



ENVIRONMENTAL
GRANTMAKERS
ASSOCIATION

EGA 2016 WINTER BRIEFING: INNOVATIONS ON THE GROUND

EDEN ROC MIAMI BEACH | MARCH 1 - 2, 2016

Speaker Biographies



Lise Aangeenbrug, Executive Director, Great Outdoors Colorado Trust

Appointed GOCO's executive director in 2009, Lise is leading the Board in a clear direction for GOCO's next five years and the awarding of more than \$300 million in grants: Protect Land for People and Wildlife; Connect Coloradans to Parks, Trails, and Open Spaces; and Inspire Colorado's Kids to Get Outside. Under Lise's leadership, GOCO recently convened Colorado's first Outdoors Summit with the governor and business, nonprofit and community leaders. GOCO launched its new Inspire Initiative at the summit to change how we collectively engage communities in getting kids and families outside for their well-being and the future of the state's outdoor brand. Lise contributed to GOCO's establishment and helped developed its grant programs in 1993. Lise began her career in natural resources as a field biologist in the Masai Mara Game Reserve, and has held positions with the Colorado Conservation Trust, California Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Department of the Interior as a Presidential Management Fellow, the National Audubon Society and the National Association of State Foresters. She earned her master's degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and her bachelor's from St. Lawrence University



Cristobal J. Alex, President, Latino Victory Project

Cristóbal Alex is the President of the Latino Victory Project, an ambitious effort to build Latino political power so that the faces and voices of Latinos are reflected at every level of government and in the policies that drive our country forward. Prior to joining the Latino Victory Project, he spent more than five years in philanthropy serving at both the Open Society Foundations and the Ford Foundation where he invested more than \$60M to increase political participation in communities of color. Previously, Cristóbal served as Director of the National Campaign to Restore Civil Rights, where he led a coalition to protect civil rights and develop strategies to win in the federal courts. He also practiced civil rights law with MacDonald Hoague & Bayless, one of the

nation's leading law firms. A native of El Paso, Texas, Cristóbal received his J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law, where he served as the student body president.



Jennifer Allen, National Director, Chispa, League of Conservation Voters

Jennifer Allen is the National Director of LCV's Chispa where she oversees one of the largest efforts of a national environmental organization to support and build Latino community participation and leadership in the fight against climate change. Prior to joining the LCV, for ten years Jennifer was the founding Executive Director of the Border Action Network, Arizona's largest immigrant and border community organization, where she led successful state and national policy campaigns. Jennifer's prior experience includes economic and community development work with indigenous and rural communities throughout the southwest. She is a frequent source for national media, a guest speaker at national venues, and has published numerous reports and academic publications. She is a graduate of the University of Colorado in Boulder, CO.



Nancy Bales, Executive Director, Gray Family Foundation

Nancy Bales is Executive Director at the Gray Family Foundation, a supporting organization of The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF). She joined the Foundation in 2014. The Gray Family Foundation seeks to enhance opportunities for Oregonians to have rich and full lives by engaging them to become active stewards of their natural and built communities.

Previous to this, Nancy was the Vice President, Development at Ecotrust, a 65-person, hybrid organization, working in the Pacific Northwest to foster a natural model of development to create more resilient communities, economies, and ecosystems. As a member of Ecotrust's senior leadership team, she was responsible for planning and implementing strategy for the nonprofit and their for-profit subsidiaries. She managed an events and development staff of ten. She put in place a structure to support the emergent needs of the organization, identified new opportunities to diversify funding streams, and developed tools to measure and articulate the organization's impact. In her last two years, she supported a leadership transition from Ecotrust's founder and launched a capital campaign.

At the Gray Family Foundation, Nancy works to advocate for partnerships and public policy changes that support greater environmental literacy and connections to their natural and built environments: collaborating with other funders and spearheading efforts for positive change. She helped to establish the Oregon Outdoor Education Coalition and now serves on the executive

leadership team of the Coalition, a statewide advocacy effort to secure funding to ensure all Oregon children, regardless of income, ethnicity, and geography have access to hands-on, place-based outdoor education within Oregon's K-12 education system. In this role, she also acts as a key advisor to the Outdoor School for All Political Action Campaign which is currently actively working to qualify a ballot initiative for the 2016 election that would provide annually \$22 million in state lottery funds for outdoor education.

Nancy provides strategic direction on the Foundation's other interest areas: Geography Education, Camp Maintenance, and Latino Leadership Development. She sits on the advisory board for the Latino Leadership Program at OCF, as well as OCF's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion team. She also sits on the steering committee of the Blue Sky Funders Forum, a national network of foundations working to inspire, deepen, and expand private funding and philanthropic leadership to promote learning opportunities that connect people and nature and advance environmental literacy. In 2016, Nancy was appointed, by Oregon Governor Kate Brown, to the Legislative Task Force Funding for Fish, Wildlife and Related Outdoor Recreation & Education.

Nancy grew up in the Midwest, making her way to Oregon via Australia, where she worked and spent time in the outdoors. While calling Portland home, she's also lived in Ireland and France with her family.



