

Nominations for Steering Committee

January 2022

Class of 2022 - 2025

<https://bit.ly/EEACSteeringComNominations2021>

Elections

Proposed Slate for January 2022

OFFICERS January 2022-2023

- CHAIRPERSON
 - River DiLeo
- VICE-CHAIRPERSON / PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON
 - Fran Agnone
- SECRETARY
 - Isa Del Bello
- MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY / TREASURER
 - Bonnie Ralston

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS Jan 2022- Jan 2025 (to be nominated and elected) class of 2022-2024

- **Bethany Kogut** 2022-2024
 - The Horticultural Society of NY
- **Amanda Levy** 2022-2024
 - NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- **Robin Sanchez** 2022-2024
 - NYC Department of Environmental Protection
- **Robert Wallace (reelect)** 2022-2024
 - NYU Science Ed
- **Raymond Pultinas (reelect)** 2022-2024
 - Founding Director of James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center
- **Ilana Weinstein** 2022-2024
 - City Parks Foundation - Program Manager, Seeds to Trees & Coastal Classroom

Amanda Levy Class 2022-2024

**NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene
Public Health Epidemiologist**

Amanda Levy is a Research Scientist within the Bureau of Environmental Science and Engineering at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Under the Federal Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000 (BEACH Act) she is responsible for data analysis, regulatory oversight, risk communication and public notification for the New York City Beach Surveillance and Monitoring Program. She also works as an education specialist on environmental and aquatic health and works directly with several NYC agencies on the Making Waves program to advance swimming equity and drowning prevention through free water safety and swim instruction to young people ages 6-18 from low-income neighborhoods. She received her bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Trinity College, a Master of Science degree in Environmental Management from University of Maryland, a Master of Public Health in Environmental Health from the City University of New York and a Doctor of Education degree in Science Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. Her academic and professional research has focused on children's environmental health, swimming equity, water ecology, systems thinking, elementary science and water engineering.

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Robin Sanchez

Class 2022-2024

Director of Education at New York City Department of Environmental Protection

Robin first joined DEP as a graduate student intern while studying at NYU. She was later hired as Deputy Director in 2014 and then promoted to Director of Education in January 2020. As Director of Education, Robin leads DEP's Education Office in developing, facilitating, and evaluating environmental education programs and resources for pre-Kindergarten through college students and educators in NYC and the NYC watershed. Prior to DEP, Robin completed a year of service with NYC Civic Corps and worked for Appalachian Mountain Club's Youth Opportunities Program. She has a BA in Environmental Planning from Binghamton University and a MA in Environmental Conservation Education from New York University. Born and raised in Westchester County, Robin now resides in Queens, NY.

sanchezr@dep.nyc.gov

Bethany Kogut

Class 2022-2024

The Horticultural Society of NY (The Hort), Education Manager; Garden Educator
NYU Wallerstein Collaborative for Urban Environmental Education

Before moving to NYC I asked a current NYU student how I can get involved with the field of Environmental Education in the city-- they recommended EEAC. I found that this group of educators and professionals over my time in NYC has served as a resource and an inspiration. I have since developed relationships with these individuals and truly feel intertwined with them, like a network. I would be an effective steering committee member because everything I would do would be rooted in expanding and leaning on the network that EEAC has developed. I bring forth knowledge from the field of garden education from various institutions including the NYC DOE, NYU, Newtown Creek Alliance, Community Gardens, and School Gardens with the Horticultural Society of NY. These areas of work have exposed me to the unique and diverse relationships people have with the land they interact with in NYC and teaching and learning through it. These spaces have also allowed me to develop my communication skills across partners to make sure that we all are aware that projects happen at a higher quality when various perspectives are involved. I feel that my experience, skills, and passion will all help me to be an effective EEAC Steering Committee Member

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Ilana Weinstein

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City Parks Foundation

Program Manager, Seeds to Trees & Coastal Classroom

Ilana Weinstein is the Program Manager for the Seeds to Trees & Coastal Classroom middle school programs at City Parks Foundation. Ilana leads a middle-school inquiry-based ecology program in under-resourced communities in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Staten Island. In this role, she leads, evaluates and adjusts the curriculum to fit students needs and diverse learning backgrounds. She also leads semi-annual professional development workshops for partnering teachers so that they can incorporate hands-on environmental education into their regular curriculum. Prior to working for City Parks Foundation, Ilana was an Urban Park Ranger for the NYC Parks Department, serving her local community in the Bronx by providing free public programming and school programming in parks. She received her bachelor's degree in Conservation Biology from State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF), and her master's degree in Environmental Conservation Education from New York University (NYU). Her academic and professional work has focused on urban ecology, urban environmental education, and culturally relevant education practices. Born and raised in the Bronx, she continues to serve her community as well as the larger NYC community. As someone with experience in government, non-profit, and DOE environmental education in NYC, Ilana can be an excellent asset to the EEAC steering committee.

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Raymond Pultinas (reelect) 2022-2024

Founding Director of James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center

Ray Pultinas is Founding Director of James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center, an educational and charity non-profit organization with a focus on outdoor environmental education whose mission is to strive for project-based solutions at the juncture of social, environmental and food justice. JBOLC manages expansive permaculture garden spaces on the DeWitt Clinton High School Campus in the Bronx (including Meg's Garden, Edible Forest, Clinton Garden and Bioswale), sponsors high school student internships and coordinates community volunteer programs, events and multi-age environmental educational programming. In August of 2020, JBOLC launched its Garden Community Farmers Market to help address an urgent need for fresh, locally grown produce in the Kingsbridge, Norwood, Van Cortlandt Village and Bedford Park neighborhoods. The successful market became an access point for the North Bronx Food Hub and redistributed thousands of pounds of fresh produce to aid in Covid Relief efforts in collaboration with numerous partner organizations, especially Up Town and the Bronx Friendly (Community) Fridges, Rap 4 Bronx and North West Bronx Food Justice Project. Prior to his retirement as an English teacher for 25 years at DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx, Ray served as Sustainability Teacher, Sustainability Coordinator and Activist Journalism Advisor.

Robert Wallace

Class 2022-2024

NYU Science Education Program director

Robert is a current member of the EEAC Steering Committee who is up for reelection this year. He is the director of the science education program at New York University. Dr. Wallace was a math and science major in college.

He was a marine biologist for approximately 15 years. He then established and directed a year-round ecology center, The Harbor Environmental Research Center (HERC). HERC was used by science teachers and their students to conduct environmental research using the woodlands and adjacent ocean on Long Island as a study area. This work led to his founding and leading a science emphasis elementary school (K - 8) located in East Harlem, New York.

For the past 20 years he has been part of the science education team at New York University where he helped develop the highly regarded science residency program, first the Clinically Rich Integrated Science Program and more recently the NYU Teacher Residency program a totally online residency that places candidates in secondary schools across the nation..

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