

For Immediate Release

Portland Environmentalist Recognized for Championing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

She has facilitated trainings, coached leaders, led strategy sessions and conducted equity audits with thousands of people

[Portland, OR, November 18, 2019] Queta González, Director of the Center for Diversity and the Environment, was presented with the 2019 Rosa Parks and Grace Lee Boggs Award by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE).

González was recognized for honoring Rosa Parks' "quiet strength" and the courage and advocacy that Grace Lee Boggs modeled throughout her life.

"A focus on justice through the work of equity, diversity and inclusion have been among the most significant elements that have shaped my life," said González. "By its nature, this is not solitary work and thus, this award is about all of the people who are working toward transformation. The commitment that I have seen folks embody gives me great hope for our future."

González has developed and delivered trainings for over 20 years with leaders from Fortune 500 companies to NAAEE's state Affiliate Network. Her work has always focused on creating diverse, equitable and inclusive environments, including in her role as an assistant curator of an invertebrate museum and teaching as a wilderness-based educator. She has proven herself as a passionate advocate for connecting people to nature as a Founding Board Member of the Willamette River Network and a member of the Governor's Task Force on the Outdoors.

"Queta González has done so much to grow our field in a way that places equity and inclusion at the forefront of everything we do," said Judy Braus, Executive Director of NAAEE. "She is not only one of the most creative and thoughtful leaders in the environmental movement, but also someone who inspires others to be their best and work collaboratively to create a more equitable and sustainable society."

Presented annually since 2009, The Rosa Parks and Grace Lee Boggs Outstanding Service Award recognizes people of color for their leadership in educating and promoting action to support environmental education and environmental justice at the local, state or global level.

The award was presented at NAAEE's 48th Annual Conference in Lexington, KY with 10 other awards that recognize exemplary individuals 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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