



ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

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Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CELF)

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RENOWN ANNUAL CELF SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION GROWS FROM NEW YORK TO BOSTON

Chappaqua, NY: Eighty-three teachers from New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts are joining the ranks of the hundreds of previous public and private school K-12 educators who have come from across the nation to participate in the CELF Summer Institute for Sustainability Education. CELF's renowned workshop held annually at Reid Castle on the campus of Manhattanville College in Westchester County, New York, and now also in Boston, is one of the most comprehensive programs of its kind in the U.S. Once again, the 2010 Institute offers a curriculum intensive, commencing with participants gaining content knowledge, and assessment rubrics, through hands-on workshops, and culminating in the redesign of a curriculum unit specific to each participant or team of educators.

From July 12 through 16, middle and high school teachers in NY heard from an expert team of presenters, including workshop leader Susan Santone, executive director of Creative Change Educational Solutions (CCES) based in Michigan. Ms. Santone has developed comprehensive curricula for all grade levels on sustainability, and has partnered with universities and non-profit organizations to lead sustainability education initiatives at the state and national levels. Tiffany Tillman from Shelburne Farms, a nationally-recognized environmental education center located in Vermont, will be leading the program with elementary-school teachers attending the summer institute in week two, beginning July 19th. Tillman is the coordinator of the Healthy Neighborhoods/Healthy Kids Project and the Sustainable Schools Project educator at Shelburne.

Additional expert-led breakout sessions throughout the Institute are designed to help teachers make critical connections between sustainability concepts presented and real-world, problem-based learning applicable to their subjects and grade-levels. Topics included at the two locations include:

- Deb Johnson, Academic Director of Sustainability at Pratt Institute (NY)
- Donna Maiello, ALSA, and Matthew Steinberg, AICP, of Divney Tung Schwalbe, land-use experts
- Scott Beal, Executive Director, Integral Vision Learning /Do Right Enterprises (NY)
- Jane Hirschi, Executive Director, CitySprouts (MA)
- Lisa Hodes from Gold Standard Foundation (MA)
- Grant Kristofek, Kristofek Engineering and Design Consulting Group (MA),
- Lisa Sclaro, Science Curriculum Coordinator for Cambridge Public Schools (MA)
- Lina Yamashita, Program Coordinator of Primary Source (MA)

CELF's first annual Summer Institute for Sustainability in Boston will take place next week at Simmons College, July 19-23. In partnership with CCES, Simmons and The Boston Latin School Youth Climate Network, CELF will welcome 37 teachers from the metropolitan Boston area. CELF was selected to assist educators to develop curriculum that will be piloted at Boston Latin School in the 2010-2011 school year. Lessons created at the Institute will become part of the MA Education for Sustainability (EFS) Campaign and will be the first step towards statewide adoption of a Massachusetts Education for Sustainability Curriculum.

Fifteen Boston Latin School teachers will be participating with the enthusiastic support of BLS Headmaster Lynne Mooney-Teta, who notes, *"the climate crisis calls for a swift response from the K-12 education system to adequately prepare students for 21st century challenges. BLS is excited to be at the forefront of this movement by piloting the first part of a MA EFS curriculum starting this fall."*

Participating teachers in Boston will be treated to a tour of a green roof, at the Simmons School of Management, and will observe a youth activism multimedia presentation by Alan Palm, from the California-based Alliance for Climate Education.

The Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CELF), www.celfoundation.org, is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization that collaborates with public school districts and individual teachers to raise awareness of sustainable development and to help incorporate related principles into K-12 curricula and programs. The CELF Summer Institutes for Sustainability Education are made possible by generous grants from Clarence E. Heller Foundation, Con Edison and National Grid.

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