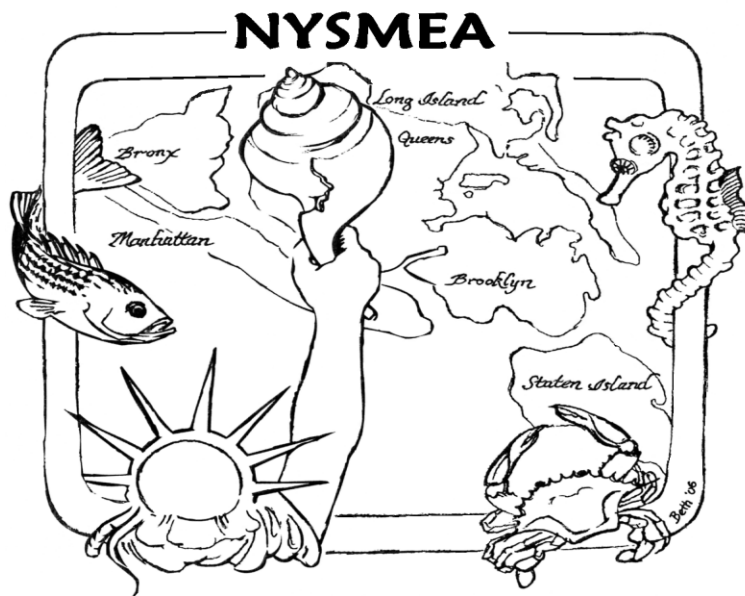




**New York State Marine
Education Association**

Presents
33rd Annual Conference
June 4, 2011

**Our Local Waterways: Resources, Restoration
and Citizen Science Activities**



NYC - A City of Islands
New York State Marine Education Association

Kingsborough Community College
City University of New York, Brooklyn, NY



Dear NYSMEA Members and Guests,

Welcome to the 33rd Annual NYSMEA Conference! Today's conference offers a great opportunity to appreciate our local waterways – rivers, streams, lakes, bays, sounds and of course the ocean. Marine and aquatic environments are extraordinary venues for learning science and other disciplines, and getting children and adults alike interested in protecting these important natural resources.

An important part of our conference theme is “citizen action”. As global citizens and ocean-lovers, we must take the lead in acting on behalf of our environments. Whether through beach clean ups, invasive species removal, native plantings, water quality or species monitoring, or other conservation activities, it is up to us to act as stewards. Today's speakers, workshops, and field trips will inspire us all to get involved and take some positive action.

Over the next few months, keep an eye out for special opportunities to participate in stewardship projects. I hope you'll consider coming along and becoming more active in *your* organization, and in protecting our local waterways.

Sincerely,
Meg

Meghan Marrero, Ed.D.
NYSMEA President
president@nysmea.org

NYSMEA 2011: 33rd Annual Conference
Kingsborough Community College/CUNY
Our Local Waterways: Resources, Restoration and Citizen Science
Activities

Morning & Afternoon Sessions: Rotunda at the Marine Academic Center (MAC) Building
Evening Activities and Dinner: New York Aquarium, Surf Ave. & W. 8th St.

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration check-in, continental breakfast	Rotunda MAC
8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Visit student poster session and exhibitors	Rotunda MAC
9:00 – 10:15 am	Welcome & Keynote Address: Tony DiLernia, Director, Marine Technology, KCC Paula Zevin, US EPA, Environmental Engineer, <i>Environmental Science, Stewardship and You - Perfect Together</i>	Center Section
10:30 am - 11:30 am	Session A (3 concurrent workshops)	
	1. Dr. Meghan Marrero, Director of Curriculum, U.S. Satellite Laboratory <i>From the Gulf to the Gowanus: Oil Spills, Storms, and Habitat Restoration</i>	North Section
	2. Ariana Rickard, Coordinator of the Discovery Room, with Barbara Cohen, American Museum of Natural History; and Sarah Richards and Alison Hall, St. Ann’s School, <i>Plankton and You: Become a Citizen Scientist to Monitor Plankton in Your Local Waterway.</i>	Building T 3 Room: T 309 Located at the other end of the campus across from the dock. See map for walking or driving along the sea wall.
	3. Charles Denson, Executive Director, Coney Island History Project <i>Coney Island Creek: The Fascinating Story of An Urban Estuary</i>	South Section

