A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear ICEC members,

Thank you for being a valuable part of the ICEC community and for warmly welcoming me to this organization. Since I assumed the Executive Director position in December, I have been greatly impressed by your passion, and ever grateful for the expertise and generous offers of help that have guided me through this transition period. It is clear that the support and leadership of loyal friends are what has allowed ICEC to thrive for almost 60 years.

As the new Executive Director, I am learning the incredible history of this organization while looking ahead to the future. I hope to expand on the great work of ICEC and continue to offer professional development and networking opportunities that strengthen environmental education across our state.

If you have questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at execicec@gmail.com or 515-729-1047.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, we value your continued support and look forward to seeing you soon!
Sincerely,

Alicia Vasto
Executive Director
Iowa Conservation Education Coalition

Winter Workshop 2017 Recap

In early February, over 70 environmental educators and resource professionals joined us at Springbrook Conservation Education Center for our 2017 Winter Workshop! This year’s theme was Spreading our Wings with Science Standards: Pollinators, Monarchs, and Conservation Education.

With keynote presentations from Jennifer Hopwood, Karen Oberhauser, and Benjamin Vogt, workshop attendees received a well-rounded view of challenges facing pollinator conservation and ways to help. [Jennifer Hopwood’s presentation is available for viewing and download here.](http://us12.campaign-archive2.com/?e=[UNIQID]&u=1e8d40482...)

E Resources consultants and AEA Science Consultants presented on storylines, phenomena, and crosscutting...
concepts featured in the new Iowa science standards, along with tools for aligning programs to the new standards. The majority of attendees who filled out evaluations found these concepts useful for their programming and lesson planning.

Thank you to everyone who attended!

During the Winter Workshop, we also held our first ICEC Alumni Reunion! The reunion brought together friends of ICEC from years past to reconnect and share insights about their time in environmental education. It was a very special event that we hope to hold more regularly. If you know of folks that should be added to our alumni contact list, please email execicec@gmail.com!
Join us for ICEC Member Day at Reiman Gardens!

In partnership with Reiman Gardens, ICEC is proud to present a free day for ICEC members at Reiman Gardens on May 20th! Join us starting at 12:30 PM for a presentation from the Reiman Gardens education staff, followed by a picnic lunch in the gardens—bring your sack lunch! You’ll then have the chance to explore the gardens at your leisure. This is a special opportunity for our members so we hope you will join us for a day of learning, networking, and fun!

RSVP!

Congratulations to the 2016 IAN/ICEC Award Winners!

Together with the Iowa Association of Naturalists (IAN), ICEC is proud to recognize outstanding classroom teachers, naturalists, business leaders, youth, non-profit groups, and other people and programs dedicated to environmental education in the State of Iowa. Thank you to our 2016 award winners for your contributions to innovative and quality environmental education in our state!
See all of the award winners here

Miriam Patton, winner of the Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award for lifetime achievement in environmental education excellence and leadership

What's Next: Get to Know the Outdoor Learning Environments Program!

ICEC is teaming up with Prairie Rivers of Iowa to present the Outdoor Learning Environments workshops and conference! An OLE is a deliberately selected or designed outdoor setting, used and supported by many in the community that provides an intentional space for exploration, inquiry, and learning to empower environmental literacy and education in any discipline. The OLE program creates accessible and vibrant outdoor learning spaces that enhance people’s relationship with the outdoors and inspires people with Iowa’s native landscapes. Learn more about the program here and stay tuned for more information about this exciting partnership!
in 1958! ICEC’s purpose is to promote and support conservation education and environmental education in Iowa. Your membership supports excellence in conservation education in our state!

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

Iowa Conservation Education Coalition
P.O. Box 3616
Urbandale, IA 50323

eexecicec@gmail.com
http://www.iowaee.org/

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