

# 2019 NEVADA SCHOOL GARDEN CONFERENCE PROGRAM



8 - 8:30 a.m.	CONFERENCE CHECK-IN & VISIT RESOURCE TABLE	
8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	OPENING REMARKS & ACTIVITY <i>Nevada Department of Agriculture &amp; Mountain View Montessori</i>	
5 minute break to transition to workshops		
8:50 - 9:50 a.m.	WORKSHOP A: GARDENING 101	Studio classroom
	WORKSHOP B: USING THE GARDEN AS AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM	Adolescent classroom
	WORKSHOP C: STUDENT CHEFS & TASTE TESTS	Community room/ Kitchen
	WORKSHOP D: VERMICOMPOSTING	School garden
5 minute break to transition to workshops		
9:55 - 10:55 a.m.	WORKSHOP A: GARDENING 101	Studio classroom
	WORKSHOP B: USING THE GARDEN AS AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM	Adolescent classroom
	WORKSHOP C: STUDENT CHEFS & TASTE TESTS	Community room/ Kitchen
	WORKSHOP D: VERMICOMPOSTING	School garden
5 minute break to transition to workshops		
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.	WORKSHOP E: AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM LESSON PLANS & RESOURCES	Adolescent classroom
	WORKSHOP F: STRAW BALE GARDENING & RODENT CONTROL	School garden
	WORKSHOP G: HOW WE GREW A SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM	Community room
12 - 12:30 p.m.	LUNCH & SCHOOL PRESENTATION ON USING SCHOOL GARDEN PRODUCE IN THE SCHOOL	Community room
12:30 - 12:45 p.m.	FARM TO SCHOOL PRESENTATION	Community room
5 minute break to transition to workshops		
12:50 - 1:50 p.m.	WORKSHOP E: AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM LESSON PLANS & RESOURCES	Adolescent classroom
	WORKSHOP F: STRAW BALE GARDENING & RODENT CONTROL	School garden
	WORKSHOP G: HOW WE GREW A SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM	Community room
5 minute break to transition to workshops		
1:55 - 2:55 p.m.	WORKSHOP H: FOOD SAFETY - GROW FOR IT	Studio classroom
	WORKSHOP I: PARTS OF THE SEED LESSONS	Meet at community room
	WORKSHOP J: HATCHING SCIENCE WITH CLASSROOM CHICKS	Adolescent classroom
5 minute break to transition to workshops		
3 - 4 p.m.	WORKSHOP H: FOOD SAFETY - GROW FOR IT	Studio classroom
	WORKSHOP I: PARTS OF THE SEED LESSONS	Meet at community room
	WORKSHOP J: HATCHING SCIENCE WITH CLASSROOM CHICKS	Adolescent classroom
5 minute break to transition to workshops		
4:05 - 4:45 p.m.	RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINING YOUR SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM	Community room
4:45 - 5:15 p.m.	WRAP-UP ACTIVITY & CLOSING REMARKS	Community room

# SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

## AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Participate in experiential learning activities that can be used to engage students in the core curriculum. Learn about the Curriculum Matrix, standards aligned lessons and resources, and more to teach your students through the lens of food, agriculture, and natural resources.

*Presented by Amber Smyer, Nevada Department of Agriculture and Anna Estill, NevadaTeach pre-service teacher*

## FARM TO SCHOOL

Farm to school enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and early care and education sites. Learn about the education and school garden resources available.

*Presented by JuliAnna Arnett, USDA Farm to School Regional Lead*

## FOOD SAFETY – GROW FOR IT

Join us for a mock scenario in the school garden to identify and reduce common food safety risks. Learn best practices and how to teach your students skills and practices that will translate to workplace safety in their careers.

*Presented by Adriana Marin-Herrera & Audrey Blondfield, Nevada Department of Agriculture*

## GARDENING 101

Looking for the basics in gardening? Unsure when and what to plant? Don't miss this workshop that will cover what crops to plant in your garden that will coincide with the school year. Learn what crops you'll get the best results from and more.

*Presented by Wendy Hanson Mazet, horticulturalist with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension*

## HATCHING SCIENCE WITH CLASSROOM CHICKS

Hatching chicks in the classroom can be an effective way to increase student engagement, investigate how organisms change and develop over time, and study embryology, life cycles, heredity and animal needs. Receive practical information about the technical aspects of hatching chicks and relevant, hands-on activities for integrating embryology themes into core curriculum.

*Presented by Kelby Lindberg and Noah Walls UNR NevadaTeach pre-service teachers*

## HOW WE GREW A SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM

Growing a School Garden isn't as easy as it seems. Find out how Riverview Elementary in Dayton started with an area of bare soil that was transformed into an active school garden and outdoor classroom that is integrated into grades, Pre-K through 6th. They will cover how they started, working with the community, how to get teachers to buy into the garden, how to take care of the garden throughout the school year and plans for summer.

