



SUBMIT A PROPOSAL FOR A CONFERENCE PRESENTATION OR WORKSHOP

THE 2018 MAINE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



Group discussions and learning activity at the MEEA 2017 Conference.

Cultivating a Culture of Science

Saturday April 28, 2017 ▪ **Colby College** ▪ **Waterville, Maine**

Co-Sponsored by the Colby College Environmental Studies Program

“What do we want? Data! When do we want it? Forever!”

“When I say peer, you say review! Peer! Review! Peer! Review!”

- Chants heard at *March for Science* events

We are at a transformative moment. The value of science to the core of a working democracy is being cynically questioned. How can we as environmental educators bolster society’s appreciation and support for science? How does environmental education help strengthen Maine with a robust foundation of science and scientific knowledge?

Come to the MEEA Conference and celebrate your passion for science and the environment. Present your eye-opening ideas and innovative programs. Strengthen your networks, build bridges and enhance your professional relationships. Join us as we tackle these and other questions about cultivating a culture of science and environmental education.

- What are proven ways to guide students, adults, and communities to develop their capacity to think critically, ethically, and creatively in making decisions about the environment?
- How can we promote the fundamental value of science in our society and help everyone understand and appreciate scientific knowledge, the importance of gathering fact-based evidence, and the need for all children to have quality science and environmental education?
- How can we better communicate a positive message to the public and public officials about the value and power of science?

- What are ways that environmental education can provide interdisciplinary, multicultural, and multi-perspective viewpoints to promote awareness and understanding of environmental issues and potential solutions.
- What is environmental education's role and opportunity in presenting a balance of environmental, economic, and social perspectives while helping all citizens to be civically engaged?
- How can we help encourage and support a new generation of scientists that includes historically under-represented groups?"

Proposals may address any of the following strands. We are also open to proposals that address the theme using others approaches and perspectives beyond those listed. Presentation formats may include traditional presentations, hands-on workshops, roundtable discussions, and sessions that are intended for different knowledge and experience levels. Given the conference date of late April, we welcome sessions that take advantage of the season and outdoor opportunities.

Conference participants represent a wide variety of backgrounds and experience levels to come together and learn and network with one another. They include environmental educators, school teachers, curriculum specialists, administrators, interpreters, higher ed. professors and students, youth leaders, scientists, program managers, volunteers, nonprofit professionals, community leaders, consultants, and anyone who supports and wants to improve environmental education in its many forms and facets.

STRANDS:

- **Weaving Science and Society:** Using environmental education to help science infuse into society; achieving long-term attitude and behavior change, engaging diverse communities, cultural competency, and increasing civic engagement on environmental and conservation issues.
- **Leading for a Greener Tomorrow:** Collaborative leadership skills, intergenerational leadership models and/or youth-led community environmental actions. Leadership-skill building workshops, strategies for creating better organizations, more progressive programming, and creating a more engaging environment for learners at all levels of outdoor and environmental education.
- **Connecting with Nature:** Integrating outdoor and environmental education into formal education and informal programs.
- **Integrating Technology:** How can information and communications technology can be used in programming as a tool for change.

And other topics that advance the conference theme.

Submission deadline: March 2, 2018.

Proposals will be accepted after the deadline if space is available.

Click [here](http://meeassociation.org/proposals.html) or go to <http://meeassociation.org/proposals.html> to submit a proposal.

