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Government Award

Great Sand Dunes National Monument and Preserve

Great Sand Dunes National Monument and Preserve is a landscape of great diversity and beauty. This geologic wonderland, containing North America's tallest dunes, became a national monument in 1932. With passage of the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve Act of 2000, resources now also include alpine lakes and tundra, six peaks over 13,000', forests, grasslands, and wetlands.

Great Sand Dunes has offered education programs since the late 1980's. Staff and volunteers from every division have supported the program with research expertise, service-learning projects, funding, participation in outreach events, and even pitching in to teach. This award reflects the park's shared commitment to education.

In June 2002, the first full-time Education Specialist was hired to devote added attention to the curriculum-based program. Great Sand Dunes annually serves nearly 5000 pre-K through 12th grade students from the San Luis Valley, northern New Mexico, and the Front Range with standards-correlated field and classroom programs. Staff also created educational media for teachers and students, including hands-on exhibits in the Visitor Center's new multipurpose room, an improved website with animations and education links, an educational ecosystem poster, and a proposed new, online curriculum in English and Spanish. In summer of 2003 a partnership with Denver Public Schools was piloted that brought two teachers to work as rangers and create science curriculum.

Having a full-time Education Specialist has also provided the flexibility to offer "non-traditional" programming. Last year the program worked with a bilingual second grade class in three different seasons, providing field programs about habitats and life cycles. Also in a new outdoor program, a 5th grade class had the opportunity to blend themes from Hatchet, by Gary Paulson with ethnobotany of the Dunes and wilderness ethics.

Great Sand Dunes' main educational partner is ECEC, the Environmental and Conservation Education Council. ECEC members include the US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, San Luis Valley RC&D, Soil Conservation Districts, the Nature Conservancy, teachers, and others. Together, funds are raised to cover field trip costs, sponsor teacher workshops, compile educational resources for teachers, and promote environmental literacy in a variety of other ways. The program is also supported by the Friends of the Dunes and the Western National Parks Association.



Dunes and Snowy Peaks, Gretchen, age 8. The medium is chalk on paper.



A 3rd grade class who visited the Sand Dunes and sent drawings and a journal entry about their experience to a class in Washington State.



With Watchable Wildlife funds, this painting by David Zelenka was turned into a poster with standards-correlated activities on the back and a web-based component.



Kathy Zelenka, Education Specialist

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Community Award

Butterfly Hope

Butterfly Hope is a non-profit educational enrichment program dedicated to providing high quality learning experiences for children to explore and develop an appreciation for the natural world and express their creativity in a caring and supportive environment. Butterfly Hope founders recognized that elimination of arts and downsizing of science programs in urban public schools left children lacking opportunities to connect with the natural environment and explore healthy creative outlets. Butterfly Hope began offering children a natural science and arts enrichment program in 1993 in partnership with Cheltenham Elementary School in the West Colfax neighborhood of Denver. Through the program, children created five outdoor gardens and habitat areas on the school grounds that serve as learning laboratories. Over 1,500 low income children have participated in Butterfly Hope's hands-on education activities that strengthen their commitment to conserving and protecting the natural world.

Butterfly Hope's unique educational model combines learning in Natural Science, Gardening, Expressive Arts and Visual Arts. In the 2002-2003 school year 245 students took part in in-depth experiential learning during six weeks of school break programming as well as an After-School Garden Club. Each year a cultural theme is integrated and students learn about the ecosystems, conservation issues, artistic and cultural traditions of a region of the world. Butterfly Hope also encourages children to act on what they learn by making a difference in the local community. Students are given opportunities to conserve and recycle resources through projects such as composting, recycling, and educating neighbors about preserving trees.

Butterfly Hope builds on the strengths in the community and combines these with a high quality team of teachers, naturalists, gardeners, artists, neighborhood youth leaders and community elders who are willing and able to bring out the best in children. Many of the children have little or no exposure to environmental learning or connection to the wonders of their local habitats. Each day at Butterfly Hope one can witness the joy and learning taking place. Whether holding a worm for the first time, gently planting a seed, or huddling over a microscope, each child embraces the opportunities to understand and discover both her/his local environment and the larger world ecosystems through Butterfly Hope programs.



