



ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

John Jung: K-12 Educator of the Year

John Jung, environmental science teacher at Mesa High School, was recently recognized by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) as the recipient of the K-12 Educator of the Year Award. The award is given to educators who promote environmental education and utilize the environment as a context for learning in their teaching.

AAEE's President, LoriAnne Barnett, recently caught up with John to find out how he came to have such an impactful career in the field of environmental education.

[Read the Full Interview >>](#)



Meet Your New AAEE Board Of Directors



Lisa Ristuccia

Lisa is the Education Manager of [OdySea Aquarium](#) where she oversees the educational programs at the aquarium including field trips, outreach, professional development for teachers, and the internship program. Lisa has her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, her master's degree in Early Childhood Education from Northern Arizona University, and has taken graduate level courses at Arizona State University, Grand Canyon University, and Walden University. Lisa is a certified teacher, with endorsements in gifted education, and middle school reading, math, and social studies.

[Learn More >>](#)



Ellen Bashor

Ellen is the program coordinator for the Prescott College Nature and Place-based Early Childhood Education Center (NPECE Center). She graduated from Prescott College in 2015 with a bachelors in Transformative Education, a self-designed major that wove her personal philosophies into a critical & place-based pedagogy. After working for a year at Skyview School, a local multiple-intelligence theory based charter school in Prescott, Ellen affirmed for herself that her true passion lay in working in Early Childhood Education (ECE): a world where magic still exists.

[Learn More >>](#)

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When you become a member of AAEE you support an organization that has been working in Arizona for over 40 years!

Member Benefits Include:

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Experiential Interpretive Design: A New Perspective on Interpretation

by Mike Mayer Co-Founder Experiential Interpretive Design

Since my first AAEE meeting in the 1980s at Pima College, I have appreciated the networking this organization has offered members. Now after forty years of focusing on environmental and earth education I am returning to the field of interpretation and visitor services. With my two other interpreters, Bill Reynolds of Canada and Lars Wohler of Germany, we are starting [Experiential Interpretive Design \(EID\)](#) to work with big and small museums, parks and nature centers, zoos, aquariums and historic sites. Places we call preservation, collection and historic recognition sites. We deeply love these places in all their many iterations and are profoundly concerned they are losing their relevance.



EID wants to work with sites to tie together each building, path, hallway, project, exhibit and interpretive offering so every experience reinforces meaning and creates memories for the visitors. We want to coach staff members to become on-site Experiential Interpretive Designers through workshops, training, and discussions on our website and blog. We are not interested in just being consultants who come and go. We invite you to visit us at www.eidcoaching.com, or contact me directly at mike.mayer@eidcoaching.com, if this adventure interests you or your site. Thanks again AAEE for this opportunity share and Happy 2018 to everyone, and don't forget — spend some time outdoors today.

EMPLOYERS!

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Upcoming AAEE Events



[March 15: Walk the wild side of the Serengeti with Wilfred Moshi and Jombi Kivuyo](#)



[April 27: EE Certification Application Due](#)



[February 6: Virtual AAEE](#)

News from NAAEE

Cultivating Collective Impact

As the Affiliate Network for NAAEE, our organization is committed to Cultivating Collective Impact with our partners across North America. Our leaders participated in the Affiliate Workshop this week, connecting with our colleagues to creatively solve problems. Learn more about the program areas in which NAAEE supports us to create impact. And check out our [Members Forum](#) for details on what we did at the workshop!

[Cultivating Impact >>](#)

GEEP Call for Action

Imagine a world where environmental education is the standard in communities, schools, and nations. Where EE can solve social and environmental problems. [Watch a video](#) promoting this call to action.

Your Input Needed! The Global Environmental Education Partnership seeks your feedback on a draft Call for Action to help set priorities for the field of EE over the next decade and beyond. Please visit [ActNowforEE.org](#) to read the draft document and to share your thoughts. Together, we can help shape a more sustainable, just, and compassionate future for all.

[Act Now For EE >>](#)

Annual NAAEE Conference Call for Papers Coming Soon!

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