11:45 am – 12:45 pm	Session B (3 concurrent workshops)	
	1. Dr. Jean Anastasia, Associate Professor, Suffolk County Community College <i>Oil Spill Recovery Activity: Quantifying the Effectiveness of Various Clean-up Methods</i>	Room T 309
	2. Dr. Nasreen Haque, Assistant Professor, NYC College of Technology, CUNY <i>Underwater Explorations and Human Health: Microbial Diversity from the Gowanus to the Shores of India</i>	Center Section
	3. Nordica Holochuck, Hudson Estuary Specialist, New York State Sea Grant <i>Getting Your Feet Wet: New York Resources for Teaching about our Estuaries</i> and Ann Haskell, Marine Educator and Consultant, Blue Ocean Institute, <i>Exploring the Peconic Estuary and More - Blue Ocean Institute Programs for Citizen Scientists</i>	North Section
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Lunch and Awards Presentation Book Signing - <i>Do Fish Sleep?</i> , Judith Weis and <i>Salt Marshes: A Natural and Unnatural History</i> , Carol Butler and Judith Weis	East Section
2:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Field Trips 1. RV Kingsborough 2. Plumb Beach Exploration 3. Water Quality and Plankton Tow 4. Ave. U Salt Marsh Nature Center	Boat Trip – KCC Dock Beach Walk – Belt Parkway Field and Laboratory – T309 Trail Walk, Nature Room
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Visit Exhibits at NY Aquarium 6:00 pm - Screening of “Bag It” about plastics in our lives and the environment Visit Dr. Ben Dubin Thaler’s mobile science “BioBus” laboratory	On-site parking included Explore The Shore Classroom On-site parking lot
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Buffet Dinner	Oceanic Deck, NY Aquarium
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Keynote Speaker: Dr. Merry Camhi, Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society’s SEASCAPES Program: <i>Our New York Seascape: It’s Wild Out There!</i>	Oceanic Deck, NY Aquarium
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Auction and Conclusion	Oceanic Deck, NY Aquarium

Field Trips

Driving Directions available at registration desk and car pools will leave and return to KCC parking lot.

2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Dress for the field and wear sturdy shoes/sneakers. You may want to bring sun protection, a change of footwear, clothing, towel, water bottle. Prior registration is required to assure your participation. We suggest car pooling from and back to KCC.

RV Kingsborough – Boat Trip - Trip Leaders Lou Siegel and Jennifer Porcheddu - Tour the Sheepshead Bay area and conduct biological samplings, water chemistry analysis, and discuss the ecological importance of estuaries. Meet at the Kingsborough Pier across from the T 3 Building. Capacity 20. Captain Rob Stiglitz

Plumb Beach Exploration – Beach Walk Trip leaders Alan Ascher and Lisa Breslof. Search for horseshoe crabs, identify seaplants and seine to learn about the biology of local fish and invertebrates. Meet in parking lot by the T5 building to car pool to Plumb Beach from the Belt Parkway Knapp Street Entrance going East. Group will assemble at the round red bathhouse in front of the parking lot at Plumb Beach. This is the first pull-off from the Knapp St. entrance heading East on the right side of the Belt Pkwy, less than 1/2 mile. Capacity 20.

Water Quality and Plankton Tow - Field and Lab work (KCC) Trip leaders Tom Green and Blanca Ching. Participants will take local water samples from the floating dock to see if it's in compliance with EPA standards. Parameters will include DO, fecal coliform, pH, salinity, nitrogenous wastes, and examination of plankton. Capacity 25. Meet in T 309.

Avenue U Salt Marsh Nature Center – Trail walk – Trip leaders Karla Ferraro and Bob Cummings. Join an Urban Park Ranger for a guided BTS tour of the newly restored salt marsh nature trail, and learn how to use this valuable wetland “class room” and indoor center with live animals as your partner in nature explorations. Ranger will also introduce programs for your classes, and provide you with the natural history of the site. The trail hike is easy on flat gravel roads about 1 mile. Bring binoculars, sunscreen, hat and water. Meet in the T5 Parking lot to car pool to Knapp Street to Gerritsen Ave right onto Ave U. The Salt Marsh Center is located across from Marine Park, where there is a free parking lot. Exact address is 3302 Ave U, off of Burnette Street. (718) 421-2021 Capacity 25.