*Presented by Riverview Elementary staff*

## PARTS OF THE SEED

Join Jackie as she shares her engaging lessons and activities to help students learn seed anatomy.

*Presented by Jackie Silveira-Sater, Mountain View Montessori*

## RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINING YOUR SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM

This session will focus on highlighting and sharing resources available for funding, partnerships, revenue sources and more.

*Facilitated by Nevada Department of Agriculture staff and presentation by Michael Ismari*

## STRAW BALE GARDENING & RODENT CONTROL

Looking for a new growing method to engage student's in learning and how to address rodents in the garden? Consider a straw bale garden as an affordable and space efficient way to grow. Then dive into ways to combat those pesky rodents that have a way of getting into raised beds and eating the fruits of our labor.

*Presented by students in the Natural Resources and Animal Sciences Academy at the Academy of Arts, Careers and Technology in Reno*

## STUDENT CHEFS & TASTE TESTS

Don't miss this opportunity to taste and teach. Taste tests in the classroom give students access to wholesome foods and provide memorable learning experiences that will help them make improved food choices. Join students and staff as they show you ways the school garden produce is being used to teach knowledge, nutrition and life skills.

*Presented by Mountain View Montessori students on the culinary and hospitality committee*

## USING THE GARDEN AS AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

During this workshop, we will explore the many ways teachers, students and parents can use the school garden for activities other than growing yummy veggies. We'll talk about different gardens we've seen and brainstorm and share ideas for using the different spaces.

*Presented by Daphne Ekmanis, Urban Roots Farm and School Garden Director*

## VERMICOMPOSTING

Vermicomposting relies on earthworms and microorganisms to help stabilize active organic materials and convert them to a valuable soil amendment and a source of plant nutrients. Instead of disposing of food scraps, yard wastes, and other organics, the materials can be vermicomposted as a method of recycling. Explore with the Mountain View students and staff how they utilize vermicomposting and learn how easy it is to construct a DIY worm bin to get started in your school garden program.

*Presented by Josie Luciano & student leadership group, Mountain View Montessori*

# SPEAKER BIOS

## ADRIANA MARIN-HERRERA

Adriana is an agriculturist with the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA). She has a bachelor's degree in Biology, minor in Spanish, and master's degree in Secondary Education, in addition to initiating her Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from the University of Nevada, Reno. At NDA she works on the produce safety program, assists with the Specialty Crop Grant and helps with producer certificates.

## AMBER SMYER

A former Idaho potato and sugar beet farmer, Amber moved to Nevada to join the Nevada Department of Agriculture as the agricultural literacy coordinator. She has a bachelor's degree in Secondary Agricultural Education and a master's in Public Affairs. Amber works closely with teachers, students and partners to expose youth to 200+ career opportunities in food, agriculture and natural resources; promote Nevada's vibrant food and agriculture industry; and help create a more agriculturally literate population.

## CHRISTINE CORBIN

Christine is a 5th grade Math and Science teacher at Riverview Elementary School (RES) in Dayton. This is her 12th year teaching. She has a B.S. in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State and has worked for Cal. Fish and Game in Anadromous Fisheries and for the USFWS on the endangered Black-footed Ferret study. She enjoys collaborating with colleagues on STEM projects and enrichment programs for her students, such as Trout in the Classroom and River Wranglers. She's on the Garden Committee at RES.

## CINDI ELLIOTT

Cindi is a kindergarten teacher at Riverview Elementary School (RES). She has been gardening for decades and is part of RES Garden Committee. She ran the Garden Club for many years before moving to teach kindergarten. Cindi feels the best part of the school garden for kindergartens is teaching students how to plant seeds and nurture them to grow. She also likes to watch them enjoy getting their hands in the dirt and the sensory experience.

## DAPHNNE EKMANIS

Daphnne moved to the Sierra Nevada from the rolling hills of Tennessee. She started with Urban Roots as an AmeriCorps member supporting communities. September of 2018, she took over as the Farm and School Garden Director and oversees all operations of the Urban Teaching Farm and participating garden classrooms programs.

## JACKIE SILVEIRA-SATER

Jackie Silveira-Sater has been a teacher at Mountain View Montessori since 1983. She is director of education and an upper elementary teacher. She holds an Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) primary and elementary diploma and serves as an AMI consultant.

