



# SOUTHERN FALL CONFERENCE 2019



# AEOE

## PATHFINDER RANCH

November 15-17

### Friday

5:00pm-10:00pm Check In  
 5:00pm-10:00pm Game Night (bring games to play!)  
 7:30pm-8:15pm Astronomy (telescopes provided)

Perry Room  
 Perry Room  
 Lake

### Saturday

7:30am-8:15am Check-In and Breakfast  
 8:30am-8:45am Conference Kick-off  
 8:45am-9:45am **Workshop Session 1**  
 10:00am-11:00am **Workshop Session 2**  
 11:15am-12:15pm Breakout Sessions  
 12:30pm-1:15pm Lunch  
 1:30pm-2:30pm **Workshop Session 3**  
 2:45pm-3:15pm Keynote: Peter Kindfield  
 3:30pm-5:15pm Activity Time  
 5:30pm-6:15pm Dinner  
 7:15pm-7:30pm Award Ceremony  
 7:30pm-9:00pm Open Mic

Dining Hall  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Dining Hall  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Pavilion (near basketball court)  
 Dining Hall  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Fort Pathfinder

### Sunday

8:00am-8:45am Breakfast  
 9:00am-9:30am Updates from AEOE  
 9:45am-10:30am Breakout Sessions  
 10:45am-11:45am **Workshop Session 4**  
 11:45am-12:15pm Lunch (sandwich bar)  
 Clean up and have a safe trip home!

Dining Hall  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Fort Pathfinder  
 Dining Hall

\*All workshops meet at Fort Pathfinder 5 minutes before scheduled start time  
 \*Please respect the site's quiet time from 10:00pm-7:00am



Contact the Conferences Committee - [angie@aee.org](mailto:angie@aee.org)



# Workshop Descriptions

## Saturday

### Workshop 1: 8:45am - 9:45am

#### Nosce Te Ipsum - Kris Espiritu & Grace Mortero

A house represents a stable shelter for people to grow and thrive. Through metaphor analysis and discussion, participants will use the symbolism of different components of a house to identify and examine the value structure that governs their personal lives. Participants will also have an opportunity to explore and discuss how their personal values and their professional values are connected. You won't need the Property Brothers to renovate this home!

#### Mapping Natural Phenomena - Emelie Traub

Participants will enjoy a partner exploration in search of natural phenomena. They will map and share the phenomena they observe. This activity helps students learn the 7 natural resources (SAMSPAW) and how they interact to create phenomena in a fun and engaging way.

#### Teaching My Values: What Do I Believe, And What Does That Mean For What I Teach? Andrew Boyd-Goodrich

Consciously or not, we all possess our own educational philosophy. As educators, we make individual choices about what children will (and will not) learn, how and why they are learning, and why certain things are more important than others. In this workshop, we look at what YOU consider as the value and purpose of outdoor environmental education. And we weigh that against what others consider as the value and purpose. The goal is to reconcile our own philosophy with that of others: naturalist peers, students, teachers, program directors, and so on. The workshop is interactive, with lots of small- and large-group discussion.

### Workshop 2: 10:00am - 11:00am

#### How Risk-Taking Behaviors in Adolescents Affects Outdoor Education - Melanee Berlin

Attendees will learn about the neurobiology of the brain to understand adolescents' need for risk-taking behaviors. They will also learn strategies for harnessing risk-taking behaviors in a positive way and how to utilize it in outdoor education. It is mostly presentation with discussion towards the end.

#### Engaging English Language Learners in Environmental and Outdoor Education - Bridget O'Neill

This workshop will examine the similarities and differences in popular methodologies in language instruction, as well as the impact experiences at Outdoor/Science Camp have on English Language Learners (ELLs), and strategies for how to best engage them in our activities. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss challenges and strategies they have identified when working with ELLs in their own experiences, as well as participate in hands-on activities designed to help build empathy and understanding for students who are learning English.

#### NGSS at Camp - Ashleigh Roberts

This workshop will include a brief overview of how the Next Generation Science Standards work followed by a collaborative discussion about how activities at camp can connect to these goals.