Keynote Speakers



Paula J. Zevin, Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Engineer

Environmental Science, Stewardship and You - Perfect Together

Paula Zevin is with USEPA Region 2, Division of Environmental Science and Assessment, Monitoring and Assessment Branch. She is pleased to count the job of Regional Volunteer Monitoring Coordinator among her duties. Ms. Zevin has been with Monitoring and Assessment since December 2000, with the Agency since 1991. Before that, she worked for many years in the pharmaceutical, textile and cosmetic industries. Ms. Zevin holds Master of Science degrees in Organic Chemical Technology from the Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Romania, and in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering from Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.



Dr. Merry Camhi, Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society's New York Seascape Program based at the New York Aquarium in Coney Island.

Our New York Seascape: It's Wild Out There!

Dr. Camhi has worked in marine conservation since receiving her Ph.D. in Ecology from Rutgers University, where she studied sea turtles in Costa Rica and Georgia. Merry worked for ten years as scientist and then assistant director of Audubon's Living Oceans Program and as Deputy Chair and member of the IUCN Shark Specialist Group. In 2007, she served as the Content Coordinator for the American Museum of Natural History's exhibition *Water: H₂O = Life*. Her efforts have focused on domestic and international conservation and management of large ocean fishes, and sharks in particular. Her most recent publications are a co-authored IUCN report *The Conservation Status of Pelagic Sharks and Rays* (2009), and the co-edited book *Sharks of the Open Ocean* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2008).

Workshop Descriptions Session A

Dr. Meghan Marrero, Director of Curriculum, U.S. Satellite Laboratory

From the Gulf to the Gowanus: Oil Spills, Storms, and Habitat Restoration

This past February 14 NYSMEA members traveled to South Louisiana to participate in restoration activities in response to the disastrous oil spill. They learned that issues in the Gulf—from offshore drilling to floodwalls, hurricanes to water diversion—are incredibly complex. Learn more about their fun and educational trip, and how you can apply the lessons learned back here in New York by participating in local stewardship opportunities.

Arianna Rickard, Coordinator of the Discovery Room, with Barbara Cohen, American Museum of Natural History; and Sarah Richards and Alison Hall, St. Ann’s School

Plankton and You: Become a Citizen Scientist to Monitor Plankton in Your Local Waterway.

Learn how to identify phytoplankton and use microscopes to look at samples from the Hudson and East Rivers. Staff from the American Museum of Natural History and Saint Ann’s School in Brooklyn will explain how to get involved with the Phytoplankton Monitoring Network (PMN) sponsored by NOAA. Citizen scientists collect, identify and track different species of diatoms and dinoflagellates. Workshop participants will also learn how they can use the PMN for classroom activities and independent research projects for students.

Charles Denson, Executive Director, Coney Island History Project

Coney Island Creek: The Fascinating Story of an Urban Estuary

Explore the history, ecology, decline and revival of Coney Island Creek via slide show and lecture with famed author of the award-winning book “Coney Island: Lost and Found”. Mr. Denson has photographed and documented the creek for over 40 years. Learn how N.Y.C.’s most polluted waterway can be transformed from a liability into a community asset with citizen action and multifaceted collaborations. Charlie is currently writing a book about the C.I. Creek and is seeking oral histories from people who lived and worked on the creek. Come and share the history

Workshop Descriptions Session B

Dr. Jean Anastasia, Associate Professor, Suffolk County Community College

Oil Spill Recovery Activity: Quantifying the Effectiveness of Various Clean-up Methods

The massive Deepwater Horizon/ BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico made a new generation of students aware of the devastating effects of oil spills. During this crisis, there was a time when scientists were concerned that L.I. waters would be affected. Marine science educators can capitalize on the peaked interest in this topic by bringing the issue of marine pollution into the classroom. Participate in a lab activity that introduces students to various methods used to clean up oil spills. Come and learn what instructors at SCCC have discovered through trial and error about how to best conduct this type of exercise. A new method to quantify the amount of oil that is removed during the trials will be demonstrated. Quantifying the efficiency of various methods allows the collection of data that can be graphed and analyzed at levels appropriate to your students and their knowledge or grade level.

