

SUMMER 2017 Educators OF EXCELLENCE INSTITUTES

About the Program

The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences created the Educators of Excellence Institutes to enable exemplary educators to:

- experience the natural world in selected outstanding environments;
- increase the use of reflection and direct environmental experience in teaching;
- become inspired and recommitted to the teaching profession;
- become part of a statewide network of exceptional educators for continued support and learning.

The Educators of Excellence Institutes are supported by the Educators of Excellence Fund, GlaxoSmithKline, Kenan Institute for Engineering, Technology & Science, Great Outdoor Provision Co. and participant fees.

About the Fund

The Institutes are available at low cost because of support from the Friends of the Museum Educators of Excellence Fund. This fund, established in 1996, consists of donations from businesses and individuals, and proceeds from the Museum's annual fundraiser.

Contact Liz Baird at 919.707.9893, to learn how you can support this fund.

The Supporters of Excellence are people who have made a significant contribution (minimum of \$1500 over 3 years) to the Educators of Excellence Fund.



S U P P O R T E R S

Many thanks to these outstanding Supporters of Excellence.

CHRISTINE & DAVE ADAMCZYK • SARAH ELLEN & JOSEPH ARCHIE • BETSY & WALTER BENNETT • MARY ANN BRITTAIN • KEITH & MARGIE COLLINS • LIZ & BOB DEAN • *ELIZABETH Z. DUNCAN • DAVE FARRAR & MARGIE RHODES • GLAXOSMITHKLINE • GOODNIGHT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION • STACY GROVE • HEIFER INTERNATIONAL • DAN HUDSON • JAMES AND CONNIE MAYNARD FUND OF TRIANGLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION • HADEN & BETH LANE • MARY ANNE LANE • CAROLINE & PAUL LINDSAY • *KAREN & TERRY LINEHAN • MOVING TRAFFIC INC • NCSU — KENAN INSTITUTE FOR ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE • THE PARK FOUNDATION • ANN & WADE SMITH • ROBYN Y. SMITH & ERDAL YIGIT • *SAM & REBECCA WHEELER • ELLEN & JEFF WHITAKER • NANCY & MONTY WHITE • LISA & TOM WILLIAMSON • NINA & RALPH YEAGER • *LINDA & ALFRED YODER *indicates Educator of Excellence

REQUIREMENTS

Participant Requirements for all Institutes

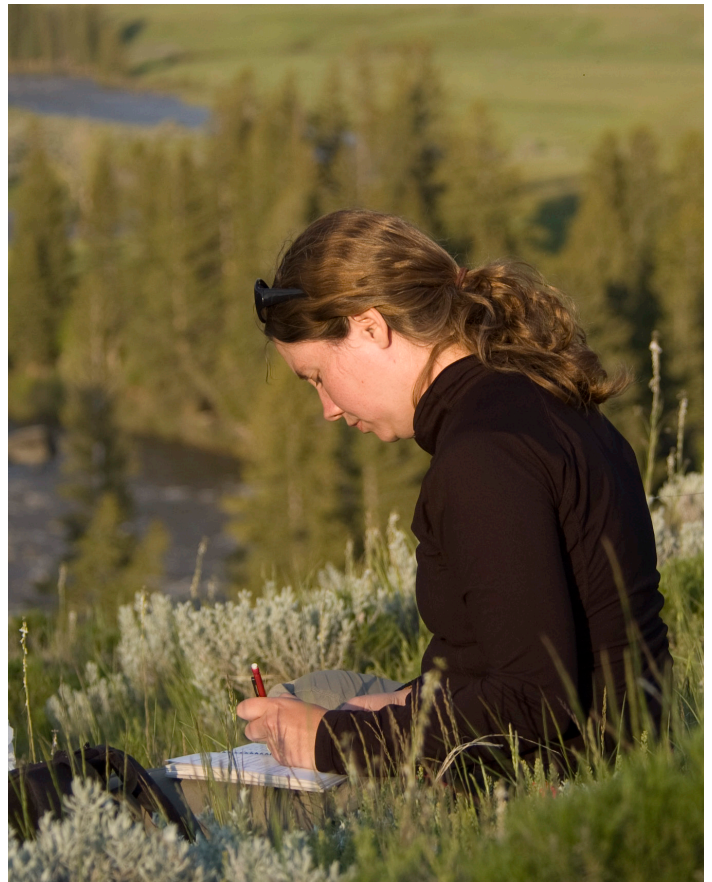
WHO'S ELIGIBLE: Educators (K–12) currently teaching science in North Carolina, or administrators, environmental educators and university professors who work with these teachers.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should demonstrate an interest in the natural sciences and be willing to use and support innovative teaching methods in the classroom and on field trips. Applicants should have at least three years of teaching/supervising experience and expect to continue working in or with North Carolina schools during the 2017–2018 school year. All participants should be prepared for moderately strenuous activity.