Marc Berejka, Director, Government Affairs, Public Affairs, REI

Marc Berejka has served as REI's government affairs director since 2011 and its director of community affairs since early 2013. REI is a national outdoor retail cooperative with over five million active members and annual sales exceeding \$2 billion. The co-op's mission is to "inspire, educate and outfit people for a lifetime of outdoor adventure and stewardship."

In the policy realm, Mr. Berejka guides the co-op's engagement in federal, state and local issues. This includes advocacy on matters that affect retailers in the outdoor recreation sector, such as main-street business regulation, Internet sales and international trade. And it includes efforts to assure REI's current and future members can continue enjoy outdoor recreation – whether that be recreating close to home or at the nation's many outdoor destinations. Mr. Berejka also oversees the co-op's community grants program. The program annually distributes several million dollars to hundreds of local, regional and national organizations that help sustain and promote the country's inspiring places to recreate.

Before joining REI, Mr. Berejka served as technology policy advisor to then-Secretary Gary Locke at the US Department of Commerce. Prior to that, he worked for 12 years in various public policy roles at

Microsoft, both in Washington D.C. and in Washington State. He spent the first part of his career as a telecommunications attorney. He holds a J.D. from Georgetown University and a B.A. from Princeton University.



Sarah Bodor, Director of Policy and Affiliate Relations, North American Association for Environmental Education

Sarah Bodor joined NAAEE as Director of Policy and Affiliate Relations in June 2015. In this role, she is working with partners to identify policy priorities and design state and federal strategy to advance environmental literacy. Prior to joining NAAEE, Sarah worked at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, where she held a number of program management and leadership positions throughout the organization. She worked closely with state education agencies in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia to develop and pilot standards-based curricula and provide teacher professional development. Her background also includes communications and fundraising. In 2008, she served as the writer of Maryland's Children in Nature Plan, which resulted in passage of Maryland's environmental literacy high school graduation requirement. From 2008-2012, Sarah coordinated the national No Child Left Inside grassroots coalition of more than 2,200 organizations focused on generating public and private support for the development and implementation of statewide environmental literacy plans. She monitors local, state, regional, and national advances in the integration of environmental education into K-12 public school curricula, and develops funding and programmatic strategy for the implementation of state and local environmental literacy plans. She is a member of the Maryland Children in Nature Partnership Steering Committee and the Chesapeake Bay Program's Education Workgroup.



Fernando Bretos, Curator of Ecology and Field Conservation, Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science

Mr. Bretos directs The Ocean Foundation's Cuba Marine Research and Conservation Project (www.cubamar.org). He is based at Miami Science Museum. He has worked in Cuba for almost 15 years where he has collaborated on major marine biodiversity expeditions, coral reef health assessments and most recently a unique project with the University of Havana to study a green sea turtle population at Guanahacabibes Biosphere Reserve. Mr. Bretos also manages the Trilateral Initiative for Marine Science and Conservation in the Gulf of Mexico and Western Caribbean, a multinational program initiated in 2007 to restore coastal and marine resources shared by the three nations of the Gulf of Mexico: Cuba, Mexico and the United States.

Prior his work at the Ocean Foundation, Mr. Bretos worked at The Ocean Conservancy where he managed the organization's

conservation programs in the Wider Caribbean. He has organized several marine expeditions in Caribbean waters including one to Navassa Island, which resulted in the declaration of the isolated U.S. protectorate as a National Wildlife Refuge in 2000.



Priscilla Brooks, Vice President and Director of Ocean Conservation, Conservation Law Foundation

Priscilla Brooks is Vice President and Director of Ocean Conservation at the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF). Priscilla received her B.S. in Communications from Cornell University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in marine resource economics from the University of Rhode Island where her research focused on seafood marketing and trade. The mission of CLF's Ocean Conservation Program is to restore and protect New England's ocean environment and promote resiliency in the face of a changing climate. Priscilla's work focuses on the three primary goals of CLF's Ocean Conservation Program: (1) rebuilding depleted fish populations; (2) restoring and protecting marine biodiversity and ocean habitat through the implementation of a system of Marine Protected Areas; and (3) development of comprehensive coastal and marine spatial plans for ecosystem-based management of New England's ocean waters. CLF (www.clf.org) is a member-supported non-profit environmental advocacy organization that uses the law, science and the market to preserve natural resources, build healthy communities and sustain a thriving economy. CLF protects New England's environment for the benefit of all people. Prior to joining CLF, Priscilla logged thousands of miles as crew aboard the sailing school/oceanographic research schooners of Sea Education Association in the North Atlantic and Caribbean as well as with the University of Massachusetts aboard their geological research vessel in Northern Labrador.



Adam Browning, Executive Director, Vote Solar

Adam is the co-founder and Executive Director of Vote Solar, a non-profit advocacy organization with the mission of bringing solar energy into the mainstream. Vote Solar got its start with a successful ballot initiative for a \$100 million solar revenue bond in San Francisco in 2001, and since then has been working with state and municipal governments on pro-solar policies, with the goal of jumpstarting the national transition to renewable energy. Vote Solar has 16 advocates spread across the country, working full-time to advance solar markets.



