


**Inspiring Climate Education and Action: Spotighting NY Sun Works and SE
April 30, 2024****Link to the recording:**  Inspiring Climate Education and Action: Spotighting NY Sun W...**eePRO post:**<https://eepro.naaee.org/learning/inspiring-climate-education-and-action-spotighting-ny-sun-works-and-sei>**Speakers:****Manuela Zamora, Executive Director, NY Sun Works****Cyane Dandridge, Founder & Executive Director, SEI****Highlights of the chat transcript:****Welcome!**

Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: Welcome to the webinar!

Rachel Kuehl: Thank you!

NAAEE Staff (Carrie, she/they): Hello, hello! Please share your name, organization, and where you're joining us from!

Dana Forster: Winnipeg- Fort Whyte Alive

James Stewart: James Stewart, Oregon Zoo

Rachel Kuehl: Hello from Goldsboro North Carolina.

Adriana Buller: Newport tree conservancy, rhode island :)

Rochelle Strauss: Toronto, ON

Kristina Adler: Dr. Adler from California Knowledge Consulting

Betsy Ukeritis: Betsy from the grey skies of Syracuse, NY :-)

Rochelle Strauss: Hi Judy - nice to see you!

Abhishek Singh: Abhishek Singh from India CEE, NORTH

Mason Quiram: Mason from Oldham County Conservation District in Kentucky

Lee Derby: Lee Derby Montgomery County, MD Outdoor and Environmental Ed/ MAEOE

Kathy Fournier: Kathy from Saint Louis Zoo

Kirsten Barbera: Hi from Kirsten Barbera from the Howard County Conservancy/Youth Climate Institute in Maryland!

Alex Kudryavtsev: Alex Kudryavtsev, Civic Ecology Lab, Cornell University 😊 Greetings, everyone!

NAAEE Staff (Carrie, she/they): Great to have so many folks joining us from around the world! Please share your name, organization, and where you're joining from as we get going with today's webinar.

Jacqui Ver Loren van Themaat: Hi all, I'm Jacqui Verloren listening in from the ancestral homelands of the Nuwuvi, Southern Paiute here in Las Vegas, Nevada, on behalf of the Southern Nevada Conservancy.

Nsangou Rudolf: WaO! nice meeting you again Alex. my best teacher in one of the course I took some time back on nature base solutions, Cornell university. I am Nsangou Rudolf from Cameroon, environmental educator

Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: SEI is one of our wonderful dissemination partners for ee360+--our partner with EPA. :-)

NAAEE Staff (Carrie, she/they): Hi all! Glad to have everyone joining today. I'm Carrie (Bloomington, IN) and I'm happy to help if you need any tech support during today's eeWEBINAR, just send me a chat.

Rachel Kuehl: Will these slides be available after the program?

NAAEE Staff (Carrie, she/they): Hi Rachel! Yes-Everyone who registered will receive the recording, the Zoom chat, and resources from today's webinar.

Michael Wanjuzi Makongo: Greetings from Manafwa district in Eastern Uganda. Michael Wanjuzi Makongo is my name and I am a Laudato Si Animator, solutionary educator, farmer, climate change activist and passionate about the environment.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/michael-wanjuzi-makongo-lsa-0b4516142><https://www.linkedin.com/in/michael-wanjuzi-makongo-lsa-0b4516142>

SEI

How Comfortable do you feel teaching about climate solutions?

Anine Booth: 5

Betsy Ukeritis: 4

James Stewart: 4, 5

Kirsten Barbera: 4

Rochelle Strauss: 4-5

Nsangou Rudolf: 5

Oluwaseun Makanjuola: 4

Anant Bhaskar Garg: 5

Rachel Kuehl: 3

Jacqui Ver Loren van Themaat: 4

Mason Quiram: 3

Perry Thomas: 4

Pattie Stivender: 3

YOUNIYAS ABDURAHMAN SELIMAN: Hello all, I am Youniyas Abdurahman from Sudan

Refugee in kakuma Refugee camp in Kenya....it's my pleasure to join you here , I am climate champion.

Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: Love the interdisciplinary approach!

Michael Wanjuzi Makongo:

<https://climateactionproject.org/profile/MichaelWanjuzimakongo28681>

Needleman, SEI (they/them): You can view SEI's curriculum library and request access to curriculum here: <https://www.energizeschools.org/curriculum.html>

Michael Wanjuzi Makongo:

<https://sdgacademy.org/michael-wanjuzi-makongo-protecting-the-environment-through-laudato-si-teachings/>

Austen Needleman, SEI (they/them): Learn more about the Earth Day Challenge and request access to resources here:

<https://www.energizeschools.org/2024earthdaychallenge.html>

Michael Wanjuzi Makongo: 3

NAAEE Staff (Carrie, she/they): As Cyane shares about the incredible projects SEI offers, please share your questions in the chat!

Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: Love this program!

Austen Needleman, SEI (they/them): What kinds of resources would be most helpful for you in engaging students with climate solutions?