Julie Dale Carr

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Religious Award

Eco-Justice Ministries

Eco-Justice Ministries is an independent, ecumenical agency, founded in 2000, that helps Christian churches take seriously the call to care for all of God's creation, and enables them to develop ministries that are faithful, relevant and effective in working toward social justice and environmental sustainability.

The only program of this type in the Rocky Mountain region, Eco-Justice Ministries guides clergy, church leaders, and entire congregations toward appropriate ways of living from the awareness that humanity is intertwined with the ecological web. The agency works cooperatively with local churches, denominations and seminaries, and with "secular" environmental and advocacy groups.

In 2002, staff worked on site with 21 different congregations (several of them on multiple occasions), leading to direct contact with around 1,000 individuals through worship leadership, classes and committees. In all of these cases, their programming raised awareness about the relationship between faith commitments and environmental stewardship. Many of the contacts went far deeper in addressing behaviors, current issues, and ways of bringing environmental responsibility into church programs.

The agency also works with church leaders in training retreats, and through telephone and e-mail consulting. Resources developed for congregational use spread the impact of Eco-Justice Ministries beyond settings with direct personal contact.

Among the many resources and programs that have been effective:

- A 2002 resource on "Ministry in a Time of Drought" stressed water conservation practices for churches and individuals, and used the drought as an opportunity for reflecting on humanity's ties to natural systems.
- An extensive adult curriculum on "Our Place and Purpose in Creation" uses a biblical studies approach to examine contemporary perspectives on environmental stewardship.
- Eco-Justice Notes, its popular weekly e-mail newsletter, is a unique format for education, advocacy and encouragement which commonly uses stories to translate complex environmental ideas to an audience that has little or no training in that field.

Through the educational and advocacy efforts of Eco-Justice Ministries, dozens of churches have expanded their ministries to include environmental concerns, and have adopted operational policies and practices that work toward environmental sustainability – energy and water conservation, recycling, use of fair trade products. Hundreds of individuals have been empowered for lifestyle changes and political advocacy.

Eco-Justice Ministries exemplifies "environmental education" in the broadest sense.



Global warming is one of the many issues addressed by Eco-Justice Ministries.



Rev. Peter S. Sawtell, Executive Director

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K-12 Education Award

Denver Zoo's Community Leadership Project



CLP Specialist, Korbin Pugh, models planting procedures.

Two second graders cling to the handle of a bucket of splashing water. On the count of three, they carefully tip it beside a native perennial whose flowers are a deep shade of blue. Further up the hill a group of students are still digging holes, continuously checking to see if their plants fit yet. Soon the mulchers will pass by, scattering chunks of bark over the grounds to hold in the precious water.

Though just one of many planting days for Community Leadership Project (CLP) staff members, the opportunity to immerse themselves in the natural world and beautify their school grounds is a unique and unusual experience for many children growing up in the Denver metro area. CLP aims to educate urban youth on existing curriculum, provide an opportunity for students to address environmental needs within their school community, and build leadership and problem solving skills through hands-on participation in a service-learning project. Prior to their planting day, students work together to make decisions about the garden based on their research, including measuring, designing scale maps, and selecting plant species. Sustainability plans are created to assist schools with long-term maintenance of their projects.



The Front Range Earth Force/CLP Youth Summit allows students to share projects and celebrate their success.

Planting Xeriscape and habitat gardens are just one of many ways students and teachers involved with CLP have chosen to enhance their communities. Building birdhouses to hang, initiating school-wide paper recycling, mulching school grounds to conserve water, stenciling storm drains with messages to prevent water pollution, and creating indoor worm composting boxes are additional ways children in the Denver metro area have positively impacted their schools and surrounding animal habitats.

CLP emerged as an extension of the Denver Zoo and the Colorado Division of Wildlife's award winning wildlife conservation program, Wonders In Nature-Wonders In Neighborhoods (W.I.N.-W.I.N.) and is currently funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, Colorado Division of Wildlife, and the Colorado Department of Education. CLP serves at-risk students from diverse backgrounds and provides funding for qualifying schools. Of the 1,777 students participating during the 2002-2003 school year, 65% qualified for free or reduced lunch. CLP strives to create long-term cultural change.



Two first grade students plant native perennials in front of their school.