Sarah Christiansen, Senior Programs Officer, Solidago Foundation

Sarah Christiansen is a senior program officer leading the Environmental portfolios at Solidago Foundation and its affiliated foundations focused on the nexus of climate, front-line impacted communities and politics. She is a Fulbright scholar with an M.S. in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology working across different continents in community organizing and policy driver committed to more socially just and environmentally sound solutions. As an elected school official in the western hills of Massachusetts, she is an advocate of public education, parent of two fabulous kids, 11 chickens, 1 dog and a cabinet of preserves replenished annually.



Denise Collazo, Chief Of Staff, PICO National Network

Recently appointed as Chief of Staff, Denise works closely with PICO's Executive Director and the National Senior Leadership Team to lead the 40-person national staff team. Denise has helped PICO Southeast organizations integrate data-driven voter engagement tools into their organizing tool belts as part of a broader effort to engage faith voters around a pro-family economic fairness agenda. She has grown PICO's work in Florida, Louisiana and Alabama over the past few years and in 2012 led the state campaign to defeat Amendment 3 which was a TABOR-like measure designed to decrease public investment in Florida. In Louisiana she has helped PICO groups build out a local and statewide sentencing reform campaign. Denise began her PICO organizing career in 1992 in Oakland, California where she focused on school reform, affordable housing development and youth organizing. She then served as Executive Director of the San Francisco Organizing Project where she launched a successful "Yes in My Back Yard" campaign, which has resulted in the development of hundreds of units of affordable housing. She also led an early PICO effort in San Francisco to pass a local affordable housing ballot measure (which failed) during her tenure in San Francisco. Denise holds an A.B. in Romance Languages and Literature from Harvard College and grew up in California's Salinas Valley. After college she completed a public policy internship with the National Puerto Rican Coalition and went on to work with the Center for Community Change, where she discovered faith-based community organizing and joined the PICO family.



Sean Cosgrove, Program Officer, Gordon & Betty Moore

Based primarily in Washington, D.C., Sean manages the Moore Foundation's grant portfolios related to Mid-Atlantic ocean planning and national policy for fisheries and ocean planning. With more than 20 years of experience in conservation advocacy, Sean served previously for seven years as campaign manager at the Conservation Law Foundation, where his work focused on Congress, federal agencies, fisheries, habitat protection, national marine sanctuaries and ocean policy.



Marianne Cufone, Environmental Lawyer, Executive Director/Founder, Recirculating Farms Coalition

Marianne is the Executive Director and Founder of the Recirculating Farms Coalition. She is an environmental attorney, and long time healthy, affordable food advocate. She is also a professional chef, trained by the Natural Gourmet Institute, a leading facility on health supportive culinary arts and theory. Marianne has worked in natural resources management, focused on oceans, fisheries, seafood and agriculture for the past 15 years. She directed the fish and oceans program at Food and Watch (2007-2011), managed the Gulf, South Atlantic and Caribbean fisheries program for the Center for Marine Conservation (1999-2003), and runs Environment Matters, a consulting firm that provides legal, policy and communications support to non-profit organizations (2003-present). Marianne taught law and graduate college courses and guest lectures at assorted academic institutions. She runs an annual environmental policy clinical project at Loyola University, New Orleans, School of Law. She maintains positions on management advisory committees for Hillsborough County (Florida), the State of Florida and the federal government. Marianne appears in print, television, radio, and other media, is published in various magazines and professional works and testified before Congress. She is a member of: the Florida Bar; the Louisiana Bar, the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida; the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, the U.S. Supreme Court; the American Bar Association, Section of Environment, Energy and Resources; and the American Fisheries Society.



Elizabeth Doud, Performer

Elizabeth has a background rooted in creative writing and contemporary performance, and over 18 years experience as an arts organizer and educator, with an emphasis on international cultural exchange. She is an interdisciplinary artist who actively tours performance work, and is currently co-producing Climakaze with FUNDarte, an arts and climate change performance and dialogue platform. When she and Siren Jones are not fighting eco-crime with arts, she acts as the Coordinator of the Performing Americas Program of the NPN, an international cultural exchange initiative with Latin America and the Caribbean. Presently, she is pursuing a Ph.D. in Performing Arts at the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil and producing an ongoing eco-performance lab entitled The Mermaid Tear Factory.



Eric Eikenberg, CEO, Everglades Foundation

Appointed to the position of CEO by the Foundation's board of directors in July of 2012, Eric Eikenberg has extensive policy and political experience in Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. During his time in public service, Eikenberg served as chief of staff to former Gov. Charlie Crist and former U.S. Rep. E. Clay Shaw. Immediately preceding his joining the Everglades Foundation, Eikenberg served as senior policy advisor at the law firm of Holland & Knight, LLP co-chairing the firm's Florida Government Advocacy Team with former Gov. Bob Martinez. As the CEO of the Everglades Foundation, Eikenberg leads the Foundation's science, advocacy, communications and legal teams, which are nationally recognized for their expertise in Everglades restoration. A graduate of the American University and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Eric and his family live in Miami.



