Reaching New Heights...

Twenty Years of Excellence in Environmental Education

2008 Awards for Excellence
CAEE 2008 Environmental Education Awards

The Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education wishes to thank the Colorado State Forest Service, Whitewave and CH2MILL for their generous support of the Eleventh Annual Awards Celebration.

CAEE would also like to thank the volunteer members of the 2008 Awards Committee:

- **Kristin Libberton**, Chair, Bluff Lake Nature Center
- **Roxanne Brickell-Reardon**, Colorado State Parks – Barr Lake
- **Pam Collins**, Windsong Environmental Education Foundation
- **Barbara Fahey**, Colorado State University Coop Ext - Jefferson County
- **Kim Glatz**, Environmental Learning for Kids
- **Wendy Hanophy**, Colorado Division of Wildlife
- **Karin Hostetter**, Interpret This
- **Kathleen Okon**, Majestic View Nature Center
- **Daniel Parker**
- **Tim Sandsmark**, Lookout Mountain Nature Center, Jefferson County Open Space
- **Kary Schumpert**, Ecocycle
- **Diane Simmons**, Colorado Academy
- **Liz Wickard**, City of Aurora Parks and Open Space
For the last 20 years, the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE) has blazed a trail to reach new heights in environmental education. And we will continue our work to advance environmental education over the next 20 years to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to learn about the environment where we live and experience quality environmental education.

For the last two decades, the many individuals and organizations in environmental education have created an alliance – recognizing that together we can educate more people, reach more communities, and work for the vision of a better future. Along the journey we have strengthened our community and laid the stepping stones for an environmentally literate Colorado.

Today, more than 700 individuals from government, business, nonprofits, classrooms, and community organizations are members of CAEE and integral pieces of the environmental education community. Hundreds of thousands of learners are empowered by the work of outstanding educators, like those recognized with Awards for Excellence in Environmental Education.

Teachers join forces with CAEE through the liaison network to add more environmental education into their classrooms.

More than 300 organizations add their programs to CAEE’s online directory making it easy to find environmental education.

Educators from across the state share best practices at the annual Teaching OUTSIDE the Box Conference.

Leaders in Fort Collins, Colorado Springs, Summit County, Grand Junction, and San Luis Valley create networks to build local community.

Business, government and community leaders join CAEE to learn more about the value of environmental education and how to better support it in our communities.

The success of the Alliance is a direct result of the hard work of our dedicated volunteers, donors, sponsors, board of directors, and staff. As we look to the next 20 years, we know that with your support and dedication we will continue to:

**GROW THE ALLIANCE** by reaching beyond our current choir and engaging even more teachers, parents, and corporate, nonprofit, and governmental workers from the eastern plains to the western slope.

**ENSURE ACCESS FOR ALL** by building regional networks, improving coordination with education departments and districts, and creating a focus on diversity to ensure environmental educators represent the changing demographics in Colorado.

Over the next 20 years, we challenge each of you to support environmental education by participating, advocating, teaching, donating, and volunteering in your communities and as part of your statewide community, the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education.
CAEE 2008 Environmental Education Awards

Environmental educators across Colorado are making a difference in their communities. Through service learning, civic engagement, and encounters with the natural world, environmental education helps learners understand their role in the environment. Since 1996, the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education has had the opportunity to honor the amazing work done by the environmental educators and organizations across the state through the Awards for Excellence Program.

