

## **OUTDOOR AFRO'S RUE MAPP WINS NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD**

OAKLAND, CA, October 18, 2015 — Rue Mapp of Outdoor Afro was recently recognized by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), a leader in environmental education, as the recipient of one of NAAEE's hallmark annual awards recognizing leadership in the field. At a special awards reception during NAAEE's 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in San Diego, Mapp received the Rosa Parks and Grace Lee Boggs Award in recognition of her leadership to educate about environmental justice concerns and promote action that addresses these issues at the local, regional, or global levels.

Outdoor Afro (<http://outdoorafro.com>), which Mapp initially launched as a blog in 2009, has become one of the nation's most prominent networks that emphasizes African American connections and leadership in nature. The organization now has 30 leaders around the country who coordinate outdoor experiences.

"For more than four decades, NAAEE has promoted excellence and impact in environmental education thanks to the tireless efforts of our members, supporters, and affiliate organizations," said Judy Braus, Executive Director. "Our award winners represent bright spots across North America that show progress in our field across multiple disciplines and approaches, from teaching and community engagement to research and environmental justice."

This year, 11 award recipients — an impressive slate of individuals and organizations from North America — were selected across 11 categories. For more information about the 2015 NAAEE Awards including eligibility requirements and a full list of winners, visit [www.naaee.org/our-work/programs/awards](http://www.naaee.org/our-work/programs/awards).

### **About NAAEE**

The North American Association for Environmental Education is a pioneering membership organization dedicated to accelerating environmental literacy and civic engagement through education. NAAEE supports a network of more than 20,000 educators, researchers, and organizational members working in environmental education in more than 30 countries through direct membership and 54 state, provincial, and regional affiliate organizations. Through community networks, publications, signature programs, and eeNEWS and eeJOBS, NAAEE provides programming and

resources for professionals working in all areas of the field. NAAEE's flagship annual conference, now in its 44<sup>th</sup> year, convenes leaders from private and public sectors to advance the field of environmental education. For more information, visit [www.naaee.org](http://www.naaee.org).

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