

# 2019 Agenda

Nature Explore | The Outdoor  
Classroom Project



# LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

**Sustaining Ourselves, Sustaining Our Work,  
Sustaining Our World**

**July 21 –24, 2019**

Lied Lodge and Conference Center | Arbor Day Farm | Nebraska City, NE

## Sunday, July 21, 2019

7–9PM

### **Evening Reception – Lied Lodge**

Enjoy complimentary appetizers and beverages while meeting Institute participants and facilitators.

## Monday, July 22, 2019

6:30–8:30AM

*Breakfast Buffet – Timber Dining Room*

7:30–9AM

### **Registration**

9AM–12PM

**Morning Opening Session** *(with break and complimentary refreshments part way through)*

### **Opening Address by John Rosenow, Dimensions Foundation**

### **Presentation of Toolkit Journals and introductions of hand-on activities:**

- Eric Nelson, *Outdoor Classroom Project*
- Elyssa Nelson, *Child Educational Center*
- Nancy Rosenow, *Nature Explore*

### **Interactive activities:**

Developing sustainability tools

### **Making the most of your time at the Institute**

### **Introductions at table groups and intention setting**

12–1:30PM

*Lunch buffet provided as part of the Institute registration fee*

## Monday, July 22, 2019 Continued

1:30–4:30PM

**Afternoon Session** *(with break and complimentary refreshments)*

Short presentations at Lied Lodge about the hands-on activities to follow. Then there will be a short walk to the two natural outdoor classrooms. Participants will work in groups and rotate through all these hand-on activities:

**Appropriate use of technology in natural outdoor classrooms (exploring hands-on tools)**

Presented by Angela Fowler

**Mapping in natural outdoor classrooms**

Presented by landscape architect Jim Wike and educator Julie Rose

**Innovative use of loose parts**

Presented by educators Ellen Veselack and Erinn Levin

**Permaculture tips and activities**

Presented by landscape architect Jill Primak, educator Heather Fox and permaculture specialist, Molly Phemister

**Ephemeral art experiences**

Presented by educator Tina Reeble

**Full body experiences (using recyclables) in natural outdoor classrooms**

Presented by educator Kirsten Haugen

*Break with refreshments back at Lied Lodge*

**Discussion in Interest Groups – related to the hands-on experiences**

4:30–6:30PM

**Tree Adventure Exhibits and the Apple House will be open just for Leadership Institute participants**

5–7PM

*Dinner on your own*

**OPTIONAL EVENING SOCIAL TIME**

7–8PM

**Wine tasting in Rosenow Room**

## Tuesday, July 23, 2019

6:30–8:30AM *Breakfast Buffet – Timber Dining Room*

### OPTIONAL MORNING WELLNESS ACTIVITY

7:30–8AM **QiGong**

9AM–12PM **Morning Session – A Celebration Walk: Sustaining Ourselves through Nature and Each Other**  
Enjoy an inspirational, facilitated walk featuring multi-media experiences and ideas that can be used with staff and/or children.

12–1:30PM *Lunch buffet provided as part of the Institute registration fee*

1:30–4:30PM **Afternoon Session** (with break and complimentary refreshments part way through)

#### **Sharing in Interest groups – insights from the morning time**

##### **First Sharing Our Work session**

Enjoy short presentations from Outdoor Classroom Project Demonstration Sites and Certified Nature Explore Classrooms as they share examples of their work, and tips for sustainability

##### **Research presentation**

Presented by Samuel Dennis, *University of Wisconsin*, Rod Diercks, *Doane College*, Christine Kiewra, *University of Nebraska* – and members of the research advisory council that advised on a comprehensive national study of natural outdoor classrooms

##### **“Power of Documentation”**

Presented by Ellen Veselack and Heather Fox

#### **Discussions in Interest Groups**

4:30–6:30PM **Tree Adventure Exhibits and the Apple House will be open just for Leadership Institute participants**

5–7:30PM *Dinner on your own*

### OPTIONAL EVENING SOCIAL TIME

7:30–8:30PM **Michael Fitsimmons of Dancing Man Music will present a lively participatory outdoor drum circle musical experience**

## Wednesday, July 24, 2019

**6:30–8:30AM**      *Breakfast Buffet – Timber Dining Room*

### OPTIONAL MORNING WELLNESS ACTIVITY

**7:30–8AM**      **QiGong**

**9AM–12:15PM**      **Morning Session** *(with break and complimentary refreshments part way through)*

**Panel discussion of sustainability for multiple settings and age groups: “What Works”**  
Presented by Dean Tagawa, *Los Angeles Unified School District*, and Tinelle Bustan, *US Forest Service*

*(Participants will then divide into two groups and experience both of the following hands-on activities)*

**Nature Art**  
Presented by Sandra Duncan

**Sustaining Ourselves**  
Presented by Eric Nelson and Tina Reeble

**12:15–1:30PM**      *Lunch buffet provided as part of the Institute registration fee*

**1:30–4:30PM**      **Afternoon Session** *(with complimentary closing reception at the end)*

**Second Sharing Our Work Session**  
Enjoy short presentations from Outdoor Classroom Project Demonstration Sites and Certified Nature Explore Classrooms as they share examples of their work, and tips for sustainability

**Heart-Centered conversations in trios**

**Sharing of intentions**

**Celebrate ten-year programs in the Outdoor Classroom Project Demonstration and Nature Explore Certified Classrooms Network**

**Final thoughts and Closing Reception**