Enos Mills Lifetime Achievement Award
This award for significant achievement is named after Enos Mills, “founder” of Rocky Mountain National Park, and is presented by CAEE to individuals for their long-term, outstanding achievements and contributions to environmental education. Enos Mills spent his life discovering and experiencing nature, and working tirelessly to preserve it by sharing its benefits with others through guiding, writing and photographs. Like Enos Mills, the award recipients have demonstrated leadership and commitment to the field of environmental education through a significant body of work. Past recipients include:

- George A. “Buddy” Wilson, 1996
- Glen A. Hinshaw, 1997
- CeCe Forget, 1998
- Enda Mills Kiley, 1998
- Roxanne Brickell-Reardon, 1999
- Elizabeth Gardener, 2000
- Oakleigh Thorne, II, 2001
- Mary Ann Bonnell, 2002
- Shawna Crocker, 2003
- Mike Way, 2004
- Wendy MacPhail-Brigham, 2005
- Dave Sutherland, 2005
- Wendy Hanophy, 2006
- Raymond Tschillard, 2007

President’s Award
Each year, the CAEE board of directors selects one individual or organization to receive the CAEE President’s Award, in honor of exceptional leadership for environmental preservation, sustainability, and education.

Environment Education Program Awards
Initiated in 1996, CAEE Environmental Education Program Awards honor leadership in developing effective, cooperative, cross-sector environmental education programs. The 2008 recipients have demonstrated success in implementing innovative environmental education programs and partnerships.

Recognition for Outstanding Retiring Educator
Please join us in congratulating Lisa Evans, the second recipient of this award, for her outstanding leadership in environmental education for over twenty-five years. She led the Colorado Division of Wildlife to embrace and advocate building strong relationships with teachers to promote wildlife conservation and reach thousands of students. As a District Wildlife Manager, Lisa was one of the first to use Project Wild, and went far beyond her conservation officer duties to implement it. During her career, she conducted or coordinated almost 200 Project Wild workshops training over 2,500 teachers. Lisa focused on connecting people of all ages to nature through her work at the Division of Wildlife, with the Children in Nature Network, and as the founder of the Front Range Environmental Education Exchange. Lisa Evans is extremely dedicated, energetic and hard working.

Please visit the displays to learn more about these outstanding programs and individuals.
Enos Mills Lifetime Achievement Award
Dave Van Manen

Dave Van Manen is an opportunistic environmental educator. Throughout his career he has taken advantage of many tools to benefit his diverse and varied audiences. Dave began his life’s work in environmental education creating and performing “environmental” music for children. His songs and stories gained nationwide recognition and are still used by radio, classrooms and camps. His music won the Parent’s Choice Award in 1991 for the album titled, “We Recycle and Other Songs for Earth Keepers.”

In the mid 1990s, Dave began a crusade to save the Pueblo Mountain Park. His dream was to turn it into a place for appreciating and learning about nature. He envisioned a center for environmental education. Building on the vision of Arthur Carhart, who persuaded the people of Pueblo to set aside the land for use as a park 90 years ago, Dave, through several pilot programs, was able to inspire the Pueblo area governments and schools with his vision for the park. He gradually enlisted a group of supporters as he found additional resources for his vision. By 2000, Dave gave up his profession as a musician and began a new career directing and running the Mountain Park Environmental Center (MPEC).

At first, MPEC was essentially a one-man operation. Dave designed the programs, built displays, taught, wrote grants and administered MPEC. Today, MPEC has eight permanent employees and up to ten seasonal and contract staff.

In MPEC’s first year, through information gathered from the community, Dave developed Nature: The Natural High, a full-day, standards-based, outdoor program. His programming even included testing materials and transportation. In 2002, Dave developed a multi-day environmental experience, Earth Studies. Currently, 100% of Pueblo City Schools’ fifth graders attend Earth Studies. Dave has always maintained a curriculum of the highest quality and he proves it through his programs every day. Extensive evaluation data show students are positively impacted academically, in their attitudes towards nature and in their self-esteem, by MPEC’s programs.

CAEE presented the Best New Program Award to MPEC in 2003, for the program Earth Studies, and again in 2005, for the program Mountain Pathways for Young Women. These programs demonstrate Dave’s knack for collaborating with other agencies to develop programs combining environmental education with curriculum. In addition to all these efforts, Dave made time to write the field guide, “Plants of the Pueblo Mountain Park.”

