

For Immediate Release

Recreation Manager at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary Receives National Recognition for Local Service

The Lexington local won the Outstanding Service to Environmental Education Award

[Lexington, KY, November 12, 2019] Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez was awarded the 2019 Outstanding Service to Environmental Education Award at the Local and Regional Level by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE).

Sánchez was recognized for her work as the Recreation Manager at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary, her contributions to climate change research at Kentucky State University and her leadership roles with regional and state environmental education associations.

Sánchez places equity and inclusion at the forefront of her work, including facilitating Kentucky's only bilingual Project Learning Tree trainings. She is a certified Kentucky Professional Environmental Educator and has served on the national stage on NOAA's Climate Stewards Program and NAAEE's climate change panel.

"What has inspired me is working with and learning from so many dedicated young people who are beyond just educating the public, but really working toward getting folks to understand the 'why' of environmental programming and the call to action to get engaged and involved in making our world a bit better each day," said Sánchez.

NAAEE began awarding the Outstanding Service to Environmental Education Award in 1974 to recognize environmental educators and advocates who have made notable contributions to the field. Individuals and organizations at the global, regional, national and local levels are eligible.

"Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez's contributions to environmental education have been remarkable and she serves as a model for so many people inside and outside Kentucky," said Judy Braus, Executive Director for NAAEE. "She is one of the most creative and thoughtful leaders in the field and has helped strengthen environmental education through her passion, creativity and dedication to building a more equitable and sustainable society."

This award was presented at the NAAEE's 48th Annual Conference in Lexington, KY along with 10 other awards that recognize other leaders and organizations in the field of environmental education.

About NAAEE

For nearly five decades, the [North American Association for Environmental Education](https://naaee.org/) has led efforts to use the power of education to advance environmental literacy and civic engagement and create a more equitable and sustainable future. NAAEE supports a network of more than 20,000 educators and 56 state, regional and provincial affiliate organizations working in environmental education in more than 30 countries.

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