Marc Gauthier, STEM Coordinator, Holmes Elementary; CEO, Fruit of Life Organics

Marc Gauthier is a ten year veteran of Science Curriculum Support and Design with Miami Dade County Public School and Founder of Fruit of Life Organics. Marc builds custom aquaponic systems and develops curriculum to educate businesses, organizations, and schools about Eco agriculture. Specializing in S.T.E.M. projects addressing green solutions to real world problems, Marc has designed and executed engineering and design projects with companies such as One Laptop Per Child, Dupont, The Education Effect/FIU, Collaborative Nutrition Initiative, Common Threads and others. You can reach Marc at FruitofLifeOrganics.com.



Bob Graham, Former Senator & Governor, Bob Graham Center

As first a state legislator, then governor and finally a three-term U.S. Senator, Graham has had a role in nearly every major public policy issue in modern Florida's history. Bob Graham was raised on a cattle and dairy farm in the deep Everglades of what is now Miami-Dade County. After graduating from Harvard Law School, Graham returned to his native Miami Lakes and won a seat in the Florida House of Representatives as part of a group of young progressive Democrats sympathetic to civil rights, public education and the environment. After serving two terms as governor, Graham joined the U.S. Senate in 1987, carving out a career known not only for his grasp of domestic issues like Everglades restoration, immigration and off-shore drilling, but as a leading expert on foreign policy and intelligence. Senator Graham was also appointed by the President to serve as Co-Chair of the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling. He is the author of several books including *America: The Owner's Manual*, which teaches the skills of civic participation, and *Keys to the Kingdom*, a novel of suspense which draws upon his background in government and intelligence.



Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, Director, Pediatric Residency Program, Hurley Medical Center, and Assistant Professor, Pediatrics & Human Development, Michigan State University, Flint, MI

Mona Hanna-Attisha MD MPH FAAP is director of Hurley's Pediatric Residency Program. A Michigan native, Dr. Hanna-Attisha grew up in Royal Oak and first fell in love with Pediatrics while on the Flint Campus during her clinical years as a medical student at Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine.

After completing her residency and chief residency at Children's Hospital of Michigan, she earned a master's degree in Public Health, concentrating in Health Management and Policy, at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Dr. Hanna-Attisha was an assistant professor at Wayne State University Department of Pediatrics and an associate director of the Children's Hospital of Michigan Pediatric Residency Program prior to returning to Hurley.



John R. Hansen, Coordinator, West Coast Regional Planning

John Hansen serves as Coordinator of the West Coast Regional Planning Body (RPB), established in 2014 through implementation of President Obama's U.S. National Ocean Policy for the West Coast region of Washington, Oregon and California. Through these efforts, Mr. Hansen supports federally-recognized tribal governments, state governments and federal agencies in the region to coordinate and develop ocean planning and governance approaches at multiple scales to better address priority coastal policy and management issues. Before coordinating the West Coast RPB, Mr. Hansen coordinated the West Coast Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) Network, a 501c3 organization focused on enhancing local ocean management approaches along the West Coast through stronger region-wide dialogs, and for the State of Washington on aquatic lands policy and management. Mr. Hansen received his B.S. in Aquatic Biology from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and his Master's of Marine Affairs from the University of Washington.



Verna Harrison, Principal, Verna Harrison Associates

Verna Harrison is principal of Verna Harrison Associates, LLC, a consulting and philanthropic advising firm.

Previously she was Executive Director of the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment from 2003 – 2014, responsible for its grantmaking in the Chesapeake region which focused on improving living resources management, reducing nutrient pollution, & strengthening political will. She was founding co-chair of the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network and played an instrumental role in creating the advocacy network, the Choose Clean Water Coalition.

For the previous 20 years she was Assistant Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources: managing the Water Quality Monitoring, Geologic Survey, Power Plant Assessment, Coastal Zone Management programs (1995-2003); directed Bay policy for the MD Governor's Office (1988-1995); managed the Forest, Park & Wildlife Service, Tidewater Fishery Admin, Natural Resources Police, & MD Environmental Trust (1983-1987.) Previously was the Governor's Assistant Legislative Officer, lobbyist for the MD DOT, & staff of the MD Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.



James Jiler (and students), Florida International University/Miami Northwestern Senior High School's "Food For Thought" Aquaponics Project

James Jiler is the Executive-Director of Urban GreenWorks, a Miami-based non-profit organization, which provides environmental programs and green job training to incarcerated men and women, youth remanded by court to drug rehab and at-risk high-school youth in low-income neighborhoods. The product is more than the formation of hard skills; GreenWorks provides an environmental artscape that blends science education, horticulture therapy and vocational training as a way to connect people to nature, and subsequently to themselves and their community, both inside and outside prison walls. In addition the organization creates programs for communities plagued by poor access to fresh food, blighted and neglected open space, low urban tree cover, and an under-employed population of young adults.



Jon M. Jensen, Executive Director, Park Foundation

Jon Jensen is Executive Director of the Park Foundation which is based in Ithaca, New York. In this role he serves as the interface between the Foundation's program and investment activities. The Park Foundation has committed to 100% mission related investing, and is active in program related investments, shareholder advocacy and proxy voting.

Jon's previous positions include Associate Director of the Pew Conservation Scholars Program, Senior Program Associate of the Pew Charitable Trusts, and Executive Director of the Wildlife Preservation Trust International. He has a B.S. in Psychobiology from Albright College and a M.S. in Animal Behavior from Bucknell University.