Recently, the City of Pueblo contracted MPEC to manage all of Pueblo Mountain Park; greatly adding to MPEC’s service to the community. Dave is tireless in raising funds for this enterprise. He is currently in the middle of a $1.6 million ($1.1 million raised) renovation of Horseshoe Lodge, a depression-era building, that has tripled MPEC’s classroom capacity. However, overnight facilities for residential programs, retreats, workshops and trainings are still in the works.

Dave is a leader. He lives what he teaches and is open-minded to new ideas. He is not afraid to tackle and overcome any challenge presented to him. His innovative thinking has brought great programs, new ideas, and inspired others.

Dave says, “I think it’s important to come up with program ideas to address an issue, and then to take it from a rough idea to actually making it happen. That’s what I love to do more than anything.” Helene, his wife, has said, “And if he says he’s going to do something, he does it.”
President’s Award

Hamlet J. “Chips” Barry III
Manager, Denver Water Department

The Board of Directors of the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE) is proud to honor Chips Barry with the 2008 President’s Award in recognition of his leadership in the environmental and water conservation fields. His dedication and involvement in natural resources and water issues has spanned almost 40 years.

Chips is the Manager of the Denver Water Department where he leads work in conservation and education. Chips has consistently supported the environmental education efforts of staff in both the water quality and quantity education of all Denver Water customers. Through Denver Water’s informational services and educational programs, stewardship and conservation are promoted through topics like smart water use and comprehensive future supply planning.

Throughout his career, Chips has contributed to the advancement and capacity of environmental education, most notably through his community involvement and support of educational organizations. He helped negotiate the contract in support of Thorne Ecological Institute’s work on Denver Water property near Waterton Canyon, allowing Thorne to expand their outreach over the last 15 years. In 1993, he was the recipient of the Thorne Ecological Institute Award for Environment Achievement. As a member of the Board of Directors for Water for People (a project of the American WaterWorks Association) he helped the budget grow from $1,000,000 to $6,800,000 in just 10 years, enabling the organization to continue to educate people around the world about clean water and sanitation.

In the last 20 years, Chips Barry has made more than a hundred public presentations on western water policy, water development, public land management, mining, and the interaction of state, local and federal government in western resource issues.

Barry’s career is filled with public service. Prior to becoming Manager of the Denver Water Department in 1991, he was in Governor Romer’s cabinet as Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. He also served as a member of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board, and the Energy Impact Advisory Board. He presently serves on the Colorado River Advisory Committee, and was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Colorado Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

CAEE’s Board of Directors is honored to recognize Chips Barry for his involvement in environmental and water issues and his efforts to build capacity for environmental education.
Best New Program Award
Lookout Mountain Nature Center and
Jefferson County Open Space
Plant PARTners

Lookout Mountain Nature Center creates awareness, understanding and conservation of Jefferson County’s open spaces through year-round educational programs and exhibits.

In 2006, the Nature Center launched Plant PARTners, a two-hour trail-based school program that encourages first through third grade students to explore the world of plants. This unique program is designed to specifically coincide with the content of the second-grade unit, Investigating Plants, used by Jefferson County Public Schools. With the help of Elementary Science Curriculum Content Specialist, Donnie Seibel, activities were created to provide outdoor experiences related to classroom lesson plans.

Plant PARTners allows students, who may not otherwise have a chance to spend time outdoors, the opportunity to look at plants up-close in their natural environment. Students begin the program by dividing into groups to act out specific plant parts. They also learn a song about plant parts that is repeated throughout the program. Next, the students head out on the trail to discover how plants use their parts to survive in the foothills environment. Along the way, students take part in a variety of hands-on activities that relate to plant experiments they are conducting in the classroom. At one stop along the trail, a student volunteer dresses up in a layered ponderosa pine costume to discover the unique adaptations of the magnificent tree. Other activities include sketching plants, taking part in a pollination role-play, and collecting seeds to examine. The program ends with a game that matches consumers in the ecosystem with the plant parts they eat. Students participating in Plant PARTners gain an appreciation of the important role plants play in the foothills ecosystem and the importance of conserving plants and their habitat.