Essential 2002-2003 Partnerships

FrontRange Earth Force, Grounds For Learning, Audubon Society of Greater Denver, Tri-R Recycling, Denver Water, Denver Urban Gardens, CO Division of Wildlife, Project Learning Tree, Project WILD, City of Commerce City, Denver/Arapahoe Disposal Site, Denver Botanic Gardens, Butterfly Pavilion and Insect Center, and the Colorado Department of Education



Third graders assemble birdhouses to hang around their school.



Amy Bahrenburg, CLP Specialist

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Government Award

Eldorado Canyon State Park Junior Ranger Program

Meeting other children, befriending Park Rangers, becoming more comfortable outdoors, and caring about the Canyon makes Eldorado Canyon State Park's Junior Ranger Program a lifetime memory for children. The goal of the Eldorado Canyon State Park (ECSP) Junior Ranger Program is to introduce children, 6-12 years old, to the treasures of Eldorado Canyon through discovery, games, and activities. These children are directly affected through fun, positive, outdoor experiences creating cognitive and emotional connections with the Park and developing a stewardship ethic through an environmental learning context.

Junior Ranger Programs are held Saturdays, June-August, at 10 am and 2 pm in the Park. Children become official ECSP Junior Rangers by participating in Junior Ranger programs over the course of the summer. After experiencing four programs, children "graduate" receiving their badge and certificate, and their picture is hung in the Visitor Center. Graduates can demonstrate their personalization of knowledge and stewardship through the Five-star Junior Ranger extension. Graduates complete activities such as hiking with friends and family, teaching others about the Park, picking up litter, and completing activity books. Once five activities are completed, they earn a patch and become Five-star Junior Rangers.

Visitors to ECSP, representing the vast cultural diversity of the Front Range, are attracted by spectacular canyon walls, scenic trails, and particularly the shady picnicking near South Boulder Creek. The Junior Ranger Program reaches out to Park visitors through their children. These children are participating in programs, bridging language barriers by sharing their experiences, modeling positive interactions between staff and visitors, and connecting with the pictures of graduated Junior Rangers in the Visitor Center. The importance of the ECSP Junior Ranger Program is visible in the growing number of graduates representing the cultural diversity of Park visitors.



What did you do over summer vacation 2003? Almost sixty, 6 to 12 year old children will share their memories about earning certification as an Eldorado Canyon State Park Junior Ranger. Parents report that the Junior Ranger Program is a positive experience for their children because it "teaches them to be responsible and respectful of life, nature, and the beauty around them; is outdoors; and teaches them to be super campers." Parents also observe that their children are "picking up litter at playgrounds, parks, and campgrounds; better recognizing animals, butterflies, and forests; and are happy and comfortable outside."



2002 Five-star Junior Ranger.



Understanding animal adaptations, detecting clues in rocks, observing healthy stream ecology, and protecting resource treasures are all in a day's work of an Eldorado Canyon State Park Junior Ranger.



GOCO Seasonal Interpreter

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Agriculture Award

Field School at the Plains Conservation Center



The Plains Conservation Center, owned and operated by the West Arapahoe Conservation District, creates an awareness of and appreciation for the shortgrass prairie and its inhabitants and helps visitors understand human dependence on environmental systems.

A unique two-day/overnight program, Field School, immerses third, fourth, and fifth grade students in the ecology and culture of this rapidly vanishing ecosystem. Students explore the prairie in depth, discovering how native plants and animals adapt to the natural habitat. The students put up a 16-foot tipi, learn how to obtain or make some of the accoutrements of the Cheyenne people of the early 1800s, practice new skills by playing games, and cook a traditional meal over an open fire helping them understand how these early plains residents interacted with the natural world for their survival.



The Plains Center's 1880s sod homesteads, one-room schoolhouse, and blacksmith shop are augmented with chickens of a heritage breed, a cow and calf, and an heirloom garden, permitting children to experience more directly how food comes from the land. They spend the day hauling water from the well, preparing a traditional dinner, going to school, feeding chickens, tending the garden, and getting a taste of what challenges the vagaries of nature can bring. These experiences give an opportunity to compare and contrast how people have used resources over the last 175 years.



