

2023 MWEE Award Winners



Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience

2023 MWEE SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Hambright Elementary School
Katie Harnish and Brad Showalter!

Katie Harnish

Katie Harnish is a fourth-grade educator at Hambright Elementary School in the Penn Manor School District. She is a 2021 National Geographic and Lindblad Expeditions Grosvenor Teacher Fellow and traveled to Antarctica, South Georgia Island, and the Falkland Islands to bring back resources, stories, and deliverables to her students and the National Geographic Education community. She fell in love with teaching when she carried a flip chart into rural Haitian classrooms as a Peace Corps Volunteer. Today, you can find her students looking for toad eggs in the schoolyard marsh, interviewing their community's refugees, or creating VR guides to the ecology of their backyards.



Brad Showalter!

Brad is in his 14th year in public education, teaching 4th grade for the last 12. He has been at Hambright Elementary in the Penn Manor School District for the last 7 years. He also serves as his district's elementary science coordinator. His passion is teaching science in a hands-on and meaningful way to engage students in real world problem solving.



2023 MWEE PARTNER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Friends of the Heinz Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum Philly Nature Kids; Brianna Amingwa, Kelly Kemmerle, Kelly Quain

Brianna Amingwa

Brianna Amingwa is the Refuge's Environmental Education Supervisor. Brianna is originally from the Michigan and earned a degree in Animal Science from Michigan State University. She now manages a robust education program, trains teachers to utilize the outdoor classroom, coordinates partner schools and programming, and trains and certifies USA Archery instructors. Brianna is passionate about sharing best practices in culturally responsive environmental education.

Kelly Kemmerle

Kelly Kemmerle is an Environmental Education Specialist at John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum. Kelly started at John Heinz in 2014 as an intern with the Student Conservation Association and was hired in a permanent federal position in 2017. She worked to create, expand, and lead the Philly Nature Kids program. Kelly also coordinates the Refuge's BARK Ranger program, Jr. Ranger Summer Camps, and served on the Content & Writing Committees for the 2020 update of the PA State Academic Standards for Science & Technology and Environment & Ecology.

Kelly Quain

Kelly Quain is an Environmental Education Specialist at John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum. Kelly began her education career at Heinz in 2018 after graduating from Temple University with a degree in Geography and Urban Studies. She now coordinates the Refuge's homeschool, scout group, and Loan Box programs. She also serves as the state coordinator of the Pennsylvania Junior Duck Stamp Program.