Michael Wanjuzi Makongo: Greetings from Manafwa district in Eastern Uganda I am looking for some kind of partnership or collaboration with anyone of good will
wanjuzimichael@gmail.com

Mary Nyamanya: The programs are so insightful... The renewable energy caught my attention

Austen Needleman, SEI (they/them): [Website: www.seiinc.org](http://www.seiinc.org) Email address: cyane@seiinc.org LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/cyane-dandridge-6a86a0/>

Perry Thomas: What kinds of resources would be most helpful? I'm intrigued by the power of mapping resources across communities. What mapping tools were used by the group who mapped EV charging stations across their county?

YOUNIYAS ABDURAHMAN SELIMAN: Therefore, the resources that I may need to support me to implement the program are, collaboration and networking, funding and content (curriculum)..... this is where we are semiarid in kakuma Refugee camp Kenya.

Austen Needleman, SEI (they/them): Some final resources from SEI:

Energize Schools website: <https://www.energizeschools.org/>

SEI Curriculum: <https://www.energizeschools.org/curriculum.html>

Earth Day Challenge: <https://www.energizeschools.org/2024earthdaychallenge.html>

More info about High Tech High International:

<https://www.seiinc.org/stories/empowering-environmental-justice-advocates-at-high-tech-high-international>, <https://www.energizeschools.org/peopleandplanetwinners.html>

NY Sun Works

Climate education through hydroponics

Megan Nordgrén: Please learn more about NY Sun Works at www.nysunworks.org

Megan Nordgrén: To sign up for our bi-weekly newsletter:

<https://nysunworks.org/newsletter-signup/>

Megan Nordgrén: It's a pleasure to see people from all over the world doing incredible climate education work here today!

Austen Needleman, SEI (they/them):@Perry Thomas There are a few different mapping tools that are used throughout our curriculum, but for EV chargers, we use this from the Department of Energy: <https://afdc.energy.gov/stations#/find/nearest>

Megan Nordgrén: To see what our partner schools are doing in their Hydroponic Classrooms, please follow us on social media @nysunworks

Judy Braus (she, her) NAAEE: Important to connect classrooms and community and sharing the harvest. :-) Great program!

YOUNIYAS ABDURAHMAN SELIMAN: wow amazing program, we can work together to implement such a program here in refugee camp... nice program and it's sustainable

YOUNIYAS ABDURAHMAN SELIMAN: this is my youniyasseliman@gmail.com

Megan Nordgrén: Hi Younias - we would love to connect! You can reach me at megan@nysunworks.org

Questions for the Speakers

NAAEE Staff (Carrie, she/they): Please share any questions you might have for Manuela and Cyane in the chat!

Kathy Fournier: That slide showed Year 1 and then Year 2 was mentoring. I know it is an ongoing process but what how many years would you say this is per school? Does that make sense?

Perry Thomas: @Austen Needleman - Thank you! 😊

Nsangou Rudolf: one problem I faced in my community at this level is, most students think climate education is meant for science and agriculture students. those who wish to become medical Doctors and other forms of engineers do not find any interest. As a result we find it difficult to engage them. do you face such problems? how do you handle it?

Megan Nordgrén: Hi Kathy - The teachers are trained in the technical aspects of hydroponic farming when the program begins, but they then have one-on-one teacher training sessions with our educators to learn our curriculum in Year 1 and Year 2. Additionally, we hold group professional development sessions regularly for both new and veterans, teachers. We are always available to retrain teachers, if there is teacher turnover. We aim to provide as much support as each school needs.

Michael Wanjuzi Makongo: coming from rural Manafwa district in Eastern Uganda I am interested in collaboration and I Partnership with people who are like minded and passionate about the environment.

<https://sdgacademy.org/michael-wanjuzi-makongo-protecting-the-environment-through-la-udato-si-teachings/>

Michael Wanjuzi Makongo: wanjuzimichael@gmail.com

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<https://sdgacademy.org/michael-wanjuzi-makongo-protecting-the-environment-through-la-udato-si-teachings/>

NAAEE Staff (Carrie, she/they): I love the emphasis from *both* organizations on what's relevant locally as you grow and develop your programs. Thank you!

Venessa DiBona: Do you have any materials on the role of trees in our planetary community

YOUNIYAS ABDURAHMAN SELIMAN: what do you do with the products after harvest? do you sell it or do you give it to the vulnerable people in the community? Do you engage the community in such activities..... or are it only students?

Megan Nordgrén: Through our Harvest Program, we work to have the students taste the vegetables they grow right in the classroom, and to send the food home to share with the families - along with recipes and nutrition information about the produce they have grown.

YOUNIYAS ABDURAHMAN SELIMAN: wow amazing job *100*

Megan Nordgrén: The majority of our school partners have student populations experiencing high poverty, and many of the schools are located in neighborhoods where there is little access to fresh food. Some of our partner schools also donate produce to local community food banks.

Closing remarks

Rachel Kuehl: Thank you so much this was great!

Austen Needleman, SEI (they/them): Some final resources from SEI:

- Website: www.seiinc.org
- Email address: cyane@seiinc.org
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/cyane-dandridge-6a86a0/>

eeWEBINARS: Bringing New Ideas and Innovation to the field of Environmental Education

- Energize Schools website: <https://www.energizeschools.org/>
- SEI Curriculum: <https://www.energizeschools.org/curriculum.html>
- Earth Day Challenge: <https://www.energizeschools.org/2024earthdaychallenge.html>

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