He is currently a founding board member and President of the board of Confluence Philanthropy. His career in philanthropy spans 28 years of grantmaking and includes founding roles in The Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities, where he also served as chair of the board, and the Environmental Grantmakers Association, where he twice served as chair. He has received career achievement awards from Ohio Citizen Action, the Institute for Conservation Leadership and Ohio Environmental Council.



Chelle King, Restoration and Social Action Coordinator of Museum Volunteers for the Environment (MUVE), Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science

Chelle holds a Master's degree in Biology and a Bachelor's degree in Computational Neurobiology from Truman State University. At the Museum, she is responsible for planning environmental restoration events, cultivating relationships with community partners, recruiting and managing citizen volunteers and interns, and managing project social media for MUVE, the Museum's volunteer-led coastal habitat restoration project. As part of this AAM project, Chelle will use her background in biology and science communication to manage field activities and social media.



Katie McCormack, Program Director, Western Region, Energy Foundation

Katie McCormack is the Energy Foundation's Program Director for the Western Region. She manages the solar initiative and strategies to transform the Western power sector. Previously, she consulted for the Energy Foundation and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation on Western and distributed generation strategies. From 1989 to 1997, Katie worked in Pacific Gas & Electric Company's Research and Development Department, developing the Clean Technology Readiness Acceleration Initiative and supporting regulatory filings. From 1985 to 1989, she worked with a consulting firm that provided program and management support to the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Renewable Energy and the California Energy Commission's Energy Technology Export Program. At the then-Solar Energy Research Institute from 1981 to 1989, she participated in planning and implementing research on building and solar thermal technologies.

Katie holds a B.S. in Political Economy from Colorado College and an M.A. in Policy Analysis from the University of Washington.



Efraín O'Neill, Professor, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez

Dr. Efraín O'Neill-Carrillo is a Professor at the Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) Department of the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez (UPRM). He holds a PhD in Electrical Engineering from Arizona State University (1999), an MSEE from Purdue University (1995) and a BSEE from UPRM (1994). Dr. O'Neill is a Registered Professional Engineer in PR.

His education and research interests include: power quality, power distribution systems, engineering education, energy policy, sustainable energy, distributed generation, social and ethical

implications of engineering and technology. He has authored or co-authored over 60 peer-reviewed journal and conference papers. He is currently collaborating with efforts in two communities to integrate renewable energy, efficiency and conservation into their initiatives in order to transition to more sustainable energy practices focused on the use of local resources.



Gihan Perera, Executive Director, New Florida Majority

Gihan Perera is a nationally recognized progressive strategist, community organizer and leader in the US social justice movement. He is currently the Executive Director of the New Florida Majority, a statewide civil rights and civic engagement organization that is working to connect and empower Florida's diverse communities. Perera is co-founder and former Executive Director of the Miami Workers Center, a community organizing institution for low-income Black and Latino communities in South Florida. His decade-plus leadership of the center helped turn it into a national peer anchor to a number of strategic initiatives including the US Social Forum, the Right to the City Alliance, and a number of other efforts to build the theory, practice and capacity of work happening at the intersection of race, gender, the economy and the environment.



Tory Perfetti, Chairman, Floridians for Solar Choice

Tory Perfetti is Chairman of Floridians for Solar Choice and the State Director for Conservatives for Energy Freedom. Tory is a business owner and has consulted/worked on numerous Political Campaigns and is involved with multiple civic organizations. Tory has also served now for more than a decade with the Florida Army National Guard and is an Officer in the Artillery.



Theresa Pierno, President and CEO, National Parks Conservation

President and CEO Theresa Pierno first joined NPCA in 2004 as Vice President of Regional Operations. In that role, she successfully doubled the field program to include more than 60 staff working in 24 offices across the country. In her most recent position as NPCA's Chief Operating Officer, Pierno played a critical role in the recruitment of talented, diverse, and experienced staff, led the development of strategic priorities with a focus on water and land use policy, and helped to ensure the financial health of NPCA through revised management practices and successful fundraising efforts. Further, in an effort to engage and inspire new park stewards and advocates, she formed NPCA's Next Generation Advisory Council—a group of young rangers, civil servants, public land advocates, educators, students and activists with a strong desire to lead national park advocacy efforts well into

the future.

Pierno is the Co-Founder and Co-Chair of America's Great Waters Coalition, a group of 70 member organizations working together to protect and restore waters in and around our national parks that are central to the health of the ecosystem and the recreation of their visitors. Prior to joining NPCA, Pierno served as a Vice President for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) and Maryland Executive Director since 1999. Prior to her work at CBF, Pierno was part of the executive staff at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Before joining the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Theresa served as an elected official on the Harford County Council. While on the Council, she was the lead sponsor for several land-use and environmental legislative initiatives. She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Baltimore and is a fellow with the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University having graduated from the Senior Executive State and Local Government Program.

Pierno lives in Annapolis, Maryland with her husband Bob. Together they have two adult children and three grandchildren. She is an avid sailor with a passion for travel, having visited numerous national and international parks.



Stephanie Porta, Executive Director, Organize Now/ F.I.R.E.