REQUIREMENTS: Participants in the Institutes will be asked to recruit a year-round class or other educational group to share their adventure online. Prior to the field experience, each participant will describe the upcoming Institute to his or her group. Students will follow along online in near real time with participants.

After the trip, all participants must develop an educational project incorporating their experience from the Institute. Project proposals are due approximately two months after the field experience. Participants are encouraged to share their projects at meetings or conferences of professional organizations such as the N.C. Science Teachers Association and at Museum events.

SELECTION: The Museum strives to achieve statewide representation from diverse backgrounds and a range of grade levels. Preference is given to educators who show evidence of community and institutional support, flexibility, and a tendency to be active group participants.



CREDIT: All Museum workshops may be approved for renewal credits by local school districts. Participants receive a certificate of course completion for the number of instructional hours. Institute participation can be used to meet eligibility criteria for the N.C. Environmental Education Certification Program. For more information on EE certification, call the Office of Environmental Education at 919.707.8125 or visit www.eenorthcarolina.org.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: Many participants receive financial support from their school districts and/or local civic and professional organizations. Contact your district office for more information on grants and scholarships. NCSTA has funds to support participation in the Educators of Excellence Institutes for an educator who has been a member of NCSTA for at least 2 years.

APPLICATION: Deadline is Monday, March 6, 2017.

Send completed applications to:

Melissa Dowland
N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences
11 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1029

NOTIFICATION: Applicants will be notified by mail by April 7, 2017. For more information, call Liz Baird at 919.707.9893.

Yellowstone National Park Institute

Experience one of North America's greatest concentrations of wildlife

Observe world-class geological wonders

Learn the history of America's first national park

Meet with educators and biologists

DATES: June 17–25, 2017 (Mandatory pre- and post-trip sessions will be held in Raleigh on April 22 and November 4, 2017.)

LOCATIONS: Yellowstone National Park, Montana and Wyoming; and Raleigh, N.C.

PARTICIPANTS: Limited to 12

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Moderate to rigorous including walking/ hiking at high altitude.

COST: \$950 (includes supplies, round-trip air travel between Raleigh and Bozeman, Montana, all ground transportation, instruction, lodging). Participants will be responsible for travel to and from Raleigh, expenses in Raleigh during pre- and post-trip sessions, personal expenses and meals in Yellowstone. Many participants receive financial support from their schools and/or local civic or professional organizations.

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES: Participating educators will study and experience the wonders of the world's first national park. Join us from sunrise to sunset as we observe the incredible wildlife including bears, bison, wolves and elk. Learn about the area's unique geothermal features and enjoy the magnificent scenery as we hike trails throughout the park. The daily program will include field experiences, opportunities to meet with park staff to discuss resource management issues, and instruction in integrating their experiences into the classroom. Discover strategies for exploring the connections between Yellowstone and North Carolina (wolf and elk reintroduction, fire ecology, resource management issues in the parks, and much more).



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 Experience one of
 North America's greatest
 concentrations of wildlife.





Tropical Ecology Institute

Explore a tropical rainforest

Visit Mayan ruins

Canoe a tropical river

Snorkel over a Caribbean reef

Visit a Belizean classroom

DATES: July 25–August 1, 2017 (Mandatory pre- and post-trip sessions will be held in Raleigh on May 6 and November 4, 2017.)

LOCATIONS: Belize, Central America, and Raleigh, N.C.

PARTICIPANTS: Limited to 12 (Note: Belizean teachers will join with American educators to form an international team that shares teaching techniques.)

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Moderate to rigorous including walking/hiking in tropical (high heat/humidity) settings, canoeing, and snorkeling.

COST: \$1,300 (includes supplies, round-trip airfare from Raleigh to Belize, instruction, lodging, and meals). Participants will be responsible for travel to and from the North Carolina airport, expenses in Raleigh during pre- and post-trip sessions, and personal expenses. Many participants receive financial support from their schools and/or local civic or professional organizations.

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES: Participants will experience several tropical habitats, including coral reefs, mangrove swamps, and rain forests. The daily program will include practical field experiences, basic biological information, and easily duplicated techniques for teaching natural sciences. During the trip, participants will provide daily updates to students in North Carolina via the Internet. This program is designed to give educators a direct experience with environments and concepts that are part of the classroom curriculum. Participants will spend time at a Belizean school interacting with teachers and students.

Explore a tropical rain forest
and snorkel over a Caribbean reef.