Dr. Nasreen Haque, Assistant Professor, NYC College of Technology, CUNY

*Underwater Explorations and Human Health: Microbial Diversity from the
Gowanus to the Shores of India*

The quest for the unknown and the vast underwater resources have evoked a new interest in the oceans, which have now become the new frontier. Early life emerged and developed underwater and its study has revealed new insights into the evolutionary process that accounts for the biodiversity of life. Moreover, novel molecules isolated from the oceans are fast becoming a potential source for new medical treatments. How has underwater exploration led us to some of the greatest discoveries? Who are these explorers? Professor Hague will introduce us to these pioneers of ocean research and reveal the secrets of the deep. She will talk about her personal search for microbial diversity that led her from New York's infamous Gowanus Canal to the shores of India with interesting results.

Nordica Holochuck, Hudson Estuary Specialist, New York State Sea Grant

Getting Your Feet Wet: New York Resources for Teaching about our Estuaries

Are you new to marine/environmental education, or seeking to enhance your field trip opportunities? Are you looking for ideas on how to introduce your local estuary environment in your classroom? Enrich your lesson plans and learn about joining a stewardship project. This workshop is a starter kit that will cover new and emerging resources for teachers and environmental educators in the New York/New Jersey Harbor region. There are more than 700 miles of coastline surrounding New York and so many agencies and organizations (including NYSMEA!!) that offer low or no cost assistance to explore our wetlands.

Ann Haskell, Marine Educator and Consultant, Blue Ocean Institute

Exploring the Peconic Estuary and More - Blue Ocean Institute Programs for Citizen Scientists

Blue Ocean Institute provides interactive, hands-on education programs on the Explorer Tour Boat at Atlantis Marine World in Riverhead L.I. In 2010, more than 6,000 students (K-12 and college) explored the Peconic Estuary with us and experienced our *Ocean Literacy* and *NYS Standards*-based program, learning about marine conservation and the estuary from the river to the sea. Our educators provide outreach to classrooms, teacher training and student internships, all tailored to participants' specific needs. Today, we'll demonstrate how an estuary environment is a powerful place for developing your curriculum and how Blue Ocean Institute can provide support to your classroom.

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Dr. Merry Camhi, Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society's New York Seascape

Program, New York Aquarium, Coney Island

Kate Fitzgerald, Manager, Community Affairs

Staff of the National Park Service

Kathy Krauss, Park Ranger of Interpretation

Staff of the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation Urban Park Rangers

Sgt. Anthony Prastaro, Avenue U Salt Marsh Nature Center

Special Thanks

Bassett Catering - 1404 Avenue X, Brooklyn, NY

Student Poster Session

Tyler Blank, West Islip High School, West Islip, NY

“The Effect of Climate Variation on Parabolic Dune Formation: Insights from a Dendrochronologic Study of the Walking Dune Field, Napeague, NY”

Mario Flunory, Kingsborough Community College/CUNY, Brooklyn, NY

“A Behavioral Study of Sharks in Captivity”

Alison Hall, Saint Ann’s School, Brooklyn, NY

“Phytoplankton Study in the East River”

Anton Johnson, Kingsborough Community College/CUNY, Brooklyn, NY

“Eastern Oyster from Jamaica Bay Contains a Specific Polymorphism in the Cytochrome Oxidase I Gene”

Kenneth Panneto, New York City College of Technology/CUNY, Brooklyn, NY

“Microbial Diversity in the Gowanus Canal”

John-Kaarli Rentof, Bronx High School of Science, Bronx, NY

“Tree Frogs in Jamaica Bay National Wildlife Refuge”

Keisha Rogers, Kingsborough Community College/CUNY, Brooklyn, NY

“The Blue Mussel Does Not Appear to be a Vector for Dermo in Jamaica Bay”

NYSMEA Awards

Congratulations, 2011 Awardees!

NYSMEA Founder's Award

Presented to one of the original founders of the New York State Marine Education Association who has made a life-long commitment to advancing informal marine science education.

Dr. Karen A. Hensel, Former Curator of Education, New York Aquarium and Director, East Hampton Historical Society

Matthew Fontaine Maury Award

Presented to a member or non-member who has made a major contribution to any field related to marine endeavors, either in the sciences, education, and research, and social or artistic ventures.

Barbara Cohen, American Littoral Society

Kinghan Service Award

Presented to a member with at least three years of outstanding participation in the Association and who has contributed to the needs of the organization.