Stephanie Porta was born and raised in Orlando, Florida. After graduating with honors from American University in Washington DC, she worked on several campaigns including raising Florida's minimum wage in 2004, passing police accountability reforms in Orange County, as well as winning foreclosure prevention programs and affordable utility campaigns and more. In 2010, Stephanie co-founded Organize Now & Florida Institute for Reform and Empowerment to work on the needs of Florida's low and moderate income communities and is currently executive director for both. For more than a decade, Ms. Porta has worked on successful campaigns for candidates and issues— including environmental justice, community safety, community development, health care, public education and more. More recently, Stephanie led the effort to pass Earned Sick Time in Orange County in 2014. Stephanie has been recognized by the Orlando Sentinel, Orlando Weekly and Orlando Magazine for her leadership around government transparency and issues facing the working poor.



Tony MacDonald, Director, Urban Coast Institute, Monmouth University

Tony MacDonald is the director of the Urban Coast Institute (UCI) at Monmouth University and was previously the Executive Director of the Coastal States Organization (CSO) from 1998-2005. CSO, based in Washington, DC, represents the interests of the Governors of the United States' 35 coastal states and territories on coastal and ocean policy matters.

Prior to joining CSO, Mr. MacDonald was the special counsel and director of Environmental Affairs at the American Association of Port Authorities, where he represented the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) at the International Maritime Organization on negotiations on the London Convention. Tony has also practiced law with a private firm in Washington, DC working on environmental and legislative issues, and served as the Washington, DC environmental legislative representative for the Mayor of the City of New York.



Maria Rodriguez, Executive Director, Florida Immigrant Coalition

Maria leads the Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC) and despite a harsh context has delivered concrete wins in college access, wage protections and curbing criminalization. Early inspiration by South African and Central American struggles, shaped her movement building orientation. Maria has effectively brought creative and strategic thinking and action on a variety of efforts with significant reach at the local, state and federal levels.



Sonia Rodriguez, Director of the Phosphorus Grand Challenge, Everglades Foundation

Sonia Succar Rodríguez joined the Everglades Foundation as Director of the Phosphorus Grand Challenge in September 2014. In her role, Rodríguez oversees the Foundation's first-ever science competition, a multimillion dollar prize aimed at finding an innovative solution to solving the global problem of excessive phosphorus entering water bodies. Sonia brings over 10 years of project management, outreach and marketing experience in both the public and private sector. Before joining the Everglades Foundation, she focused her efforts on sustainability policy and environmental management for both the City of Miami, and the City of Coral Gables. In her positions with local government, she developed initiatives in smart growth planning, energy efficiency, smart city operations, transit and urban forestry management. Prior

to that, Sonia worked as a field engineer for Turner Construction, where she served on one of the nation's largest multi-modal transportation projects, and expanded the company's investments in sustainable development. A third generation Floridian, Sonia graduated from Rollins College with a Bachelors in Environmental Studies and Growth Management, and a Masters in Environmental Management from Harvard University. Sonia and her husband live in Miami, where they enjoy sailing along Biscayne Bay, biking on Key Biscayne and dancing in Little Havana



Ruth Santiago, Community Lawyer

Ruth Santiago is a resident of the municipality of Salinas in southeastern Puerto Rico where she has provided legal representation to community, environmental, fishers and other groups and organizations for thirty years. She has been involved in the establishment of broad alliances with community, commercial, tourism and agricultural sectors to prevent water pollution from landfills, power plant emissions and discharges, coal combustion residuals and other sources of contamination and has worked closely with technical personnel such as hydrologists, biologists, and ecologists, among others. In addition to litigation in courts and administrative agencies, Ruth has organized and promoted environmental education projects, advised community groups and the Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve on watershed protection and land use issues. Ms. Santiago earned degrees from Lehigh University and Columbia Law School.



Curtis Seymour, Program Director, Power Sector, Energy Foundation

Curtis Seymour is a Program Director, Power Sector at the Energy Foundation, focusing on renewable energy and other power sector issues in the U.S. Prior to joining our staff, he worked for SunEdison leading business development initiatives aimed at creating strategic partnerships with utilities and load-serving entities in North America. From 2011 to 2013 he was SunEdison's Director of Government Affairs, directing state-level legislative and regulatory activities for the company on the West Coast, and serving as chair of the Solar Energy Industries Association's California state policy committee. He was previously a Fellow at the Robert Bosch Stiftung in Germany, researching and working in the German solar energy industry. From 2007 to 2010 he was a senior public utilities regulatory analyst and commissioner advisor at the California Public Utilities Commission.

Curtis earned an M.A. in Political Science from the University of North Carolina and holds a B.A. in Environmental Sciences and Policy from Duke University.



Larry Shapiro, Associate Director For Program Development, Rockefeller Family Fund

Larry joined RFF in 2000. Prior to RFF, he directed the New York Public Interest Research Group's (NYPIRG) environmental programs from 1988 through 1999. Among his successes in that capacity were campaigns to prevent construction of the Brooklyn Navy Yard incinerator; force the shut-down of Fresh Kills, the largest landfill in the world; and urge New York Governor George Pataki to order promulgation of what at the time were the toughest power plant emission standards in the country. Larry currently serves as president of the board of the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) and the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis.