Over 890 students from diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds participated in Field School in 2003. The center hopes to be planting the seeds for a conservation ethic that they will apply to their daily lives.

"My fifth graders came away with so much more knowledge and appreciation for the prairie and those that came before them as Native Americans and pioneers. Today as we shared from our journals and ate the remaining cookies and muffins, it was very apparent that our field experience impacted the students." Ms. Mary Carter, Teacher, Buffalo Ridge Elementary



Fran Blanchard, Director of Education

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Higher Education Award Fort Lewis College Environmental Center

The Environmental Center (EC) at Fort Lewis College has existed for twelve years and works towards healthy communities for everyone's benefit. This is a student-based organization funded by the Associated Students of Fort Lewis College, and governed by a student-majority board of directors that includes faculty, staff, and community representatives. The EC is facilitated by one full-time coordinator and operated by work-study students, interns, and paid employees.

The primary goals of the EC are education, waste reduction, and being a resource for social and ecological awareness, dialogue and activism in the college community and surrounding region. The EC stands out because it is one of few established environmental centers on campuses nation-wide and is therefore a leader and a model for other schools.

The EC achieves its waste reduction goals with the help of the college's Physical Plant and primarily through educating the student body on the Waste Reduction Program, and sponsoring campus clean-ups. The EC achieves its education goals by hosting annually World Population Awareness Week and Earth Week, class presentations, other workshops and speakers, and co-hosting "Making Waves" with the college radio station. This weekly radio interview program addresses the environment and social dynamics of our community, country, and world. The EC, being committed to the community, partners with many other local organizations depending upon current community needs. The EC partnered with over fifty local, regional, and national organizations last school year.

The EC, in conjunction with the President's Advisory Council on Environmental Affairs, was instrumental in the college's adoption of the Fort Lewis College Environmental Policy. This policy aims to guide the campus to becoming more sustainable by promoting the understanding of our personal and institutional impacts on the environment; creating an environmental awareness in all campus citizens; and promoting collaboration with surrounding communities on environmental issues.



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Earth Studies Student Comments

"Thank you for teaching us how wonderful the outdoors can be."

"I was having fun and getting an education."

"Thank you again for one of the greatest experiences of my life."



Best New Program Award Earth Studies

Earth Studies is a yearlong, comprehensive outdoor-based program that targets fifth grade students from under-served schools from the City of Pueblo. Selected classes spend eight full days in the Pueblo Mountain Park, a 611-acre park that borders San Isabel National Forest. The program's overall goal is to create a basic level of ecological literacy in students, a foundation on which becoming an advocate for the environment can be built. Students also learn that Nature can provide many activities that are healthy alternatives to destructive choices like drug use and gang involvement. They experience the value of Nature as a place of renewal, learning, wonder, enjoyment, and healthy lifelong recreation.

Unique Components of Earth Studies

- Combines environmental education with prevention education (e.g. substance abuse, violence), including introduction to lifelong physical activities like hiking, birding and snowshoeing.
- Students experience the Foothills Life Zone from late summer through autumn, winter, and spring, witnessing the subtle and not-so-subtle changes of the land through a season cycle.
- On the foundation of ecosystem study, Earth Studies weaves all school subjects into full days of experiential activities and lessons.
- Each day-long session works with one class at a time, allowing for a smaller student to staff ratio and a more personal experience of the natural world for each student.

Earth Studies Partners

- School District #60: Program design support, funding.
- Pueblo Police Department: Program design support.
- Packard Foundation: Funding.
- McAuley Foundation: Funding.
- Sierra Club "Youth In Wilderness": Funding.

The Mountain Park Environmental Center is a non-profit 501c3 environmental education organization. Located in the Pueblo Mountain Park near the town of Beulah, 25 miles west of Pueblo, the center opened its doors in March 2000. The mission is to provide environmental education programming in order to create a citizenry that understands, respects, enjoys, and cares for themselves, their families, and the natural world. The center offers a variety of educational programming for all folks, from kids to grandparents, including guided hikes, school programs, workshops, summer camps and evening nature talks.