Since its official introduction in September 2006, over 3,000 children have taken part in Plant PARTners.
Wildwood School is a nonprofit environmental preschool, serving children ages 2 ½ to 6 years of age. Thirty-five years ago, Bob Lewis created the Wildwood earthen building and the philosophy that children gather understanding of the world around them by seeing, feeling, hearing and touching. The Wildwood School is located on White River National Forest land 3 miles outside of Aspen. Their curriculum revolves around the seasons and their experiences are right outside the door. Their curriculum takes them to explore the woods and on walks to the beach of the Roaring Fork River. They nurture and grow seedlings so that they can harvest tomatoes, squash, peppers and herbs in their grow dome. Whether the activity of the day is sliding down the snow covered roof or snowshoeing to search for tracks in the snow, kids learn and grow. Back inside the children grind wheat or corn, to cook with, create stories and puppet shows from experiences, and look up which animals make the tracks they just discovered.

In the words of a parent, “When I drop my son off at Wildwood, when I cross the threshold and step into the building, I feel as though I’m stepping into another world—the magical world of young imagination.”

The Wildwood program is nationally accredited and has received the highest quality rating from Qualistar in Early Childhood Education, to be recognized in the environmental education field is a perfect combination. Because tuition alone does not cover operating costs Wildwood’s Board of Directors tirelessly fundraise with the help of parents and community members. Wildwood does provide need-based scholarships so that any young child can naturally fall in love with the planet. At Wildwood their job is to make sure they are properly introduced.
Agriculture Award
CSU Extension, Teller County
Cripple Creek GreenHousers Junior Master Gardener Program

The Junior Master Gardener (JMG) program is an international youth gardening program of the University Cooperative Extension network that started in 1998 at Texas A & M University. Spearheaded by Colorado State University Extension, Teller County, the success of the program is due to the collaborative efforts of the City of Cripple Creek, Pikes Peak Community Foundation, Cripple Creek Parks and Recreation, Teller County Public Health, Colorado Master Gardeners of Teller County, the Catamount Institute, Cripple Creek Rehab and Wellness Center, the Gordon Jackson Foundation, the Teller County Fair, and Jerianne Heimendinger.

In its first year, the program has woven resources, finances, curriculum, and educational expertise to reach 33 kids from 6 to 13 years old, and touched an untold number of adults throughout the community.

JMG engages children in novel, “hands-on” group and individual learning experiences that provide a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind. Youth who participate in the program explore their world through exploration of soils, insects, aquatic and terrestrial landscapes, and of course via the experience of growing and harvesting produce at 9,500ft!

Older kids learned leadership skills when peer and cross generation mentoring occurred while the youth interacted with Master Gardeners, community leaders and residents of the Cripple Creek Rehab and Wellness Center. The Cripple Creek JMG program provided opportunities for youth to interact and bond with nature. As they grew alongside the plants, participants learned how and why to conserve our natural resources, and make knowledgeable decisions about the environment. The participants have even entered their produce in the County Fair and received ribbons in several categories, which they display at the Park and Recreation facility.

“What more rewarding endeavor can we achieve than teaching our youth to grow their own produce while learning how all the elements of the environment come together to create this food? This is truly about growing kids!” Mark Platten, CSU Extension Director, Teller County.

On the day the program was harvesting and cooking vegetables for their greenhouse feast, 8-year-old Stephen said, “I hope we have something else to eat besides vegetables because my older brother David doesn’t eat vegetables.” Larry, the instructor said to Stephen, “I just think your brother finished eating all his vegetables and he is going back for seconds”. Stephen said, “Well today is different!”
Government Award
Office of Water Conservation, Aurora
Forests to Faucets: Aurora’s Water Resources

“Forests to Faucets” is an annual continuing education Project WET and Project Learning Tree Workshop for K-12 Educators. The program began in 2006 as a partnership between the Aurora Water Office of Water Conservation and Project WET (Water Education for Teachers).