Rachel Silverstein, Executive Director & Waterkeeper, Miami Waterkeeper

Rachel Silverstein joined Miami Waterkeeper as Executive Director & Waterkeeper in June 2014. Prior to joining MWK, Rachel was a Knauss Sea Grant Fellow and Professional Staff for the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard in Washington, DC. Rachel received a Ph.D. in the Department of Marine Biology and Fisheries from the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School for Marine and Atmospheric Science in 2012. Rachel graduated cum laude in 2006 from Columbia University with a B.S. degree in Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology.



Frank Smith, Political Director, Democracy Alliance & Executive Director, Streisand Foundation

Francis Smith is President of a Cambridge, Massachusetts consulting firm specializing in election and non-profit law, political advocacy and campaigns and policy work. A graduate of Georgetown University and Boston College Law School, he is member of the Massachusetts Bar. A veteran of a number of political campaigns including two Presidential and a US Senate race, he now writes a monthly newsletter on American politics. He serves on a number of non-governmental organization boards. His current work includes as the political director of the Democracy Alliance an organization of over 100 Democratic donors and institutions and as co-founder of Committee on States, a state donor network. He also serves as Executive Director of the Streisand Foundation.



Javier Alberto Soto, President and CEO, The Miami Foundation

Javier Alberto Soto is President and CEO of The Miami Foundation — a community foundation using civic leadership, community investment and philanthropy to improve quality of life in Greater Miami. Javier has successfully transformed the Foundation's business model and positioned the organization as a prominent civic leader in the South Florida community. Most recently, he led the development of two Foundation projects: "The Our Miami Report," a biennial report providing a data-focused picture of Greater Miami's quality of life, showing the community's greatest challenges and opportunities, and "Give Miami Day," a 24-hour, annual online charitable giving event that has raised almost \$10M for more than 500 Miami-Dade County nonprofits since 2012. Prior to joining the Foundation, Javier served as Senior Vice President and General Counsel at Grayling, a multi-disciplinary public affairs firm. He spent much of his career in the public sector as a litigator in the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office; the County's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs; and as Chief of Staff to County Mayor Alex Penelas. Javier also worked as a litigation associate at Holland & Knight. He is active on a number of community and professional association boards including: Board of Directors for Total Bank; Chairman of Knight Foundation's Miami Community Advisory Committee; Board of Directors of the Council on Foundations; Board of Directors for the Florida Philanthropic Network; and Member of the Orange Bowl Committee. Javier graduated cum laude in History and Political Science from Florida State University and earned his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. He is also a 2013 Henry Crown Fellow, a two-year leadership program of the Aspen Institute that engages the next generation of leaders to develop community-spirited leadership and put thought into action.



Dr. Farhana Sultana, Associate Professor, Geography, Syracuse University

Dr. Farhana Sultana is Associate Professor of Geography in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of Syracuse University. She is also a Faculty Affiliate in the Women's and Gender Studies Department, Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflicts and Collaboration (PARCC), Center for Environmental Policy and Administration (CEPA), South Asia Center, Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, Tolley Humanities Faculty, International Relations Program, Democratizing Knowledge Collective, and Asian/Asian-American Studies. Dr. Sultana previously was a faculty member in the Department of Geography at King's College London (UK) and a Visiting Fellow at the University of Manchester (UK). Before becoming an academic, she was a Programme Officer at

the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for a \$26M environment-development program in Bangladesh. Dr. Sultana received her BA (Cum Laude) in Geosciences and Environmental Studies from Princeton University, and her MA and PhD in Geography from University of Minnesota, where she was a MacArthur Fellow. Dr. Sultana's expertise and research interests are interdisciplinary and international, drawing from experiences and insights of living and working on three continents and combining her background and training in the natural sciences, social sciences, and policy-making. Broadly, she critically engages with complexities of policies and practices involving environment, development, and social justice, with a particular focus on water governance and climate change. Among several dozen publications that reach a variety of audiences is her recent book "The Right to Water: Politics, Governance and Social Struggles" (2012, Routledge: London & NY). Dr. Sultana's award-winning research has been funded by a variety of international sources, such as the MacArthur Foundation, Department for International Development (UK), International Water Management Institute, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, International Development Research Center of Canada, Government of Sweden, Syracuse University, Princeton University, University of Minnesota, Minnesota Human Rights Center, King's College London, and the Association of American Geographers. Dr. Sultana engages with communities and practitioners around the world through extensive service work globally, such as serving on the National Screening Committee of the US Fulbright Program; reviewing for granting agencies such as the National Science Foundation (USA), Economic and Social Research Council (UK), Netherlands Foundation for Science for Global Development; serving as a Scientific Panel Member of the International Year of Global Understanding for the International Geographical Union; and being past Chair of the Development Geographies Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers, to name just a few. Further details about Dr. Sultana can be found at: www.farhanasultana.com and www.maxwell.syr.edu/faculty/sultana.aspx.