I AM APPLYING FOR				<input type="checkbox"/> YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK INSTITUTE	<input type="checkbox"/> TROPICAL ECOLOGY
IMPORTANT: PARTICIPANTS MAY APPLY FOR ONLY ONE INSTITUTE PER YEAR.					
NAME					
POSITION TITLE					
PASSPORT NUMBER (NECESSARY FOR TROPICAL ECOLOGY INSTITUTE. MUST HAVE BY TRIP DEPARTURE DATE.)					
HOME ADDRESS			CITY	STATE	ZIP
HOME PHONE		CELL PHONE		HOME E-MAIL	
SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION NAME					
ADDRESS			CITY	STATE	ZIP
COUNTY			SCHOOL DISTRICT		
SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION PHONE			SCHOOL E-MAIL		
GRADE LEVEL(S) CURRENTLY TEACHING OR SUPERVISING					
SUBJECTS					
TOTAL YEARS TEACHING/SUPERVISING EXPERIENCE					
EDUCATION: DEGREE				DATE	
DEGREE				DATE	
CAN YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE PRE- AND POST-TRIP SESSIONS TO BE HELD IN RALEIGH ALL DAY ON THE FOLLOWING DATES?					
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK INSTITUTE, APRIL 22 AND NOVEMBER 4, 2017				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
TROPICAL ECOLOGY INSTITUTE, MAY 6 AND NOVEMBER 4, 2017				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CAN YOU SWIM?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CAN YOU SNORKEL?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
HAVE YOU BEEN TO BELIZE?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
HAVE YOU BEEN TO YELLOWSTONE?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
HAVE YOU TRAVELED OUT OF THE COUNTRY PREVIOUSLY?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
IF SO, WHERE AND WHEN?					
ARE YOU A KENAN FELLOW?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
ARE YOU PLANNING TO WORK IN/WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR AN INSTITUTE PREVIOUSLY? IF SO, WHEN?				<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
IF YOU HAVE PARTICIPATED PREVIOUSLY, LIST INSTITUTE NAME(S) AND DATE(S)					
I UNDERSTAND THAT EACH TREK HAS POTENTIAL FOR EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS (HEAT, COLD, HIGH ALTITUDE) AND HAS MODERATE TO STRENUOUS ACTIVITY LEVELS. I WILL BE DOING THE FOLLOWING TO PREPARE FOR THE TREK FOR WHICH I AM APPLYING: (LIST PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND FREQUENCY)					

TO THE APPLICANT: *PLEASE ANSWER BOTH QUESTIONS. FEEL FREE TO TYPE ON A SEPARATE SHEET.*

DESCRIBE WHY YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A PART OF THIS OPPORTUNITY AND WHAT SKILLS, INTERESTS, AND EXPERIENCES YOU WOULD BRING TO IT.

COMMENT BRIEFLY ON WAYS YOU MIGHT BRING THIS EXPERIENCE BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL OR OTHER EDUCATIONAL SETTING.

TO THE SUPERVISOR: THE N.C. MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES IS PROVIDING A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR OUTSTANDING NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATORS TO STUDY THE DIVERSE COMMUNITIES OF BELIZE, CENTRAL AMERICA OR YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK; USING TECHNIQUES THAT CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO NORTH CAROLINA CLASSROOMS.

THE EDUCATORS OF EXCELLENCE INSTITUTES HAVE BEEN A PROGRAM OF THE MUSEUM SINCE 1987.

ALL SUPERVISOR RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

MAIL YOUR RECOMMENDATION SEPARATELY TO: SYLVIA JONES, N.C. MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES, 11 WEST JONES STREET, RALEIGH, NC 27601-1029.

RECOMMENDATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY **MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017.**

NAME OF APPLICANT

SUPERVISOR'S NAME

SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

CELL PHONE

E-MAIL

WILL THE APPLICANT MAKE SIGNIFICANT USE OF THIS EXPERIENCE?

Yes

No

WILL THE APPLICANT BE SUPPORTED IN ATTENDING THE FOLLOW-UP EVALUATION WORKSHOP IN RALEIGH ON NOVEMBER 4, 2017?

Yes

No

PLEASE RATE THE APPLICANT IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES USING A WHOLE POINT SYSTEM FROM ONE TO FIVE, FIVE BEING THE HIGHEST OR STRONGEST RATING:

A. ATTITUDE TOWARD TEACHING

1

2

3

4

5

B. ORGANIZATIONAL ABILITY

1

2

3

4

5

C. CREATIVITY

1

2

3

4

5

D. MATURITY

1

2

3

4

5

E. INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY

1

2

3

4

5

F. ABILITY TO WORK IN A GROUP

1

2

3

4

5

G. GENERAL RECOMMENDATION OF THIS APPLICANT

1

2

3

4

5

PLEASE COMMENT BRIEFLY ON APPLICANT AND HOW YOUR INSTITUTION WILL SUPPORT HIS/HER PARTICIPATION. DESCRIBE THE SKILLS THIS APPLICANT WILL BRING TO THE PROGRAM.

SIGNATURE:

(I understand that by submitting this form electronically I am affixing my electronic signature.)

DATE: