

evolve

ANCA SUMMIT 2019



ANCA SUMMIT XXV

August 20-24, 2019

Cincinnati Nature Center, Milford, OH



Association of Nature Center Administrators

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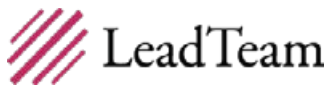
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American lotus

EVOLVED (ON THE COVER)

American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) are among the few groups of plants—around a dozen or so—which have evolved an interesting trait to increase pollination and protect their flowers from the cold. This trait is referred to broadly as floral thermogenesis. That is, the blooms literally produce heat. This heat leads to a volatilization of floral scent, increasing the number of pollinators that can detect the blooms—particularly leaf beetles.

When leaf beetles retire for the evening, they have this quirk where they actively seek out the warmest, coziest little holes to sleep in. By providing this warm environment, the lotus actually increases the likelihood that the beetles will not only stick around the lotus pond, but transfer pollen from one individual to the next! This is like evolutionary gold for flowering plants.

While other plants like skunk cabbage produce heat both to attract pollinators and to allow it to bloom early in the year, lotus bloom in summer, so they don't need heat just to bloom. They are reacting to what their constituents need—warm places to sleep and eat. Thus, they have evolved a cool trait to ensure they are staying relevant (and fertile!).



Welcome From ANCA



On behalf of the ANCA board and staff, I invite you to join us at ANCA Summit XXV, *Evo/ve*, to be held at Cincinnati Nature Center. I first visited Cincinnati Nature Center in 2007, shortly after I became the Executive Director of ANCA, and am incredibly impressed with their evolution over the past 12 years. I visited again in October and could not believe how busy they were—the trails were in full use by members, the Nature Preschool was in session, school kids were visiting on a field trip, young kids were exploring the Nature PlayScape while adults relaxed on nearby benches, event planners were touring the site's rental venues, and several visitors were enjoying the large wildlife viewing windows in the Rowe Visitor Center. There was something for everyone! Don't miss the opportunity to experience it for yourself!

The ANCA Summit provides the unique experience of connecting with other nature and environmental learning center administrators. There is no better way to discuss and share your questions, challenges and lessons learned than face to face with your peers.

- You will connect with colleagues.
- You will share best practices and trends in the profession.
- You will learn new things and be challenged.
- And, of course, you will have fun in a relaxed and casual setting!

Whether you are new in the field, mid-career, or a veteran leader, there will be programming designed for you! You will also have the opportunity to contribute to the conversation by participating in the facilitated discussions, small group interactions, and open space formatting that is a unique feature of ANCA summits.

For more information about ANCA, visit our website at www.natctr.org, and if you have any questions, please call me at (435) 787-8209.

I look forward to seeing you in Ohio!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jen Levy".

Jen Levy
ANCA Executive Director



Association of Nature Center Administrators

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About ANCA

ANCA's History

The people who run nature and environmental learning centers began getting together more than 30 years ago to share ideas, experiences and hard-won professional wisdom. Those early conversations soon became the Association of Nature Center Administrators. ANCA is now an international network of leaders from non-profit and government-run nature centers, residential environmental learning centers, natural history museums and science schools. Our members include new executive directors, veteran and newly-retired directors, education and development directors, board members and individuals who aspire to be leaders in the field.

Mission

The Association of Nature Center Administrators promotes and supports best leadership and management practices for the nature and environmental learning center profession.



Dragonfly on American lotus

What can ANCA do for you?

RESOURCES

Join our discussion groups, become part of a professional network, search for current employment opportunities, access sample documents and more.

RESEARCH AND TRENDS IN THE PROFESSION

ANCA is dedicated to the support and growth of our members through research and trends relevant to our community like [*The ANCA Blue Ribbon Report*](#).

CONSULTING

ANCA offers professional expertise for addressing nature and environmental learning centers' issues. Intense, focused input from nature center directors and senior staff from across the country is offered on a variety of topics.

MENTORING

The ANCA Mentor Program pairs mentees needing assistance with experienced mentors.

ANNUAL SUMMIT

ANCA's summits are structured to bring nature and environmental learning center administrators together for information sharing, mentoring, training and professional networking.

REGION MEETINGS

To connect our members regionally, ANCA offers peer-to-peer opportunities for professional development in regions across the country.

MEMBER BENEFITS

For more information about ANCA Membership, please visit our website, www.natctr.org/membership.



About the Summit

What is the ANCA Summit?

Unlike more conventional conferences, ANCA offers a facilitated discussion format during the Summit, recognizing the tremendous value gained by sharing peer knowledge and the experiences of others in the field. You will be encouraged to participate by sharing your experiences, asking questions and listening to your peers. As a result, you will leave with new ideas and lessons, and a strong network of colleagues.

The ANCA Summit is hosted at an ANCA member center which gives participants the opportunity to: meet and talk with the staff; tour classrooms, exhibits, and trails; go behind-the-scenes to look at offices, storage and maintenance; and simply relax and enjoy the flavors of the region through food, drink and unique entertainment!

The Summit includes:

IN-THE-FIELD AND HALF-DAY WORKSHOPS

Scheduled for Wednesday—you choose which ones to attend when you register. These sessions offer a rich learning experience with workshop leaders who are experienced and knowledgeable in their topics.

FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS

Scheduled on Thursday and Friday, these are 90-minute sessions where the primary presenter is a facilitator, rather than a single voice, and guides the exchange of ideas based around the topic title. Participants will enrich the discussion by contributing ideas and experiences. The intended result is a dialogue that allows for the group to take advantage of the experience in the room, create a stronger peer network, and share solutions, ideas and challenges.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Scheduled on Thursday and Friday, these allow participants the opportunity to learn about new programs and ideas. These 90-minute sessions allow for presentation time and dialogue among the group.



Bumblebee on Common Milkweed

OPEN SPACE ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON

This provides an opportunity for participants to create their own meeting, continue a session that needs more time, or find a group to address an issue that was not presented elsewhere during the Summit. In the Open Space Meeting, Summit participants will gather and collectively design the session topics that will be offered during the afternoon. We ask you to bring to the meeting those topics that you feel will be relevant and meaningful to you and the group.

PRE- AND POST-SUMMIT FIELD TRIPS AND ON-SITE NATURE ACTIVITIES

Don't leave Cincinnati without time spent exploring the local flora, fauna, food and culture of the area! ANCA Summit field trips offer the chance to add to your professional development experience while taking advantage of unique opportunities to visit additional sites, spend time with local experts, and interact with your peers. The morning and afternoon optional Nature Activities, scheduled throughout the Summit, give you the opportunity to learn about this unique region from local experts here at Cincinnati Nature Center. Don't miss them!

The open exchange of ideas and the freedom of thought and expression are central to the aims and goals of ANCA. These require an environment that recognizes the inherent worth of every person and group; that fosters dignity, understanding and mutual respect; and that embraces diversity. For these reasons, ANCA is dedicated to providing a harassment-free Summit experience. Summit participants violating these standards may be asked to leave, at the discretion of the ANCA Board and Summit organizers.



Registration, Scholarships, Fees

Registration

Before registering, please review the detailed information in this brochure. Then go to the link at the bottom of this page, which will take you to the secure registration site. As you fill out the user-friendly form, you will select workshop choices and field trips, and design the Summit package that's right for you.

You will have the option to mail a check or pay online with a credit card. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the ANCA office at (435) 787-8209.

Scholarships

ANCA provides scholarship funding based on financial need. Priority is given to applicants with small budgets and to first-time attendees. Please call Jen Levy at (435) 787-8209 with any questions.

- Summit Scholarship Application - Deadline, June 3
- Awards Announced by June 17
- Please click here to apply for a scholarship: <https://www.natctr.org/events/summit-conference/2019-summit>.

Fees

All lunches and dinners, Tuesday dinner through Friday dinner, are included with Full Package Summit registration. If you register for the 2-Day Rate, dinner the night before your first day through dinner on your second day are included. If you register for the 1-Day Rate, lunch and dinner are included.

The Summit registration fee does not include the optional Tuesday and Saturday Summit field trips. If you are bringing guests to the Summit, you can purchase meals and field trips for them through the registration process.

Pricing

ANCA SUMMIT EARLY BIRD

Full Package (Tues.-Fri.)
2-Day Rate (Wed. & Thurs. or Thurs. & Fri.)
1-Day Rate (Wed. or Thurs. or Fri.)

ANCA MEMBER* (PER PERSON)

\$510
\$460
\$250

* New to ANCA? The registration fee includes a one-year Associate Membership for all brand-new members.

PLEASE NOTE

Early Bird prices are listed above. After June 23, fees will increase by \$50.

REGISTRATION LINK

<http://natctr.doubleknot.com/event/anca-summit-2019/2500002>

NATCTR.ORG

Register online for ANCA Summit 2019 by [CLICKING HERE](#).



Cincinnati Nature Center Welcomes You

Dear ANCA Members,

Cincinnati Nature Center is honored to host the 2019 Summit. For so many years, our staff members have benefited from the networking and professional development afforded by the ANCA summits. We have put that knowledge to work and EVOLVED into what we are today. We now have over 200,000 visitors on-site each year, 13,000 member households, and over 400 regular volunteers.

In 2017, we celebrated our 50th Anniversary! We invite you to come to southwest Ohio this August and see for yourself how we have EVOLVED. Our staff members are eager to share our:

- 1,850 acres with 20 miles of trails through 450 million year old Ordovician limestone outcroppings which support 17 different vegetative zones
- 1.6-acre Nature PlayScape which receives 40,000 visitors per year
- Five Star quality-rated Nature Preschool
- Regional Center for Conservation which launched in 2016
- New Native Plant Propagation Program serving our *Plant NATIVE!* initiative
- Inquiry-based school program with teacher training
- Facility rental program which generates over \$200,000 in income per year

We are particularly excited to have Nina Simon as our keynote speaker. Nina is internationally recognized as a “museum visionary” and best-selling author of *The Participatory Museum* and *The Art of Relevance*. She will share her approach to making our work relevant and sharing strategies to help our centers connect with our communities.

You will also have a chance to experience Cincinnati’s German heritage dating back to 1890, when it was the third largest beer producer in the country by population. In the ANCA tradition, I hope you will join me for a beer this August!

Sincerely,



Bill Hopple
Executive Director (through May 2019)
Cincinnati Nature Center
(513) 965-4246
bhopper@cincynature.org



EVOLVED

The common 5-lined skink (*Plestiodon fasciatus*), also called the blue-tailed skink, is one of three species of skink that occurs in Ohio. Many species of skink, including the 5-lined, have evolved beautiful bright blue tails that are near irresistible to predators. Sure, this sounds terrifying, but the tails also break off very easily, and tend to madly wiggle when they’re separated from their torsos. This distracts predators from the skink’s more important body parts, and helps the lizard live to see another day. When it comes to engaging an audience, skinks are master showmen! Interestingly, as the skink matures, the blue tail all but disappears, as it is too energetically costly to regrow a large tail. Plus, it seems that once skinks reach sexual maturity, they need to reduce their energy output for anything except reproduction! Not only are skinks great entertainers, but they’re great at making and sticking to their priorities!



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Register online for ANCA Summit 2019 by [CLICKING HERE](#).



About Cincinnati Nature Center



4949 Tealtown Road • Milford, Ohio 45150
(513) 831-1711 • www.CincyNature.org

Cincinnati Nature Center is southwest Ohio's premier nature sanctuary and conservation education center. Through experience, education and stewardship, we provide personal connections to the natural world, protect the biodiversity of our land, and inspire conservationists for today and tomorrow. We are excited to share how we provide *community* to 13,000 member households and how we deliver nature to more than 200,000 visitors a year. Our mission is **Inspiring Conservation.**



1. Invigorate your mind, body and spirit while hiking our award-winning trails. **2.** Observe how playtime in nature is crucial for development in our Marge & Charles Schott Nature PlayScape. **3.** Find a quiet “sit spot” in our old-growth forest or by a pond. **4.** Drop in the Rowe Visitor Center and meet our enthusiastic staff. **5.** Rock hop across Avey’s Run. **6.** Learn how our Nature Preschool students gain an ethic of respect and love for all life. **7.** Explore the Krippendorf Lodge and Center for Conservation, two buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. **8.** Tour our greenhouse and hear about our plant propagation program.



Summit Transportation



Transportation

TRAVELING TO CINCINNATI

The Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG) is an international airport located in Hebron, Kentucky. CVG offers flight service via Air Canada, Allegiant, American, Delta, Frontier, United, and Southwest airlines.

AIRPORT TO LODGING

CVG is located 27 miles (about 30 minutes) from the Eastgate lodging area. Conference attendees should plan to arrange their own transportation from airport to hotel. The airport provides taxis, car rentals, Uber and Lyft services.

LODGING TO CINCINNATI NATURE CENTER

Cincinnati Nature Center is located 5 miles (about 15 minutes) from the two hotels. Complimentary shuttles from the two conference hotels to Cincinnati Nature Center will be provided. The shuttle schedule will be provided at a later date.

Turn your cupholder into a binocular holder and see what you've been missing!



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ANCA DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE
BINOS NOT INCLUDED - PATENT PENDING

Summit Lodging Off-site



Hotel Lodging

Two hotel options have been secured with special conference rates. The hotels are conveniently located next door to each other and only 15 minutes from Cincinnati Nature Center.

EACH HOTEL PROVIDES:

- Free Wi-Fi
- Free breakfast
- Free outdoor parking
- Business center
- Flat-screen TV
- Coffee maker
- Mini fridge
- Indoor heated pool
- Fitness center

Additionally, the Holiday Inn & Suites hosts **McKenna's Restaurant**, serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and room service, and **McKenna's Lounge**, serving pub fare and drinks until 11 pm.

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS:

Call your hotel of choice and state that you are requesting the **Association of Nature Centers group rate**. To ensure a room, reserve lodging by **Friday, July 19**. The group rate will be granted after this date, however, the block of rooms reserved for our group will be released to the public and cannot be guaranteed.



HOLIDAY INN & SUITES CINCINNATI EASTGATE \$109/NIGHT + TAX

4501 Eastgate Boulevard, Cincinnati, OH 45245
(513) 752-4400

www.holidayinn.com/cvg-eastgate



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES CINCINNATI EASTGATE \$119/NIGHT + TAX

4521 Eastgate Boulevard, Cincinnati, OH 45245
(513) 947-9402

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/cvgeg-fairfield-inn-and-suites-cincinnati-eastgate/



Summit Lodging On-site

Cincinnati Nature Center Lodging

For those seeking a rustic experience or for those on a tight budget, consider one of Cincinnati Nature Center's on-site lodging options. These are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



FERNWOOD CABINS \$20/NIGHT PER PERSON

*32 twin-size beds available
(16 men, 16 women)*

Two private cabins are set in the peaceful forest. Each cabin sleeps up to 16 people in comfortable bunk beds. Toilets and warm showers are nearby. The area includes a fire ring for campfires and a pavilion with two picnic tables. These are rustic cabins that do not have heat/air conditioning, running water or electricity.

Provided: Mattress, firewood, lanterns, water bucket for fire area

Not provided: Bedding linens, towels, lighter, camping supplies, toiletries



FERNWOOD TENTING \$10/NIGHT PER PERSON

6 tent spots available

Not far from the cabin area is a pleasant open field, ideal for pitching your tent. Toilets and warm showers are available nearby.

Provided: A grassy tent space

Not provided: Tent, sleeping bag, camping supplies, toiletries



GUEST HOUSE \$50/NIGHT PER PRIVATE ROOM

*4 twin-size beds available
1 double-size bed available*

Our Guest House is nestled in the woods with easy access to hiking trails and conference activities. It provides small private rooms, a common living area with television, a shared kitchen, and two shared bathrooms (one men's room, one women's room).

Provided: Twin or double bed, bedding linens

Not provided: Towels, toiletries

All on-site lodgers will be provided, at no additional cost:

- Continental breakfast with coffee/tea service
- Parking
- Shuttle service to the Keynote Speaker event

For additional information or to make reservations, contact Amy Johnson at (513) 774-1921 or ajohnson@cincynature.org.





Success is a Team Activity

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Summit Schedule

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20	
PRE-SUMMIT FIELD TRIPS, WELCOME	
8 am-6 pm	Registration Open
9 am-4:30 pm	Field Trip: Reading Earth's History—450 million years ago
9 am-4:30 pm	Field Trip: Educational Farm Tour
10 am-3 pm	ANCA Board Meeting
11:30 am-4:30 pm	Field Trip: Canoe & Brew
1-5 pm	Nature Activities
5:30-6:30 pm	Networking Social
6:30-7:30 pm	Dinner
7:30-8:30 pm	Summit Welcome, Announcements
8:30-10:30 pm	Nature Activities
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21	
WORKSHOPS, ANCA LEADERSHIP AWARDS	
7-8 am	Nature Activities
8 am-6 pm	Registration, Sponsor Hall Open
8:30 am	Summit Welcome, Announcements
FULL DAY WORKSHOPS: IN THE FIELD	
9 am-4:30 pm	The Many Faces of Nature Playscapes
9 am-4 pm	Plant NATIVE! Plant Propagation Tour
MORNING WORKSHOPS: ON-SITE	
9 am-Noon	Insights into Nature Preschools
9 am-Noon	Unconscious Bias, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Impacts Your Bottom Line
9 am-Noon	Why Membership Matters!
9 am-Noon	Getting to What Matters: How to Evaluate and Communicate Your Impact
10:30 am	Snacks
12:15-1:15pm	Lunch
AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS: ON SITE	
1:30-4:30 pm	The Magic is in the Mess: Serving Young Children at Nature Centers
1:30-4:30 pm	Take Your Fundraising Program to the Next Level!
1:30-4:30 pm	Cutting Edge Research in Environmental Education
1:30-4:30 pm	Tractor to Board Room: Land Management at Multiple Scales
3:15 pm	Snacks
4:45-5:30 pm	Nature Activities
5:30-6:30 pm	Networking Social
6:30-8:30 pm	Dinner, ANCA Leadership Awards, 2020 Summit Preview
8:30-10:30 pm	Nature Activities

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

KEYNOTE SPEAKER, FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS/WORKSHOP SESSIONS, ANCA AUCTION	
8-10 am	Registration at Holiday Inn
8-8:30 am	Summit Welcome and Breakfast at Holiday Inn
8:30-10 am	Keynote Speaker at Holiday Inn
10:30 am-6 pm	Registration at Cincinnati Nature Center
10:45 am-12:15 pm	Facilitated Discussions and Workshop Sessions I
12:30-1:15 pm	Lunch, Sponsor Hall Open
1:30-3 pm	Facilitated Discussions and Workshop Sessions II
3-3:30 pm	Ice Cream Social
3:45-5:15 pm	Facilitated Discussions and Workshop Sessions III
5:30-6:15 pm	Member Social and Trends Roundtable
6:30-7:30 pm	Dinner
7:30-9:30 pm	ANCA Auction, Open Bar
9:30-10:30 pm	Nature Activities

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS, WORKSHOP SESSIONS, OPEN SPACE	
7-8 am	Nature Activities
8 am-1:15 pm	Sponsor Hall Open
9-10:30 am	Facilitated Discussions and Workshop Sessions IV
10:30 am	Snacks
10:45 am-12:15 pm	Facilitated Discussions and Workshop Sessions V
12:15-1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15-5:15pm	Open Space
3 pm	Snacks
6:15-7:15 pm	Networking Social

7:15-10:15 pm
Dinner & Summit Wrap-Up Party
Bluegrass and BBQ! Live Music by the Rabbit Hash String Band!
 Conclude your Queen City tour with bluegrass and BBQ. Our revelry will feature good eats, local brews, and the fine string-pickin' tunes of the Rabbit Hash String Band. Get ready to tap your toes and have fun.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

POST-SUMMIT FIELD TRIPS	
8 am-2 pm	Field Trip: Downtown Cincinnati Parks



Pre-Summit Field Trips

Tuesday

Educational Farm Tour

9 AM-4:30 PM, \$50 PER PERSON

(LUNCH INCLUDED)

Cincinnati is home to three unique farms—Turner Farm, Greenacres Farm, and Gorman Heritage Farm—each with unique educational programming. At each farm, we will tour the facilities, observe farm production, learn about their education programs, and meet with staff for questions. We will also hear about their environmentally-sensitive farming techniques and how they sell meat, produce and other farm products to the community. The tour will include a farm-to-table picnic at one of the farms.



Reading Earth's History— 450 Million Years Ago

9 AM-4:30 PM, \$50 PER PERSON

(LUNCH INCLUDED)

The Cincinnati region is world-famous for its geology and paleontology. When scientists want to read the geological and paleontological history of this region, they visit the road cuts at Maysville, Kentucky. Arguably the most extensive exposures of 450-million year old ancient ocean sediments, this 90-meter high section is one of the most spectacular and complete sections to study ancient oceans and the life it contained. Covering approximately 2.5 million years of geologic time, several environments on the sea floor are exposed. The fossil animals are abundant and diverse, with it being nearly impossible to pick up a rock without a fossil in it. Bring your boots and a rock hammer and join Dr. Brenda Hunda, Curator of Invertebrate Paleontology at Cincinnati Museum Center, and the Dry Dredgers, an association of amateur geologists, for a deep dive into the ancient ocean of the Cincinnati!



Pre-Summit Field Trips

Tuesday

Little Miami Canoe & Brew

11:30-4:30 PM, \$60 PER PERSON

(LUNCH AND BEER TASTINGS INCLUDED)

Kick off the conference with a canoe or kayak trip down the Little Miami River, a National Wild & Scenic River that flows right through Milford, Ohio. This aquatic adventure will provide you a dynamic escape and the opportunity to sample the products of two local breweries. This thirst-quenching expedition launches with lunch, beer sampling, and a 5-mile paddle down the river. It will end with more beer tastings and a talk by Eric Partee, Executive Director of the Little Miami Conservancy. He'll tell us how his organization works hard to conserve the natural splendor of the Little Miami River. Bring your binoculars

for wildlife sightings! You may catch a glimpse of a Bald Eagle, Great Blue Herons, and Kingfishers as Mother Nature guides us on our journey.



In-the Field

The Many Faces of Nature Playscapes

9 AM-4:30 PM

Nature playscapes are designed to provide children with opportunities for free play in nature. The philosophies, criteria and vision that shape nature playscapes are as diverse as the communities they serve. Tour a rural, inner city and suburban nature playscape at Cincinnati Nature Center, University of Cincinnati and the city of Blue Ash. Staff will discuss lessons learned, what works well, what they were surprised to discover, and what their visitors say or do in each space. See how loose parts, water, man-made features, maintenance and levels of risk are managed at each. You will gather tips for creating or enhancing a place for nature play back at your own organization.

PRESENTERS



Connie O'Connor, Cincinnati Nature Center's Education Director for over 20 years, has played an integral role in the development of the region's first nature preschool and nature playscape, which have been toured by hundreds of planners and professionals, studied by national and international researchers, and enjoyed by over 40,000 visitors a year. She has served on several ANCA consult teams all over the country, and serves locally as the leader of the educator's section of the new Southern Ohio Conservation Collaborative. She serves as co-leader of the local Leave No Child Inside Collaborative.



Anne Horne, Public Engagement Manager at Cincinnati Nature Center, manages several public programming opportunities including family programs, scout programs and volunteer ambassadors. She also oversees

the interactive features of the Marge & Charles Schott Nature PlayScape. She loves teaching and particularly enjoys helping audiences of all ages take their first steps to engage with nature.



Dr. Victoria Carr, Professor of Early Childhood Education and Human Development at the University of Cincinnati, is Executive Director of the Arlitt Center for Education, Research, and Sustainability which houses the Arlitt Child Development

Center. She is co-editor for *Children, Youth and Environments* and co-chair of Cincinnati's Leave No Child Inside Collaborative. Dr. Carr serves on the education advisory board for Cincinnati Nature Center and is a previous member of the advisory board for 4C for Children in Northern Kentucky.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Brian Kruse, Superintendent of Parks, City of Blue Ash

Mandi Brock, Summit Park Manager, City of Blue Ash



In-the Field

Plant NATIVE! Plant Propagation Tour

9 AM-4 PM

The spread of invasive exotic plants has myriad impacts on native systems. These impacts include loss of ecosystem function, reduced biodiversity, and—adding salt to the wound—impaired resilience of native habitats following restoration. If we are to sustain resilient, diverse habitats for the next generation, it is critical to reduce the spread of current invasives and prevent future invasions. One avenue for achieving this is encouraging native landscaping and increasing the abundance of native plants available on the market. Cincinnati Nature Center understands this importance and has launched the *Plant NATIVE!* initiative. This work involves several elements including educational programming, conducting research to support best practices, and ensuring a robust supply of native plants for restoration efforts on- and off-site. During this tour, we will visit our Long Branch Farm Native Plant Nursery, Shaker Trace Seed Nursery managed by Great Parks of Hamilton County and Cincinnati Nature Center's new Greenhouse. Participants will learn about methods of collecting, processing and germinating native seeds, the potting, sale, and distribution of plants, and learn how the Cincinnati Nature Center has leveraged our volunteers to develop a successful native plant propagation program.

PRESENTERS



Dr. Cory Christopher, the Director of Conservation at Cincinnati Nature Center, has bachelor's and master's degrees in Ecology from the University of Georgia and a PhD in Biological Sciences from the University of Cincinnati. His

doctoral research studied the interaction and effects of Amur honeysuckle and white-tailed deer on herbs in a deciduous forest at Cincinnati Nature Center,

and he did his post-doctorate work at Washington University (St. Louis). He has been an adjunct faculty member at both the University of Cincinnati and Miami University, and worked at the Cincinnati Zoo where he managed School and Graduate Programs and their teen leadership program, Zoo TRIBE. Most recently, he served in two roles at the University of Cincinnati: Director of UC Forward, which facilitates cross-departmental collaboration, and Director of Undergraduate Student Research.



Jake Sberna is the Native Landscape Coordinator at Cincinnati Nature Center. Jake currently is responsible for the maintenance of all landscaped areas including the Marge & Charles Schott Nature PlayScape.

He is also responsible for the native plant propagation program currently entering its third year. As the program expands, he is excited to be working with more and more volunteers to help spread the word on how beneficial natives can be to the Cincinnati region's wildlife.

GUEST SPEAKER

Tim Osborne, Shaker Trace Seed Nursery Manager, Great Parks of Hamilton County



Insights into Nature Preschools

9 AM-NOON

A nature preschool is a fully-licensed child care operation that uses a natural area as a regular focus of its student activities. Cincinnati Nature Center's Nature Preschool is starting their eighth year of running a successful classroom, today servicing 60 students within four sessions. Discover the how and why we started a nature-based preschool. We will discuss everything from hiring teachers, licensing and pricing, to daily schedules and best practices. Experience a hike preschoolers would take to understand why we go off-trail and how the everyday experience is part of our curriculum. Children take part in bluebird monitoring, monarch tagging, and project-based learning as they discover the world around them and learn the natural way.

PRESENTER



Tisha Luthy is the Early Childhood Program Manager & Preschool Director at Cincinnati Nature Center. She oversees curriculum and development activities, teaches preschool sessions, and establishes relationships with families enrolled

in the programs at the Cincinnati Nature Center. A large portion of her time is spent working with Ohio licensing regulations to meet requirements. She has worked with children for over 20 years and holds her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education with an emphasis in STEM Education. Tisha completed her master's degree of science in Early Childhood Development. She is committed to providing a nurturing, hands-on classroom centered on the whole child. In her free time, she enjoys spending time outdoors with her two teenage children.



Unconscious Bias, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Impacts Your Bottom Line

9 AM-NOON

Working in today's diverse workplace, it is inevitable that you will work with people who are different from you. Today's environment also creates many challenges regarding inclusion in the workplace. In this workshop, we will discuss why it is important to work across differences and to be inclusive. This interactive workshop is designed for participants to explore how unconscious bias and inclusion impacts their personal and professional experiences while interacting with others. Organizations find that building those bridges leads to innovation and connectivity within organizations. Tools will be discussed on how to create cultures where diversity, equity and inclusion is encouraged and seen as an asset for your employees and customers.

Workshop Participants will be able to:

- Define and differentiate diversity, equity and inclusion
- Recognize that diversity is multi-dimensional
- Identify the complexities of unconscious bias
- Discover ways to address unconscious bias
- Examine our perceptions of individuals who are different from ourselves
- Distinguish how diversity, equity and inclusion financially impacts an organization

PRESENTER



Tameka L. Taylor, Ph.D., CDE is the president of Compass Consulting Services, LLC, an organization development firm that specializes in Diversity & Inclusion, Leadership Development, Communication, Conflict Management and

Teambuilding through training, executive coaching and consulting. Dr. Taylor facilitates discussions on diversity issues, strategic plans, focus groups and organizational assessments. She speaks nationally at conferences, serves on discussion panels and teaches Managing Urban Diversity classes at Cleveland State.

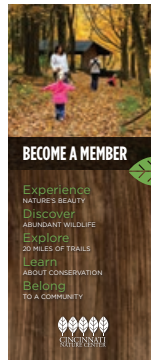
Dr. Taylor holds certifications in Executive Coaching from Case Western, the Hogan Personality Inventory Assessment, EEO Investigation, and is a Certified Diversity Executive. Since co-founding the firm in 2008, she and her business have received numerous honors. She's a native of Cleveland, Ohio and a proud mother and grandmother.



Why Membership Matters!

9 AM-NOON

Membership and the revenue it produces can be the backbone of a non-profit organization. Membership is a way to engage interested audiences who have a passion for our mission and want to do more. It is a way to capture the portions of our audiences who want to support what they love. Dana Hines of Membership Consultants will lay out the basics and best practices for acquiring, renewing, servicing and managing a group of people who believe in what you do and want to help in any way they can. She will share case studies and stories of programs that are successful.



Laura Schmid will share how membership works at Cincinnati Nature Center. She will explain how, in 2011, the organization developed a strategic business plan to grow the organization's membership in order to support its growing infrastructure, to revitalize its aging demographic, and to build for a sustainable future. Since then, Cincinnati Nature Center has been growing its membership by at least 10% every year and more than doubled its membership base. Learn how their membership program operates and how today they serve their 13,000 member households with community in mind. Kristi Masterson will share how the organization planned for and dealt with growth along the way. She will give insight into how membership aligns with the organization's vision and mission. Join

this dynamic discussion and take away what membership can do for your nature center.



PRESENTERS

Dana Hines, MSW, CFRE, is Vice President of Membership Marketing at Membership Consultants.

Dana's expertise lies in developing strategic direct mail, on-site sales, membership plans for all types of membership and non-profit programs. Under Dana's

leadership, Membership Consultants has developed powerful membership and donor campaigns for organizations across the country including museums, associations, botanical gardens, zoos, aquariums and conservation organizations. Dana adds her expertise and knowledge of the current practices in the membership arena to provide organizations with the strategic thinking and specific ideas to expand on membership and donor acquisition, retention, servicing and marketing efforts needed to achieve the desired growth of any program.



Laura Schmid is the Membership Manager at Cincinnati Nature Center. She oversees day-to-day membership operations, creates multi-channel marketing and communications for member fulfillment, retention and acquisition,

and helps plan programming to increase member engagement. Before embarking on her career in membership, she was the Marketing and Public Relations Manager at Franklin Park Conservatory in Columbus, Ohio. She has always been an earnest lover of nature and an avid hiker. In 2004, she and her husband Paul thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail.



Kristi Masterson, Director of Visitor Experience at Cincinnati Nature Center, provides leadership and strategic direction to the Visitor Experience team to ensure all visitors, every day, have an exceptional experience by

providing a safe and welcoming atmosphere, building community and sharing conservation knowledge to a growing number of members and visitors. Her amazing team includes facilities, public programs, membership and visitor services. In addition, she is the former leader of Cincinnati's Green Umbrella Outdoor action team.



Getting to What Matters: How to Evaluate and Communicate Your Impact

9 AM-NOON

All of us who are taking up the cause of conservancy need a way to prove and improve our impact in the lives of those we serve and the communities we are working with. We need data to demonstrate what we are doing is making a difference. We also need data to illuminate areas where we can get better and to show us how. Too often we are influenced by a singular anecdote, an idea like program satisfaction, or a superficial metric about participant outputs. We miss data about the deeper, more durable, more meaningful and transformational aspects of human progress and community development. We need better ways to evaluate what really matters. We need better ways to communicate our impact to our communities. Based on the work of over a decade of capacity-building with over 400 programs and agencies across North America, Dr. Steve Patty will bring to us innovative thinking and proven techniques to help us prove and improve our impact.

PRESENTER



Steve Patty, Ph.D., is Principal Consultant of Dialogues in Action. He spent over 13 years as a professor and administrator in higher education before stepping out of the university context to work with organizations in the nonprofit and public sectors. For the past 12 years, he has been developing the capacity of agencies that work with people to design strategy, develop people, and evaluate impact. He has taught thousands of leaders throughout North America and internationally how to design and implement a kind of evaluation that gets below the surface and into the heart of human change and transformation. Over the past few years, teams from over 300 agencies throughout North America have participated in Project Impact, a year-long program to build the capacity of agencies and institutions to run self-studies on their impact. He has also been facilitating leadership development cohorts for public and nonprofit leaders in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. He is an author and conference speaker.



The Magic Is in the Mess: Serving Young Children at Nature Centers

1:30-4:30 PM

While nature centers' sizes, locations and specialties vary widely, nearly all of our centers have a community of families with young children nearby. Nature centers can provide important bridges for families and caregivers to introduce even the youngest walkers to meaningful experiences outdoors. In this workshop, we will focus on a variety of ways to engage two to six-year-olds and how we can harness techniques of intergenerational learning to involve their adult care takers. We will also discuss how to build deeper connections with local preschools and kindergartens while creating relevant programming for this audience. Participants will leave this workshop with ideas on how to shape early childhood programming to fit their space and audience.

PRESENTERS



Anne Horne, Public Engagement Manager at Cincinnati Nature Center, manages several public programming opportunities including family programs, scout programs and volunteer ambassadors. She also oversees

the interactive features of the Marge & Charles Schott Nature PlayScape. She loves teaching and particularly enjoys helping audiences of all ages take their first steps to engage with nature.



Melissa Sabo, School Program Manager at Cincinnati Nature Center, currently oversees field trip programming for ages 3-13, and she has spent several years focused on how to increase the positive engagement of adults

(teachers and chaperones) during school field trips. She is an early childhood teacher-turned-naturalist who believes strongly that “the magic is in the mess.”



Take Your Fundraising Program to the Next Level!

1:30-4:30 PM

Whether you have an annual budget of \$200,000 or \$2 million, raising money to support your operational expenses is always a challenge. This workshop will provide ideas, suggestions and solutions for increasing your revenue from individuals, corporations and foundations. Learn how to incorporate your conservation messaging into solicitation letters, grant applications and collateral materials which will get noticed and attract additional support. We will discuss how to raise money for capital expenses and/or endowment funds while simultaneously keeping your annual support at optimal levels. Special emphasis will be given to donor cultivation and how to fully engage your board members to help with your fundraising efforts. The workshop will also include tips and recommendations for crowd-pleasing special events, relationship-building memorial programs and mission-driven planned giving opportunities.

PRESENTERS



Jeff Sperry is the Director of External Relations for Cincinnati Nature Center. With more than 25 years of leadership experience in nonprofit organizations, Jeff believes in the power of persuasive messaging and compelling

visual imaging when creating a case for fundraising initiatives. Jeff has implemented capital campaigns of up to \$32 million during his work with nature-based organizations, including Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden and the Botanic Garden of Western Pennsylvania. After completing a Master of Arts degree in Arts Administration from the University of Cincinnati, Jeff worked at Cincinnati Opera, Lexington Philharmonic and Akron Symphony. He taught nonprofit management at the University of Kentucky and currently serves on the board of the Clermont County CVB. Jeff enjoys spending time with his daughters and creating a spectacular backyard garden showcasing native plants.



Marian Perkowski is Community Relations Manager at Cincinnati Nature Center and leads annual fundraising and marketing initiatives for the organization. Prior to this, she was Communications Director for a Chicago-based non-profit

with previous experience working for a global top-ranked advertising agency and as a freelance writer and marketing consultant. Having worked in both corporate and non-profit arenas, Marian is ever-cognizant of the effectiveness of creating and incorporating relevant and thought-provoking messages within both organizational and fundraising materials. Under her direction, the Nature Center's annual fund campaign has consistently exceeded goal, reaching \$700,000 in 2018 with a 115% increase over her seven-year tenure. Marian enjoys canoeing, birding and nature photography. Her greatest achievement to date—raising a teenager who loves hanging out in nature!



Kathy Chambers is the Major Giving Manager at Cincinnati Nature Center. As a career fundraiser, Kathy enjoys bringing together people and ideas to advance the mission of an organization. By telling Cincinnati Nature Center's stories

and cultivating donors she has raised more than \$5 million in grant funding for capital and annual projects over the past seven years. A member of Grant Professionals Association, Kathy also has experience helping other local organizations raise major gifts, including Green Umbrella, the University of Cincinnati and Christ Hospital. She has a Master of Arts degree from the University of Kentucky and serves on the board of "Behind Every Great Kid." In her personal time, Kathy enjoys spending time with her family, birdwatching and creating nature-themed art.



Cutting Edge Research in Environmental Education

From Developing Common Crosscutting Outcomes to Identifying What Leads to Better Outcomes

1:30-4:30 PM

Is there a consistent set of outcomes to which all Environmental Education (EE) programs for youth should aspire? This presentation describes efforts to identify, define and develop a set of outcomes that is valid, sensitive and relevant to a wide range of the field. We have undertaken this effort as part of a larger study in which we are examining the relative influence of different approaches to EE on outcomes for participants. This effort first involved asking a wide range of experts and practitioners, including academics, program providers and leaders of ANCA, the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), the National Park Foundation (NPF), and the National Park Service (NPS) to identify and define the outcomes. We present the results of our assessment and the implications for the field. We will then discuss our current national comparative study to examine what practices actually lead to better outcomes. Current best practices in the field of environmental education are based largely on the general consensus of academics and practitioners rather than empirical evidence. This study seeks to test these assumptions and represents the first national study of its kind examining the drivers of environmental education program outcomes. We will also share our preliminary findings, fresh from the field. We will share practical lessons for those interested in environmental education research, evaluation and practice.



PRESENTERS



Dr. Robert Powell is the George B. Hartzog, Jr. Endowed Professor in the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management at Clemson University. He is also the Director of the Institute for Parks, which is

an interdisciplinary institute focused on providing research, training and outreach to support park and protected area management. He currently serves as Co-editor of the *Journal of Interpretation Research* and Associate Editor for the *Journal of Ecotourism*. Powell has published over 59 peer-reviewed articles, including 39 pertaining to interpretation and informal environmental education.



Dr. Marc Stern is a professor at Virginia Tech University, where he teaches courses on Environmental Education and Interpretation, Sustainability and Social Science Research Methods. His most recent book, entitled *Social Science*

Theory for Environmental Sustainability: A Practical Guide, is written to translate decades of social science research for practitioners, providing specific means for developing strategies for sustainability in various contexts.



Tractor to Board Room: Land Management at Multiple Scales

1:30-4:30 PM

Land management decisions are traditionally assumed to occur at the manager or coordinator levels of an organization. Likewise, staffing, budgets and external relations are considered administrative responsibilities for directors or board members. In practice, however, all of these responsibilities are shared among multiple levels of personnel, particularly within small organizations. This workshop will provide useful information about land management challenges from multiple perspectives and, hopefully, it will open a dialogue about the shared passions and responsibilities of nature center staff, regardless of their positions. Prior to the Summit, workshop attendees will be sent a survey to submit questions and/or current land management challenges to the workshop presenters. The presenters will then choose the top two or three to discuss during the workshop.



PRESENTERS



Olivia Espinoza, Natural Areas Manager at Cincinnati Nature Center, plays a fundamental role in overseeing natural resources and wildlife management programs. Olivia is an Ohio Certified Prescribed Fire Manager, and implemented the prescribed fire program at Cincinnati Nature Center in 2018. She also engages volunteers through research, monitoring and land stewardship on nature center property.



Heather Stehle is the Executive Director and Preserve Manager at Crane Hollow Preserve in Southeast Ohio. She has served in this position since 2008. Prior to working at Crane Hollow Preserve, Heather was a park ranger at Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway; adjunct faculty in the Parks and Recreation Management department at Western Carolina University; and an environmental educator at Nature's Classroom, Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum. When she's not wrangling QuickBooks reports and invasive species, Heather enjoys hiking and camping with her husband and two boys.



Keynote Speaker

Thursday

Nina Simon presents “OF/BY/FOR ALL”

8:30-10 AM
HOLIDAY INN & SUITES



Nina Simon has been called a “museum visionary” by *Smithsonian Magazine*, a Silicon Valley Business Journal “40 under 40,” and Santa Cruz County Woman of the Year for her innovative community leadership. She is the Executive Director of the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History, and the founder of the OF/BY/FOR ALL movement. Nina is the best-selling author of *The Participatory Museum* (2010), *The Art of Relevance* (2016) and the popular Museum 2.0 blog. Previously, Nina worked as an independent consultant and exhibition designer with over 100 museums and cultural centers around the world. Nina began her career at the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C.

During her keynote, Nina will share the vision behind OF/BY/FOR ALL. OF/BY/FOR ALL is a new global initiative to help civic and cultural organizations become OF, BY and FOR their communities. Get inspired, get new tools, and get ready to make your institution stronger with OF/BY/FOR ALL.

Keynote Sponsored By:



CHECK OUT NINA'S WORK ONLINE

OF/BY/FOR ALL

www.ofbyforall.org

Museum 2.0 Blog

www.museumtwo.blogspot.com

The Art of Relevance

www.artofrelevance.org

The Participatory Museum

www.participatorymuseum.org

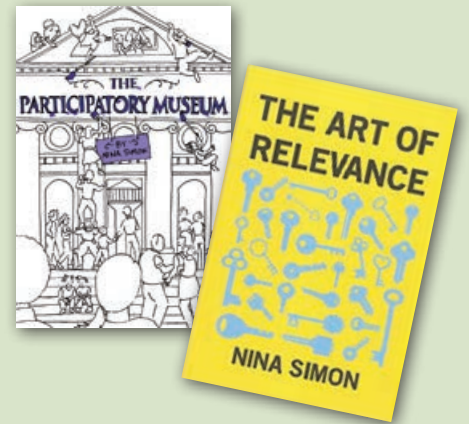
TEDx Talks

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alcwIH1vZ9w>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTih-l739w4>

Follow her on Twitter

@ninaksimon



Facilitated Discussions and Workshop Sessions

Thursday and Friday

Summit programming is designed specifically for leaders of nature and environmental learning centers including directors, managers, senior administrators and board members. Here is what to expect from the Facilitated Discussions, Workshop Sessions and Open Space that are scheduled for Thursday and Friday.

