Oxford Local Recognized for Working with 16 Countries to Advance Environmental Education

Jill Korach was honored with the Award for Outstanding Service to Environmental Education

[Oxford, OH, October 22, 2019] The North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) recognized Jill Korach, Assistant Director of Field Programs for Project Dragonfly, with its 2019 Award for Outstanding Service to Environmental Education by an Individual at the Global Level.

Korach works for Miami University's Project Dragonfly Earth Expedition program, where she has nurtured partnerships in 16 countries across the globe. Her role has included advising students while working directly with conservation groups to create mutually beneficial relationships. She has exemplified leadership in environmental education through other means too, serving as President of the Board for Imago, an environmental education and conservation organization in Cincinnati, Ohio, since 2003.

Korach attended Washington University in St. Louis in 1992 on an Army ROTC scholarship and served in the US Army as a Captain while obtaining a Master of Environmental Science from Miami University in 2000. In 2012, she returned to Miami University for her Ph.D. while working full-time at Miami's Project Dragonfly.

"Thank you to all the Dragonfly global partners and team members who support educational experiences in conservation settings worldwide," said Korach. "I am inspired each and every day by how our students build on these field interactions to create projects that promote needed positive environmental change in their own local communities."

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.

"Jill Korach's ability to build lasting relationship, mentor students throughout the world and support global networks makes her the perfect recipient for this award," said Judy Braus, Executive Director of NAAEE. "It is our honor to recognize her innovative contributions to environmental education and her creativity in shaping a more sustainable and equitable 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 <u>North American Association for Environmental Education</u> 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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