Roger C. Vann, Executive Director, State Voices

Roger C. Vann has been Executive Director at State Voices since 2014. He previously served as COO and chief of staff for the National NAACP where he planned and directed the organization's successful 2012 civic engagement campaign, which secured over 430,000 voter registrations nationwide. As a young NAACP leader in New Haven, Connecticut, Roger helped win critical victories on a range of issues including living wage, public sector employment diversity and police misconduct. In 1999, as president of the Connecticut NAACP, he led a statewide grassroots effort to win passage of one of the nation's first laws addressing racial profiling. A lifelong champion of civil liberties, workers' rights and reproductive freedom, he has also served as executive director of the ACLU of Connecticut, director of the African American Hiring Initiative for UNITE HERE and director of a pioneering manhood mentoring program for Planned Parenthood of Connecticut. Roger's long journey in the social justice movement began at age 5 when he was the first black student to integrate his elementary school.



Ingrid Vila Biaggi, President & Environmental Engineer, CAMBIO

Ingrid M. Vila Biaggi is a licensed professional engineer and founder of CAMBIO, an entity that promotes sustainable and responsible actions for Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. She serves as Urban Water Ambassador for the revitalization of Martin Pena Channel and neighboring communities in San Juan and co-chairs the Puerto Rico Recycling Partnership, a collaborative effort by local and state government with the private sector. Ms. Vila Biaggi has a bachelor's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University and a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering with a specialty in water resources from Stamford University.



Miami Archbishop Thomas Wenski, Archdiocese of Miami

Archbishop Thomas Wenski was born in West Palm Beach and grew up in Lake Worth, Florida. He was appointed Archbishop of Miami and Metropolitan of the Province of Miami in 2010. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Sociology from Fordham University in New York. He was ordained a priest in 1976.

After briefly ministering in Haiti, he was assigned to the newly established Haitian Apostolate of the Archdiocese, served as associate director and then director of the Pierre Toussaint Haitian Catholic Center in Miami, served as pastor of three Haitian mission parishes, and conducted a circuit-riding ministry that helped establish Haitian Catholic communities. In 1996, he was appointed the Archdiocese Director of Catholic Charities and helped forge a collaborative relationship with Caritas Cuba, traveling to Cuba

many times on behalf of the Church. He directed relief operations to Caritas Cuba as well as Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Central America, and Colombia. He chaired Catholic Legal Immigration Network for 3 years before being ordained Bishop of Orlando in 2004.

He is the President of the Florida Catholic Conference and serves on the Board of Trustees of The Catholic University of America. Archbishop Wenski also serves on several committees of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) as well as the Board of Directors of Catholic Relief Services (CRS).



Tina Skeldon Wozniak, County Commissioner, Lucas County, Ohio Commission

Lucas County Commission President Tina Skeldon Wozniak has served Lucas County citizens since December 2002 and is currently serving her fourth term. From 2005-2008, she was unanimously elected and served as the President of the Board of Lucas County Commissioners. She was re-elected President in 2015.

Commissioner Wozniak began her public service career in 1997 when she joined Toledo City Council as the District 5 representative. While a member of council, Commissioner Wozniak chaired the Economic Development, Housing and Neighborhood Development, Health and Community Relations Committees and served on several other standing committees.

During the difficult economic recession that impacted all of Lucas County from 2008—2013, the Commissioners focused their efforts on delivering necessary county services while practicing prudent fiscal management. The Board successfully maintained a balanced budget and reserve balance without impacting critical public services and infrastructure for Lucas County residents. Currently, Commissioner Wozniak serves on the County's Workforce Development Board which successfully initiated the Work Ready Lucas County, sponsored by ACT. The Work Ready Lucas County program is designed to assist in developing a workforce pipeline to provide skilled workers for employers by linking workforce development to education, matching individuals to jobs based on skill levels, and providing an ACT National Career Readiness Certificate to participants.

Over the past two years, Commissioner Wozniak and her colleagues have partnered with the local criminal justice system to pursue meaningful comprehensive criminal justice reform. Commissioner Wozniak has focused on increasing access to treatment for individuals with mental health conditions and/or substance abuse disorders.

Creating a sustainable Lucas County has been a priority for Commissioner Wozniak. She founded the Toledo Lucas County Sustainability Commission and led the community in developing a comprehensive sustainability plan called “Going Beyond Green.” In 2015, Commissioner Wozniak launched Clear Water 2, a partnership with the National Wildlife Federation, which is working to build the public support needed to tackle today’s critical water quality issues and to serve as a resource for policy makers and the general public. She is also working with local partners to develop an assessment of contaminants and sources within the Lake Erie watershed which will guide our community in protecting the integrity of our water supply.

She has worked to combat the serious foreclosure crisis by co-chairing the Save Our Homes Task Force; launched CARE Team, a community resource network; coordinated the merger of the ADAS and Mental Health boards; implemented “Ban the Box” for county job applications; and aided in the development of the Lucas County Land Bank, and currently serves as Vice Chair.



Kaydrienne Young, Climate Activist & Community Advocate

Kaydrienne Young is a community advocate proudly born and raised in Miami, FL. She graduated from the University of Florida in 2013 with a Major in Sociology and a Minor in Sustainability. As a community builder she has supported food sovereignty and environmental justice through organizing direct actions, advocacy, and the electorate. She strives to create an equitable and inclusive culture around civic engagement that is artful and transcendently inspiring.