Facilitated Discussions are 90-minute sessions where the primary presenter is a facilitator, rather than a single voice, and guides the exchange of ideas based around the topic title. Participants will enrich the discussion by contributing ideas and experiences. The intended result is a dialogue that allows for the group to take advantage of the experience in the room, create a stronger peer network, and share solutions, ideas and challenges.

Workshop Sessions allow participants the opportunity to learn about new programs and ideas. These 90-minute sessions allow for presentation time and dialogue among the group.

Whether you are new in the field, mid-career, or a veteran leader, there will be programming designed for you! There will be more than 25 sessions to choose from on Thursday and Friday, and we will be posting

the session descriptions [here](#). The following is a sample of the sessions and discussions that will be offered:

Are you new in the field? Meet your peers in sessions about **Nonprofit Finances 101, Starting an Endowment and Marketing Your Programs**.

Are you a mid-career leader? Continue to grow your skills and resources with sessions on **Resiliency and Global Climate Change, Advocacy and How to Think Through Tough Problems**.

Are you a veteran leader? Join your cohorts for discussions on **Preparing for Retirement and Contributing to the Field After Retirement**, and share your hard-earned wisdom in the always popular **If I Only Knew Then What I Know Now** session.

Photo: Quinta Mazatlan, Anca Summit 2018



Facilitated Discussions and Workshop Sessions

Thursday and Friday

This is a preview of the programs offered.
More details to come.

SESSIONS DESIGNED FOR EVERYONE:

Handling Employee Issues Well: From Problems to Lawsuits with Marshall & Sterling Insurance

Even the most seasoned directors can experience a host of employee issues. Share your experiences and learn tips on how to handle employee issues.

How to Craft an Exhibit Budget That Will Get You Results with Taylor Studios

To really set your organization up for exhibit success, you must first understand the foundation of what things cost. This session will cover how costs are calculated, how to create a budget, where to spend your money, and how to maximize your dollars.

1,2,3 Ecology with Ayres Associates

Nature is all around us and constantly at work. This presentation will review three processes of nature and the impacts and benefits they have on design and the built environment.

Women in Leadership

A panel of women leaders will discuss the unique challenges they faced ascending to their positions, as well as relationships with donors, boards and staff.

Parental Work/Life Balance Challenges & Solutions

We all know that in non-profit work, most of the donor facilitation and volunteer board work needs to be done after the typical 8-5 work day. This is when donors and board members are most readily available. However, as a parent, where do you draw the line?

Adventures in Developing and Implementing Nature PlayScapes with Cincinnati Nature Center

The Cincinnati Nature Center created a nature playscape in 2011 to develop children's passion for nature through spontaneous play in the outdoors. Now in its 7th year, they have learned a great deal—from maintenance and signage, to programming and staffing. This session will highlight considerations for organizations looking to plan nature playscapes at their facilities.

Knowing When It Is Time to Move On

This session will help participants think through when it is time, for their own benefit or the benefit of their organization, to make a change.

Plus discussions on **Volunteer Programs, Diversity/Equity/Inclusion, Public Engagement, Camping Programs, Urban Environmental Education**, and much more! Don't see the topic you need? Come to Friday afternoon's Open Space and propose a session!

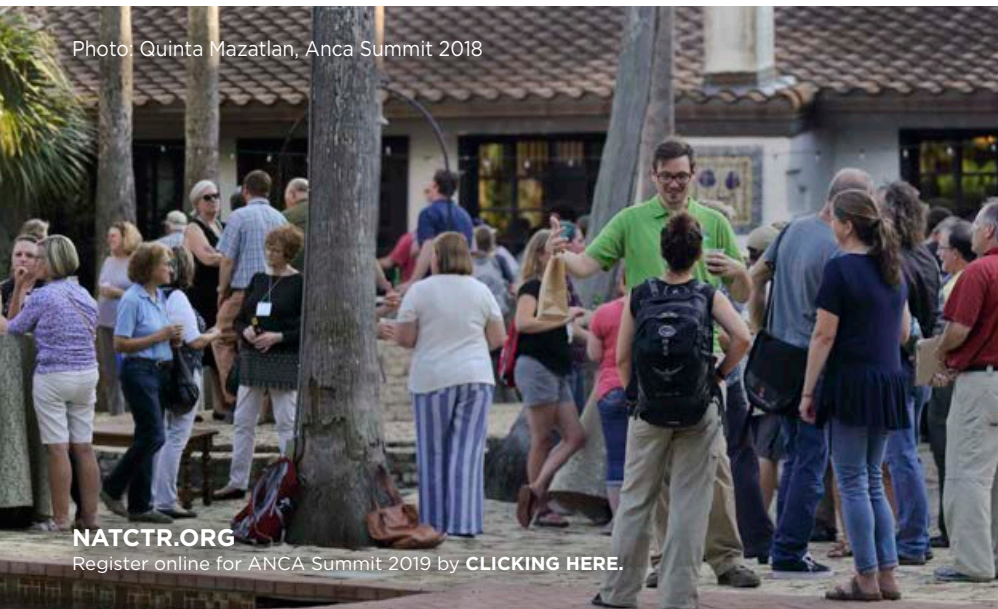


Photo: Quinta Mazatlan, Anca Summit 2018

OPEN SPACE on Friday afternoon provides you the opportunity to create your own meeting, continue a session that needs more time, or find a group to address an issue that was not presented elsewhere during the Summit. In the Open Space meeting, you will gather with your peers and collectively design session topics for the afternoon. We ask you to bring to the meeting those topics that you feel will be relevant and meaningful to you and the group.



Post-Summit Field Trip

Saturday

Downtown Cincinnati Parks Tour

8 AM-2 PM, \$50 PER PERSON

(SNACK AND LUNCH INCLUDED)

Complete your conference experience with an adventurous trip through Downtown Cincinnati! We'll start with a tasty Cincinnati treat at historic Findlay Market, one of the oldest city marketplaces in the country. Then we'll walk to Washington Park, Cincinnati's oldest park that was recently revitalized to serve the influx of people moving back into the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood. Erin Morris, Cincinnati Parks Naturalist and Assistant Manager of Explore Nature will enlighten us with Cincinnati history and how the



Photo: Cincinnati Parks

city park system evolved. We'll then head over to Smale Riverfront Park where we will view the great Ohio River, the Roebling Suspension Bridge, and check out the park's fun and immersive features. Our final destination will be lunch at Christian Moerlein Brewing Company.



LeadTeam



Strategic Planning



Leadership & Team Development



Executive Advising



Corky McReynolds, PhD

Trainer, Coach, Speaker, Consultant

Nurturing leadership and preparing organizations for success.