The Aurora Water Office of Water Conservation provides water education and outreach programs for approximately 300,000 people in Aurora including programs for students and youth. Project WET is a non-profit water education program for educators and young people that facilitates and promotes awareness, appreciation, knowledge and stewardship of water resources.

“Forests to Faucets” is designed to provide Aurora teachers with an in-depth education about water and water-related issues by taking them literally from the forest to the faucet. During the three-day workshop teachers visit forest fire burn areas in the upper South Platte watershed, the Aurora Reservoir, the Aurora Xeriscape garden and several water treatment plants. They explore water related topics such as where our water comes from, how our water is treated, the importance of a healthy forest and water conservation.

Aurora teachers who complete the program receive 1.5 hours of graduate level re-certification credit through the Colorado School of Mines. They also receive “Project Learning Tree” and “Water Education for Teachers” curriculum guides. Funding for the workshop and college credit is provided by Aurora Water.

By educating approximately 29 teachers each year the number of people who are reached with these messages increases exponentially over time as teachers continue to use the material with new students for years to come.

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Religious/Spiritual Award
Mountain View Friends Meeting
“Green The Meeting” Project

In the fall of 2007, a half dozen junior high students decided to take on the task of making their church more “green.” The Junior Young Friends (JYF) belong to Mountain View Friends Meeting in Denver (also known as Quakers). They researched the costs of various measures, wrote a rationale, and presented their proposal to the Meeting for Business, which supported their project enthusiastically.

Their rationale for the project was: “We feel that making the Meeting more green would be good for the environment. We all live on the same planet and we need to take care of it. We believe that many people in the Meeting are doing this individually, but not as a community. It is time to walk our talk!”

From April through October of 2008, the JYF implemented the following projects:

- **Bike Rack**: Using recycled aluminum tubing and with the help of Noah Bardwell of The De-Railer Bicycle Co-op, they welded a bicycle rack which was installed in front of the Meeting House.

- **Compost bin**: A compost bin was donated and installed. Signs are posted letting everyone know what can and can’t be composted.

- **Recycling**: An adult member of the Meeting volunteered to place a recycling bin in the kitchen and to take the contents to a recycling center. (Because Mountain View is a church, it cannot get curbside recycling).

- **Paper products**: The Meeting agreed to buy and use only recycled paper products. Two adult volunteers brought in cloth towels and agreed to make sure that towels are washed each week. Signs are posted encouraging people to use cloth when possible.

  The Meeting agreed to buy fair trade coffee and tea.

The Green the Meeting Project was embraced enthusiastically by the Meeting as a whole, and soon the JYF students were hearing from adults who said that they had begun recycling or composting at home because of their example. Others began riding their bikes to Meeting, now that there was a secure bike rack to use. Future projects including car-pooling are planned.

Can a half dozen junior high students make a difference for the environment? Apparently so.
Government Award
CSU Extension in Jefferson County
Eagle’s Nest/Owl’s Roost Environmental Discovery Day Camp

Eagle’s Nest/Owl’s Roost (ENOR) is an Environmental Day Camp, sponsored by CSU Extension in Jefferson County, for students entering the 4th and 5th grades. Campers attending ENOR discover the natural and cultural history of Colorado by participating in environmental enrichment activities such as wildlife identification, renewable energy topics, water conservation, Colorado history, and ecology. Campers also explore social themes such as teamwork, cooperation, friendship, respect for each other and the environment. As a result of a child attending ENOR, many parents cite that they will adopt or strengthen environmental practices in the family such as: recycling, water and energy conservation, discussing environmental issues and hiking more often in open space parks.

