



WATER EDUCATOR  
NETWORK



## Water Educator Network DRAFT 2019 Symposium

*Equity in Water Education and Engaging Diverse Audiences*

Red Rocks Community College  
Environmental Training Center  
13302 Fox Run, Lakewood, CO 80228  
June 5, 2019

**Contact:** Scott Williamson, Education and Outreach Coordinator, [scott@wateredco.org](mailto:scott@wateredco.org)

**Background and Purpose:** In a November 2017 focus group, Water Educator Network (WEN) members identified “engaging nontraditional voices” as the most-supported workshop topic. The proposed focus of our 2019 Symposium is to *identify the work required to develop and sustain just and equitable water education programs in order to foster authentic engagement of all Coloradans* regardless of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical/mental ability, or native language. We will learn tools and techniques to evaluate our own program, explore success stories, and use our shared learning to identify potential changes to our individual program plans.

### Draft Goals:

- Establish a common understanding, language and purpose for the work needed to foster engagement of nontraditional voices in water education
- Reflect on the current state of engagement in our organizations
- Evaluate and identify potential changes to individual program plans
- Identify common approaches that have worked in Colorado communities
- Refine goals or shared principles with the intent to develop measurable action steps

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### With Thanks to Our Sponsors:



**COLORADO**  
Colorado Water  
Conservation Board  
Department of Natural Resources

## Agenda

**8:30 Doors Open & Check-in**

*Continental Breakfast*

**9:00 Welcome, Introductions and Establishing a Safe Space**

*Joe Figueroa, Board Member, Water Education Colorado*

*Scott Williamson, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Water Education Colorado*

**9:15 Framing Our Discussion: Equity - Diversity - Inclusivity**

*Amber K. Kim, Facilitator*

**9:45 Environmental Justice Issues in Water: A Brief Overview**

*Video Presentation - A Selection of Articles from Headwaters Magazine*

**10:00 Our Current Reality - What Does Our Work Reflect?**

*Nona Shipman, One World One Water, Metro State University*

*Water Education Asset Mapping Project, 2018.*

*Katrina Winograd, recent graduate, University of Colorado at Denver*

*2018 Capstone Project: Diverse Communities and Environmental Education:*

*Seeking Connections for Sustainable and Effective Engagement Surrounding*

*Colorado Water Issues.*

**10:30 Break**

**10:45 Facilitated Individual/Small Group Reflections**

*All*

*Amber K. Kim, Facilitator*

*Note to WEN Members: Bring something that reflects your program plan, your work on equity and inclusivity, and/or the audiences that you currently reach.*

**11:45 Break**

**12:00 Challenges and Success Stories from the Field**

**12:30 Lunch and Networking**

*Featured Display: Unfolding Colorado Experience*

*Andrea Lopez, External Affairs Manager, Ute Water (to be confirmed)*

**1:00 Lunch Keynote**

*Jorge Figueroa, Director & Principal, El Laboratorio and*

*Board Member, Water Education Colorado*

**1:30 Debrief - Identifying Shared Principles Moving Forward**

*Scott Williamson, Water Education Colorado*

*WEN Members will consider a list of shared principles.*

**2:00 Concurrent Sessions**

**Discussion 1a: Gender Identity and Inclusion: Why am I Seeing Gender Pronouns in Email Signatures? And More.**

*Emily Olivo, Co-Lead, Equity Team - Education & Tools Subcommittee, City of Fort Collins.*

**Discussion 2a: Indigenous Land Acknowledgments and Traditional Blessings: Importance and Protocols.**

*Nita Gonzales, Independent Consultant, Nuevo Amanecer, LLC. and Former President and CEO of Escuela Tlatelolco.*

**2:45 Concurrent Sessions**

**Discussion 1b: Scheduling Events and Meetings: Who am I Excluding?**

*Jessica Kramer, Masters in Disabilities Studies Candidate, Syracuse University  
Deb Parker, Public Education Specialist, South Platte Water Renewal Partners*

**Discussion 2b: Data Tools - Water Quality Assessment Tool or Topic TBD**

*Topic Lead TBD*

**3:30 Wrap Up and Evaluation (Adjourn by 4:00)**

*Scott Williamson*