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info

K-12 Education Award

Cal-Wood Education Center's School Program

Cal-Wood Education Center partners with K-12 public and private school teachers throughout Colorado to create customized, formal, intensive environmental educational experiences. Annually more than 3,000 students representing over 50 schools attend a school program at Cal-Wood's spectacular 1,000-acre outdoor classroom. The program immerses students for 1-5 days in a beautiful, comfortable, remote setting with a direct focus on learning. This special, active environment combined with school-based expectations nourishes an enthusiasm in the students to want to learn. Students also recognize that learning concepts in science, math, history, geography, language/visual arts or personal growth/teambuilding can be exciting. Their empowerment in desiring to learn extends far beyond their visit to Cal-Wood.

Cal-Wood uniquely incorporates environmental stewardship activities into their school programs. For example, forestry is a major land management issue and students participate in a myriad of ways. Students, after gaining basic concepts in forest ecology, might quantitatively assess the health of a forest and gather data to assist with the range of management options such as thinning, burning or doing nothing. Cal-Wood programs strive to empower students in their abilities to make positive changes in their school and home communities.

A combination of unparalleled environmental educational setting, hands-on approach, and a committed organization enables Cal-Wood to inspire all learners. Rafael Salgado, Cal-Wood's Executive Director and native of Mexico, has provided strong leadership to enhance Cal-Wood's effectiveness in teaching to linguistically diverse learners. Dr. Nancy Commins, a language and literacy specialist, has provided staff with expert training; and bilingual instructors converse with Spanish speaking students. As well, staff create and utilize "sheltered" teaching techniques. These are visual materials that linguistically shelter the essential concepts and activities taught at Cal-Wood.

The students encompass a wide variety of grade levels, socio-economic backgrounds, and comfort levels in the outdoors. The socio-economic and cultural backgrounds of the schools served are quite diverse and comprise significant under-served populations. In the past three years, Cal-Wood has raised and distributed over \$100,000 in financial subsidies to 40 schools comprising over 2,000 economically disadvantaged students.

"We were very impressed with Cal-Wood's school program. Cal-Wood's program clearly addressed science, math, social studies and language arts standards and curricula. The instructors were very knowledgeable, personable and high energy, yet calming. We especially liked the balance of academic and affective curriculum."

— Quote from Dr. Nancy Miller, Principal of Alicia Sanchez Elementary School and former Director of Curriculum for the Boulder Valley School District, Colorado



Rafael Salgado, Executive Director

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Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education

What is CAEE?

Within the enormous array of environmental education (EE) programming, the effectiveness of that collective effort is as important as are the separate results of any individual program or project. CAEE enhances Colorado's EE community by providing professional development opportunities, coordinating support services, and facilitating communication and networking between Colorado's EE providers and the public. CAEE was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to serve the shared interests of public agencies, businesses, teachers, community organizations and individuals distributing and using EE.

Priority Programs and Activities

CAEE is a national leader in innovative, state-of-the-art approaches to statewide capacity-building for EE resources. More than 400 organizations, engaging thousands of staff and volunteers, currently provide EE programs and services. To fulfill CAEE's niche in this wide-ranging EE community, CAEE manages several programs and project activities, including:

- Electronic Information Clearinghouse – the state's on-line "yellow pages" of EE resources
- The statewide, annual conference on EE – "Teaching Outside the Box"
- Developing a review process for EE materials and programs
- A statewide, annual EE awards and recognition program
- Stewardship of Colorado's Environmental Education Master Plan project
- A monthly newsletter – EE InfoLink
- Managing centralized correlations between EE programs and the state academic standards
- Establishing a state training center for EE
- Hosting the state's EE Advisory Council
- Maintaining close working relationships with community-based EE networks

CAEE Membership

You are invited to join the largest professional organization of environmental educators in Colorado. By supporting CAEE as a member, you will receive the following benefits:

- Monthly newsletter
- Announcements of upcoming EE events and EE job openings
- Discounts to CAEE functions
- Invitations to networking functions
- Professional development workshops
- Free placement on the Colorado Environmental Education Database (if you are an organizational member)

Membership Rates

Student or Teacher: \$15/year

Individual: \$35/year

Organization/Agency/or Institution: \$65/year

(Allows up to 4 contacts, field offices, or program managers to be listed)

A membership form is available at www.caee.org or by contacting the CAEE Office.

CAEE Staff

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Ali Goulstone Sweeney, *Assistant Director*

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