National Leadership Award 2004 – ANCA
Certified Professional Facilitator (CPF)
Certified in Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and Disc

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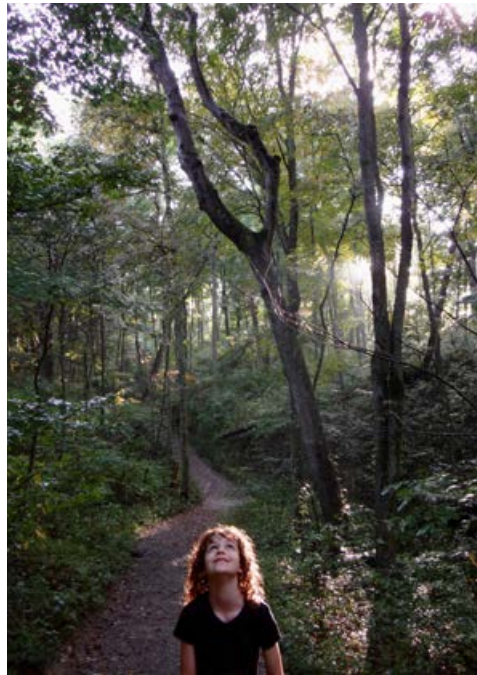
**Available for consulting,
training, and events!**



Nature Activities

Tuesday-Friday

During the conference, take the time to participate in some of Cincinnati Nature Center's Nature Activities. See how they connect people to nature! Here is a quick glimpse of what will be offered.



BIRD WALK

Join us for a bird-watching hike through the forests and fields, led by some of our expert birder volunteers.

RAPTOR, INC. TOUR

Adjacent to our property is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of local birds of prey via rehabilitation, education and research. Tour the multiple flight enclosures and visit some of the short-term and long-term feathered residents.

FOREST BATHING

Forest Bathing, also called shinrin-yoku, is a practice of immersing yourself in nature, and was developed by the Japanese to relieve stress. This guided experience offers an opportunity to slow down and awaken the senses which allows you to take in nature's gifts.

EVOLVED

Salamanders in the Plethodontidae family, like this northern dusky salamander (*Desmognathus fuscus*) are lungless, and must keep their skin wet to allow for cutaneous respiration. In other words, they breathe through their skin! There are various hypotheses for why this trait evolved, but the basic premise is that life in fast-moving streams can be tough for juvenile salamanders with lungs because it's more difficult for them to remain stable when submerged. The evolutionary loss of lungs thus acted as a ballast for juveniles. For these amphibious cuties, losing such an integral part of their anatomies actually improved the chances that populations would survive and thrive. It's a lesson in staying open-minded during even drastic change—it may greatly benefit you in the end.



Nature Activities

Tuesday-Friday



FOSSIL HIKE

Explore Avey's Run creek to find Ordovician fossils dating back 450 million years ago when this area was a warm shallow sea. We guarantee you'll find fossils. Learn about the ancient creatures and witness the traces they left behind.

PROMOTING POLLINATORS TOUR

Visit our Mason Bee Hotel and Witt Pollinator Garden as we discuss the importance of our native bees and ways to support them.

GREENHOUSE TOUR

An integral part of increasing native habitat in the region is supplying the plants to do so. Tour our newly renovated and expanded greenhouse to see how our native plant propagation program works.

NIGHT HIKE AND STARGAZING

After the formal schedule winds down for the night, join us for a walk to see frogs, fireflies, bats and celestial objects.

ALGAEWHEEL SANITARY TREATMENT SYSTEM TOUR

Join us for a tour of Ohio's first innovative Algaewheel Wastewater Treatment System. This incredibly unique technology utilizes algae in mini greenhouses to treat the wastewater from our facilities.



Area Attractions

Before or after the conference, discover Cincinnati—a Midwest city with dynamic things to do, tasty food, excellent entertainment, world-class arts, impressive museums and fun family attractions.

Museums



Photo: CincinnatiUSA.com

American Sign Museum
www.americansignmuseum.org

Cincinnati Art Museum
www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org

Cincinnati Museum Center
www.cincymuseum.org

Contemporary Arts Center
www.contemporaryartscenter.org

National Underground Railroad
Freedom Center
www.freedomcenter.org



Photo: Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame

Reds Hall of Fame & Museum
www.mlb.com/reds/hall-of-fame

Taft Museum of Art
www.taftmuseum.org

Tri-State Warbird Museum
www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org

Performing Arts

Aronoff Center for the Arts
www.cincinnatiarts.org/aronoff-center

Cincinnati Music Hall
www.cincinnatiarts.org/music-hall



Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and Tony Arrasmith

Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park
www.cincyplay.com

Fun

B&B Riverboats
www.bbriverboats.com

Cincinnati Reds
www.mlb.com/reds

Coney Island
www.coneyislandpark.com

Findlay Market
www.findlaymarket.org



Photo: Kings Island

Kings Island
www.visitkingsisland.com

Newport on the Levee
www.newportonthelevee.com

Nature-related Spaces

Cincinnati Observatory
www.cincinnatiobservatory.org

Cincinnati Parks
www.cincinnatiiparks.com



Photo: Michelle Curley

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden
www.cincinnati-zoo.org

Clermont County Parks
www.clermontparks.org

Gorman Heritage Farm
www.gormanfarm.org

Great Parks of Hamilton County
www.greatparks.org

Imago Earth Center
www.imagoearth.org



Photo: Gary Kessler

Krohn Conservatory
www.cincinnatiiparks.com/krohn/

Newport Aquarium
www.newportaquarium.com

Valley View Foundation
www.valleyviewcampus.org





ANCA SUMMIT 2019

Conference Theme

Cincinnati Nature Center staff agreed that our Keynote Speaker, Nina Simon, ought to set the tone of the conference. Nina is a thought leader on the future of museums, libraries and cultural institutions. She pushes organizations toward participatory programming, deeper connections, relevance and impact. She challenges them to find ways to be vital to their community. She believes that—in order to survive—organizations need change. Hence **EVOLVE!**

Conference Logo

We challenged ourselves to employ a symbol which could reflect the theme. First off, we all agreed that our logo ought to be representative of Ohio, found on our site, native, recognizable, has evolved and speaks to conservation. Personality-wise, we also envisioned something alive, charismatic, and full of energy and momentum.

Staff drew focus to the **Large-Flowered Trillium**. This is Ohio's state wildflower. It is found statewide in all counties. Deep in a rich, wooded forest, a huge stand of blooming trillium is breathtaking. Our logo uses an abstract trillium as the "o" in "Evolve." The whirling petals and bracts provide a sense of forward motion.

Photo: Jeff Mancini

EVOLVED

Trillium grandiflorum, the large-flowered trillium, is an iconic understory species in the eastern United States. Like all trilliums, the large-flowered trillium has evolved an interesting relationship with ants. Trillium seeds contain a fatty glob of protein called an elaiosome that ants just can't resist. When they take the seeds into their mounds, they eat the elaiosome, leaving the seed to eventually germinate. This is one reason you often see bunches of trillium all crowded together around a single spot in the ground—they are leftovers from an ant mound that is no longer there! By having ants take their seeds away, the mother plants reduce the chance of competing with their babies. Importantly, it also ensures that the genes of trillium get spread around the forest floor, improving the overall health of that trillium population. When it comes to breaking down silos and fostering the spread of new ideas, you can't beat trillium as a model species!

Register for the ANCA Summit today!

Come with an open, forward-thinking mindset—ready to EVOLVE.