## JULIANNA ARNETT

JuliAnna is the Farm to School Specialist for USDA Food and Nutrition Western Regional Office. She has over 10 years of experience in public health and food systems. In her most recent role, JuliAnna developed standards to shift the County of San Diego's \$10 million in annual food purchases towards healthier, more sustainable, less processed options. As former director of operations and food systems at Community Health Improvement Partners, she co-founded the San Diego County Farm to School Network and Nutrition in Healthcare Leadership Team. JuliAnna has a degree from Ball State University in her home town of Muncie, Indiana.

## JOSIE LUCIANO

Josie is the Garden Specialist for Mountain View Montessori. She is the co-organizer of Permaculture Northern Nevada and founder of Urban Roots. She teaches Garden & Greenhouse leadership classes, as well as Campus Stewardship and Science for adolescent students at Mountain View Montessori School. Her background is in environmental science, environmental education and art.

## KELBY LINDBERG

A born and raised Nevadan who enjoys being outdoors, Kelby is an undergraduate student at the University of Nevada, Reno, majoring in Agricultural Science, Environmental Science and Secondary Education. He plans to be a teacher and looks forward to getting students involved in the outdoors around them while appreciating the hard work it takes to be successful in life.

## LIANE MCBROOME

LiAne has bachelor's degrees in Agricultural Education and Agronomy and minors in Animal Science and History from Oklahoma Panhandle State University. She works at Riverview Elementary School as the Music Specialist and Garden Coordinator.

## MARY LEVY

Mary has been at Mountain View Montessori since 1997. She has been the Head of School since 2003. She teaches leadership in the Adolescent Community and parent education for primary and adolescent parents. Mary serves on the Association Montessori International in the United States (AMI/USA) Board of Directors.

## MEGAN NUTT

Megan Nutt is the Culinary Specialist and Facility Maintenance Coordinator at Mountain View Montessori. She oversees foodservice at the school including the cottage industry lunch program, special events, use of the Edible Schoolyard harvest, and the Culinary and Hospitality leadership group in the Adolescent Community.

## MICHAEL ISMARI

Michael is a science teacher at Dilworth STEM Academy. Previously he received a \$30,000 grant to build a school garden at Pine Middle School. Through this experience he worked with partners, developed a garden club which were engaged in Nevada 4-H, and involved students in both the construction and maintenance of the garden. Additionally Michael worked with UNCE as the school district Garden Coordinator for a 6 month period funded by a grant and was able to start and rebirth several gardens in the district.

## MOUNTAIN VIEW MONTESSORI CULINARY & HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Adolescent students have the opportunity to learn culinary and hospitality skills under direction of culinary specialist, Megan Nutt.

## NOAH WALLS

Noah is a sophomore at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Originally from Las Vegas, Noah witnessed the beginning of the urban school gardening revolution that is currently underway, inspiring him to declare a major in agricultural science and develop the necessary skills to teach his future students about how their food is grown and harvested. At UNR, Noah works as a peer mentor for the NevadaTeach Program and can be seen helping entry-level students write inquiry-based lesson plans, prepare materials for their classroom practicum experiences and even raising broods of chicks!

# SPEAKER BIOS

## RISA BOYLE

Risa is a first-grade teacher. She enjoys using the garden for math, reading and writing with her first graders. She has been gardening for years at home and is a member of the Riverview Elementary School (RES) Garden Committee.

## STEPHANIE CLARK

Stephanie is a 2nd grade teacher at Riverview Elementary School (RES) in Dayton. This is her 17th year teaching. She has a BA in Elementary and Special Education. Stephanie has experience growing her own personal garden for several years and especially loves square foot gardening. She has spent some time working in a community garden that provided food for those in need. Stephanie is on the RES Garden Committee and enjoys collaborating with her 2nd grade team on STEM projects involving the garden. Her class has studied the life cycle of plants and insects in the garden and currently, her second-grade class is engineering a structure that will hopefully help resolve the weed problem in the garden.

## STEPHANIE NICE

Stephanie is the Dean of Students at Riverview Elementary School in Dayton. She enjoys watching teachers link gardening to the classroom by using real-life math, and English language arts standards (ELA). Stephanie feels it is a great experience for all students and staff.

## STUDENTS IN THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ANIMAL SCIENCES ACADEMY AT THE ACADEMY OF ARTS, CAREERS AND TECHNOLOGY, RENO

This high school Career & Technical Education program provides students with the opportunity to develop technical skills and knowledge around plant science through hands-on learning on their urban farm, greenhouses, aquaculture and much more.

## WENDY HANSON MAZET

Wendy, Horticulturist with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, has over 18 years of experience in the areas of horticulture and agriculture. She is a Certified Arborist with expertise in horticulture, arboriculture, noxious weeds, vegetable gardening and low water use gardening.

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