### Workshop 3: 1:30pm - 2:30pm

#### Naturalist Toolbox - Bill Thornton

This session will explore creative tools we can use to help our students retain more from lessons and team building programs. This session will be hands-on.

#### Climate change, sea level on the rise! - Tom Drake

Educators will be introduced to multiple hands-on graphing exercises to entertain student-led cooperative learning forays into climate change data interpretation.

#### Give a Hoot: The Value of Teaching with Owls and Other Birds of Prey - Christian Swartzbaugh

What makes an owl an owl? Why are birds of prey such renowned hunters? Can an owl actually turn its head 360 degrees? All of these questions and more will be answered in this presentation with the help of Earl the Great Horned Owl. Participants will gain insight into raptor biology, information on their captive care and the value of using an owl as a teaching tool in an educational program. Due to their many unique traits, owls are exemplary subjects for teaching about food webs, nocturnal adaptations and sensory ecology. Participants will have the chance to observe and interact with a live owl up close as well as ask questions regarding their life history and captive care.

#### Introduction the Topography for middle school aged children. - Michael Odell

This lesson is designed to help outdoor educators introduce topography to middle school aged children. With these skills the students can then expand their learning to begin tracking their findings during or as a supporting activity for citizen science projects. As presenter I will share tools and templates for this activity and ideas as to how to expand this to fit the educators needs.

## Activity Time: 3:30pm - 5:15pm

Pathfinder Staff will be offering multiple activities for conference attendees to participate in. We will have horsemanship, farm animal interactions, nature center reptiles (and a chinchilla!), and a self-guided ethnobotanical card hike available. Come join our staff to learn about and interact with our animals and/or go on a hike to a beautiful spot overlooking campus! The horsemanship activity will have specific drop-in times with safety talks at the beginning (sign ups available on Saturday), but you're welcome to visit the farm, drop by the nature center or go on the self-guided card hike at your leisure during the scheduled activity time. For your safety, a staff person or AEOE representative will review appropriate times and protocols to visit the horses on Saturday morning.

# Workshop Descriptions

## Sunday

### Workshop 4: 10:45am - 11:45am

#### Upcycling Is The New Black- How to avoid the landfills while exploring creativity - Katie Andersen

Recycling is good, but upcycling is better! Upcycling takes something we would normally throw away or recycle and turning it into something of more value. In this workshop learners will:

- Participate in a brainstorming session to generate upcycling ideas
- Be given space and guidance to create an upcycling workshop for their own program
- Create (and take home) an upcycled reusable shopping bag

#### Nature Journaling - Rachael Lewandowski Sarette

Come spend some time out in nature processing the world around you. Nature journaling can be beneficial for educators and students alike as we practice honing our observation skills. This hands-on workshop will explore different nature journaling techniques and prompts while taking a hike through the National Forest. If possible, bring your own journal and drawing supplies.

#### Hiring Through an Equity and Inclusion Lens - Ryan Mayeda

We'll discuss the importance of equity and inclusion to promote a diverse work force in our field. We can also discuss strategies for changing hiring practices to promote a more diverse applicant pool. We'll finish with a round table discussion, so bring your questions and ideas to share with the group!

## Breakout Sessions

Participants may self-select into different facilitator-led discussion groups.

Saturday's sessions will include Novice (typically 0-2 years in OE/EE), Practitioner (2+ years but non-management), EOSM/Managers, or Formal Education. Sunday sessions to be announced at conference.

# Keynote Address Peter Kindfield

## Sat 2:45pm - 3:15pm



As a child Peter Kindfield loved learning but hated school. There was so much he wanted to learn and understand but in school he was simply expected to do as he was told. He just didn't fit into the one-size-fits-all model of education. His early educational experiences and forty years of working with other people who didn't fit the mold have helped him become the learning facilitator he is today. Peter believes that all people are unique with our own strengths, challenges, experiences, and interests and that the best way to support learning is to start where each learner is and help them expand and extend their interests, experiences, and expertise from there. Peter uses these guiding principles at Hilltop Education Connections where he delivers homeschool enrichment classes, tutoring and other educational services with a focus on nature connection, permaculture, science, math, technology (and all "academic areas") to families in Idyllwild California.

