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High School Educators Nationwide Awarded Classroom Earth Grants *Twenty chosen for curriculum-expanding environmental education*

The National Environmental Education Foundation, in partnership with The Weather Channel, announced 20 educators nationwide awarded a grant designed to bring environmental education into the classroom.

The teachers and specialists will take two online graduate-level courses offered by the Environmental Education and Training Partnership through the University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point.

"This year's grant winners represent a generation of teachers who will help students flourish in the 21st century's green economy," said Diane Wood, president of the National Environmental Education Foundation. "Environmental education is more than just helping build an appreciation for the natural world, it's about preparing our young people for the careers of tomorrow."

The following educators received the grant for the 2009-2010 school year:

- **Betsy Burtzlaff**, biology, ecology, environmental science, physiology, physics; Newell High School, *Newell, S.D.*
- **Emily Curry**, biology; Jackson High School, *Jackson, Mich.*
- **Tom Davies**, U.S. and world history, human geography, Gordon Parks High School, *St. Paul, Minn.*
- **Mike Duggan**, biology ecology and marine science; Brooklyn Academy of Science and Environment, *Brooklyn, N.Y.*
- **Marcel Duhaime**, mathematics, Bow High School, *Bow, N.H.*
- **Tommy Hayes**, environmental science; Charlestown High School., *Charlestown, Mass.*
- **Elliot Hu-Au**, physics, Skyline High School, *Oakland, Calif.*
- **Hope Kitts**, world and U.S. history; Brooklyn Academy of Science and the Environment, *Brooklyn, N.Y.*
- **Sondra McCulloch**, biology, science; T. DeWitt Taylor Middle High School, *Pierson, Fla.*
- **Elizabeth Morris**, biology and geology; Clearwater High School, *Clearwater, Mich.*

- **Melanie Mudarth**, earth and space science, chemistry, biology, ecology; Zion Benton Township H.S., *Zion, Ill.*
- **David Olesh**, earth science and geology; Automotive High School, *Brooklyn, N.Y.*
- **Rose Robertson**, chemistry, environmental science and biology; Taylor High School, *Taylor, Texas*
- **Courtney Rohde**, biology, earth science, animal behavior, physical science; Chesapeake High School, *Baltimore, Md.*
- **Jose Sanchez**, social science, U.S. history, Alhambra High School, *Alhambra, Calif.*
- **Devin Smith**, physics; KIPP D.C. College Preparatory School, *Washington, D.C.*
- **Courtney Struck**, environmental science, chemistry; Utica High School, *Shelby Township, Mich.*
- **Barbara Taber**, earth science, biology, oceanography, ecology, environmental science; Churchland High School, *Portsmouth, Va.*
- **Emily Wilson**, U.S. government and history, world history, economics; Bedford County Learning Academy, *Shelbyville, Tenn.*
- **John Zoeller**, social studies, human geography, macroeconomics, government, history; Dr. Michael Krop High School, *Miami, Fla.*

The High School Challenge Grants Program—funded with support from The Coca Cola Foundation—is one component of Classroom Earth, a site designed by high school teachers for high school teachers, enabling them to find lesson plans, success stories and strategies for integrating environmental education into a variety of subject areas using unique and innovative lesson plans.

“Classroom Earth is committed to providing teachers with the resources to engage students to take on environmental challenges,” Wood said. “The grants program is an essential component. It equips high school teachers with the knowledge and tools to increase the environmental literacy of their students.”

Classroom Earth strengthens environmental education in high schools by sharing best practices, increasing the expertise and enriching the curriculum of America’s teachers.

For more information about each of the grant winners and the Classroom Earth program, visit www.classroomearth.org.

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About Classroom Earth

Classroom Earth, launched by the National Environmental Education Foundation in partnership with The Weather Channel, is a program designed to enhance and strengthen environmental education in high school classrooms nationwide. By harnessing the expertise and passion of teachers and students around the country, Classroom Earth will enrich the high school curriculum by encouraging the inclusion of environmental education into all high school subjects - from biology to art - and make it easier for teachers to access best practices online. The primary goal of the program is to increase the environmental literacy of high school students and to provide models for including environmental education in high school classrooms through the Web. For more information, visit www.classroomearth.org.

About the National Environmental Education Foundation

The National Environmental Education Foundation provides objective environmental information to help Americans live better every day. We work with professionals in health, education, public lands and media to

connect the environment to everyday choices and actions so the public can live well while protecting and enjoying nature. Through our signature programs like National Public Lands Day, Environmental Education Week, Earth Gauge, and the Pediatric Environmental History Initiative, the National Environmental Education Foundation offers Americans knowledge to live by. To learn more, call (202) 833-2933 or visit www.neefusa.org.

About The Weather Channel

The Weather Channel, a 24-hour weather network, is seen in more than 98 million U.S. households. The Weather Channel reaches more than 38 million unique users online per month through weather.com and products including The Weather Channel Desktop, making it the most popular source of online weather, news and information according to Nielsen//Net Ratings. The Weather Channel also operates The Weather Channel HD; Weatherscan, a 24-hour, all-local weather network; The Weather Channel Radio Network; The Weather Channel Newspaper Services; and is the leading weather information provider for emerging technologies. This includes broadband and interactive television applications and wireless weather products including the most popular content site on the Mobile Web. For more information, visit www.weather.com.

A leader in the area of climate change and the environment, The Weather Channel airs Forecast Earth, an original weekly program where climate news meets green living, each Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m., 7 p.m., and 1 a.m. ET. The television show and its [Web site](#) enable viewers to become even more knowledgeable about environmental issues and what they can do to make a difference. For more information, visit www.weather.com/forecastearth