



Contact Judy Braus
Telephone 202-419-0412
Email info@naaee.org
Website www.naaee.org

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YASH BHAGWANJI WINS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD

Local educator recognized by North American Association for Environmental Education

Boca Raton, FL, 1BNovember 1, 2018– Yash Bhagwanji, PhD, long-time educator, and Associate Professor at Florida Atlantic University's College of Education, was recently recognized by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). Dr. Bhagwanji was honored with the Award for Outstanding Service to Environmental Education, given to individuals who exemplify national leadership in the field of environmental education (EE).

As a long-time early childhood educator, Dr. Bhagwanji has been instrumental in championing the growing field of early childhood EE. Seeking to fill a need for the field to encourage research in early childhood environmental education, Dr. Bhagwanji founded the *International Journal of Early Childhood*, which promotes quality research and addresses all aspects of early childhood EE, including implications for policy at the local, state, national, and global levels. Serving as executive editor for the journal since its launch in 2013, Dr. Bhagwanji has grown the journal and the editorial review board to draw top scholars and practitioner globally. Dr. Bhagwanji is also a founding member of the Natural Start Alliance Advisory Committee, providing guidance to a coalition of educators, parents, and organizations helping young children connect with nature and care for the environment.

"Dr. Bhagwanji's accomplishments and commitment to environmental education and early childhood reflect the best in our field," said Judy Braus, NAAEE's Executive Director. "Our award winners truly exemplify innovative, inspirational, and resilient leadership that will help us shape a more sustainable and equitable society."

NAAEE presented 13 awards to outstanding individual and organizational leaders across North America and worldwide. For a full list of 2018 winners, visit www.naaee.org/our-work/programs/awards.

About the North American Association for Environmental Education

For four decades, the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) has been dedicated to advancing environmental literacy and civic engagement through the power of education. NAAEE supports a network of more than 20,000 educators and 56 regional affiliate

organizations working in environmental education in more than 30 countries. For more information, visit www.naaee.org.

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