ENOR, part of Jefferson County 4-H since 1974, has educated nearly 15,000 youth and is an award-winning example of hands-on, real-life learning. Many entities are involved with the cooperating effort to provide this unique and comprehensive environmental education experience. Cooperating agencies include:

- Army Corps of Engineers
- Clear Creek County School District
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Colorado School of Mines
- Colorado State Parks
- Gilpin County Museum
- Jefferson County Open Space Parks
- Jefferson County School District

A real testament to the quality of ENOR is the former campers who work as educators. The ENOR program has recognized that the true innovation of such a program comes not in the standards or structures embedded within the curriculum, but in the spontaneity and joy that may be found spending a week in the wilderness, where anything usual can turn into an adventure.

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“This is the best nature day camp! Thank you!”
ENOR Parent

“This camp rocked!!”
“I thought I learned a lot and had fun along the way.”
ENOR Campers

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ENOR Campers
On Earth Day 2008, the Regis Highlander student newspaper published a special full-color Sustainability issue. Stories by students in Media Writing and Public Relations courses, taught by Dr. Mary Beth Callie, focused on campus energy conservation efforts, recycling in public places, the new bicycle rental program, and sustainable dining; whole page ads promoted cycling, use of mass transit “Things to Do on the 52” (bus route 52), recycling “To Recycle or Not Recycle: It’s no longer a question,” and profiles of faculty, staff, and students who routinely bike, use mass transit, or recycle. This educational campaign sought to change attitudes and behaviors by offering positive role models and examples. Highlander editor-in-chief Maricor Coquia, an honors Interdivisional pre-med student, designed the layout for the special issue.

Since fall 2006, the Highlander has worked with Student Government, SPEAK, the student environmental club, and Physical Plant to help educate the community about sustainability issues and practices. Led by Coquia with the support of Dr. Callie as faculty advisor, the Highlander strives for a “civic” journalism mission, seeking to promote “dialogue, awareness, and understanding about matters of community importance,” particularly around the university mission question of “how ought we to live?” With a print and online version, the paper serves students, faculty, staff, alumni, and neighbors in the Regis community by facilitating problem-solving, decision-making, and empathic understanding of diverse perspectives and experiences.

In the past two years, through regular and in-depth explanatory coverage of sustainability issues, especially recycling and mass transit, the Highlander has helped to educate readers about campus challenges and possible solutions. In fall 2006 an in-depth story by Coquia detailed the extent and limits of the existing recycling program and then offered campus readers a sense of the ways the program could be developed, and what it would take to do so. Most importantly, the paper provided the common set of accurate facts, explanation, and perspectives that has facilitated decisions, problem-solving, and changes. Several weeks later, the main decision-makers came together to develop an expanded recycling program.

“At The Highlander, Dr. Callie, the faculty advisor, and Maricor Coquia, the editor-in-chief, encourage reporters to accurately connect the dots and look deeper into the issues behind the story. In the Jesuit tradition, The Highlander strives for “magis,” or “more” in their reporting; and it is because of this integrity and reliability that The Highlander plays such an instrumental role in the environmental movement at Regis. Through the reporting, perspective pieces, and publicity in The Highlander, I have witnessed the power of the media as a tool for environmental education.” Zach Owens, senior honors Biochemistry major, Director of the Sustainability Committee in the Student Government and Highlander contributing writer.
PreK- Elementary Award
Ridgway State Park

Ridgway State Park offers a unique outdoor classroom in southwestern Colorado. Their Parks in Education (PIE) program designed in 2000, perpetuated by Sheryl Radovich and currently coordinated by Arlene Crawford, both Seasonal Park Interpreters, has grown from one to six learning experiences. These experiences include aspects of botany, geology, lifecycles, wildlife anatomy and adaptation, as well as the importance of water. Students spend a full day in the outdoors moving from station to station, discovering, exploring and investigating different aspects of the theme for that day’s program.