Richard McIntyre, Director of Marine Sciences Field Station, School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook Southampton

**Doreen Williamson, Educational Consultant, Mrs. W's Nature
Kevin Williamson, Enterprise Systems Architect, Sirius XM
Satellite Radio**

SCONYC Jerry Resnick Memorial Presidential Awards

Presented by individual member associations of the Science Council of New York City to an individual or organization that has contributed to the goals of the association as exemplified by SCONYC's second president.

Gene Ritter, Commercial Diver and Member of Local Union 1456 Dock Builders and Divers; and Founder of Cultural Research Divers, New York

Past NYSMEA Award Recipients

Founder's Award

Robert Abrams and Lou Siegel

Meritorious Service Award

Merryl Kafka and Ed Wilensky

Matthew Fontaine Maury Award

Ross Nigrelli, Frank Braynard, Steve Schneider, Anita Freudenthal, James Goetz, Jerry Schubel, Barbara Dexter, Steven Engelbright, Robert D. Abrams, Ellie Fries, Lou Siegel, John Loret, Don Riepe, Alan Ascher, Sidney Horenstein, Al Siegel and Joseph Yaiullo

Herman Melville Literary Award

Maxwell C. Wheat, Richard McDermott, Eugene Kaplan, John Christophe Fine, Matthew Lerman, Katherine A. Kirkpatrick, Carl Safina, Merryl Kafka/Sarah Gruber/Arlene De Strulle, David Helvarg, Alexandra Mancuso, Brianina Lind and Ann McGovern

Kinghan Service Award

Gene Kinghan, Al Siegel, Lou Siegel, Walter Smith, Robert Jaeger, Karen Hensel, Alan Ascher, Merryl Kafka, Maryanne Cicchillo, Marilyn Hoffman, Elaine Dolgins Weiss, Addie Quinn, Eilene Evans, Joseph M. Varon, Eleanor Fries, Barbara Cohen, Mickey Cohen, Lorna D. Monterose, Nancy Maia, John Evans, Margaret Wilson, Michael Sandlofer, Susan Chiesa, Joel Teret, Doreen Bader, Dennis Bader, John Loret, Ben Kwaitkowski, George Linzee Anthony DiLernia, Leticia Paler, Linda Kallinrude, Bunny Nadelman, Martin Kutikoff, Eileen Kutikoff, Kimberly Zimmer, Hugo Freudenthal, James Browne, Thomas F. Greene, Sarah Richards, Lisa Breslof, Gail David, Blanca Ching, Eileen Dugan, Karla Ferraro, Pamela Lynch, Ed Wilensky, Anne Bicker, Maritza Macdonald, Kiera Lam, Meghan Marrero, Robert Cummings and Bernie Wides

SCONYC Jerry Resnick Memorial Presidential Awards

Robert Jaeger, Robert Abrams, John Loret, Lou Siegel, Richard McDermott, Al Siegel, Joseph Varon, Maxwell Cohen, Eleanor Fries, Merryl Kafka, Joel Teret, Eilene Evans, Dennis Bader, Doreen Bader, Hugo Freudenthal, Anita Freudenthal, Matthew Lerman, Anthony Dilernia, Bruce Carlsten, Sandy Shumway, Anne Bicker, Lou Siegel, Eileen Kutikoff, Martin Kutikoff, Sarah Richards, Lisa Mielke, Lisa Breslof, Robert Cummings, Blanca Ching and Larissa Graham

Exhibitors

Beneath the Sea
Long Island Sound Study
Micro-optics, Inc
New York Microscopical Society

Resource Tables

American Museum of Natural History
Blue Ocean Institute
Dowling College, Marine Studies, B.A.
Kingsborough Community College, Marine Technology Division
New York Aquarium
New York Sea Grant
NY - NJ Harbor Estuary Program (New England Interstate Water Pollution
Control Commission)
Ocean Classroom Foundation
South Shore Estuary Reserve Council
Self Water Monitoring - ERM Foundation
The John Burroughs Association, Inc.
www.talkingscience.org

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New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program Office and New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission
Bassett Catering, Brooklyn, NY
Hudson River Foundation
New York Sea Grant
BioBus (www.biobus.org)

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Notes

Notes

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