Students of all levels (mainly K-4th grade), from all types of schools, as well as various backgrounds, English as second language and varied handicaps, participate. All learning styles are accommodated by the design of each learning experience. Strongly appealing to educators, all experiences are aligned to Colorado’s academic standards. The PIE program has grown in popularity, as a result of the unique presentation of relevant information, to accommodate more and more students so that it has doubled in size from its modest beginning.

Teaching techniques continued, by Ridgway staff and volunteers, in the style of the creator, Sheryl, who has been described by a past principal, “...like a slowly turning prism, students see any topic from many angles through her teaching.” The current coordinator, Arlene uses the foundation developed by Sheryl enhancing PIE with an emphasis on scientific process, intensive development of volunteer educators and pre-visit activities. These teaching techniques ensure every student can better understand each topic and fully grasp the concepts of each learning experience.

Financial aid for the PIE program comes from Friends of Ridgway State Park, Rocky Mountain Nature Association and Great Outdoors Colorado. PIE is attracting growing numbers of organizations, which provide support and funding. This aid provides materials for the learning experiences and also provides funding for student transportation.

Unique to PIE is the professional and comprehensive curriculum provided to schools and educators. PIE provides: a teacher’s guide, pre-visit information and activities, and post-program follow-up activity suggestions. Formal teacher evaluations and parent-student feedback provide suggestions for consideration as the curriculum continues to evolve to meet student needs. Growing from an idea to six learning experiences, PIE has accrued almost 900 hours of volunteer time, a paid interpreter and participants from as far as 50 miles. Many students return with their families to further explore the park after attending their learning experience; expanding the reach of PIE.

“The legacy for Ridgway State Park is the interaction students have with their natural environment while applying and adding to their academic knowledge, and creating the future stewards of our environment. This CAEE Program Award is a wonderful nod from the best of the best in Environmental Education for the PIE program in its many years of operation and into the future.”
Kirstin Copeland, Park Manager
Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education

What is CAEE?
Within the enormous array of environmental education programming, the effectiveness of collective efforts are as important as the separate results of any individual program or project. CAEE enhances Colorado’s EE community by providing professional development opportunities, coordinating support services and facilitating communication and networking between Colorado’s EE providers and the public. CAEE was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to serve the shared interests of public agencies, businesses, teachers, community organizations and individuals distributing and using EE.

Priority Programs and Activities
CAEE is a national leader in innovative, state-of-the-art approaches to statewide EE capacity building. CAEE is a vibrant and growing community of more than 700 members, including teachers, non-formal educators, community organizations, public agencies, businesses, non-profits, and individual stakeholders who support a common vision of improving environmental literacy in Colorado. To fulfill this role in the wide-ranging EE community, CAEE manages several programs and projects, including:

- EE Directory – the state’s on-line “yellow pages” of EE resources
- Resource Review System - a quality assurance review process for EE programs/materials
- Teaching OUTSIDE the Box - the annual statewide EE professional development conference
- EE Program Awards - a statewide, annual recognition program
- Stewardship of Colorado’s Environmental Education Master Plan project
- Hosting the state’s EE Advisory Council - made up of key leaders from Colorado’s EE community
- Certification of Environmental Educators
- Diversity and Inclusiveness Initiative
- Maintaining close working relationships with community-based regional EE networks
- Hosting the Colorado Environmental Film Festival – a celebration of the inspirational and educational power of film

CAEE Staff
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Katie Navin, Program Coordinator
Kate Gardner, Program Assistant
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CAEE Membership
You are invited to join the largest professional organization for environmental educators in Colorado. By supporting CAEE as a member, you will receive the following benefits:
- Monthly newsletter
- Announcements of upcoming EE events and EE job openings
- Discounts to CAEE functions
- Invitations to networking functions
- Professional development workshops
- Free placement on the Colorado Environmental Education Directory (for organizational members)

Membership Rates
Student or Teacher: $15/year
Individual: $35/year
Organizational: $65/year
Corporation: $500/year

A membership form is available at www.caee.org or by contacting the CAEE Office.

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