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Photos available on request.

Teaching teachers, scholars, and local experts
Teaching for Engagement in the Hudson Valley
The Next 100 Years Depend on It

Hyde Park, NY – Educators and the public are invited to discover new and innovative ways to engage children and young people in our region’s culture, history, and future at Teaching for Engagement in the Hudson Valley: The Next 100 Years Depend on It. The conference will be held July 28-30 at the Henry A. Wallace Education and Visitors Center on the grounds of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Home and Presidential Library in Hyde Park.

Featured speakers are Philip Yenawine, co-founding director, Visual Thinking Strategies, a non-profit educational research group that develops and studies ways to use art to teach thinking and communication skills; and Jimmy Karlan, director of science teacher certification, Dept. of Environmental Studies, Antioch New England. Karlan also created Wild Treasures, an adventure and ecology curriculum.

Sarah Olson, superintendent, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt-Van Buren National Historic Sites, said she is always excited to meet participants at this annual event. “The National Park Service is preparing for its centennial in 2016,” she noted, “and we look forward to the next 100 years and to rededicating ourselves to preparing future caretakers of our nation’s special places.

“While our roots lie in the parks' majestic, often isolated natural wonders,” she added, “our reach today extends to places difficult to imagine 100 years ago—into urban centers, across rural landscapes, deep within oceans, and across night skies. By preparing adults to help children and teens acquire tools for engaging with these places and their communities we hope we’re creating life-long stewards for the 21st century as well as providing stimulating experiences today.”
The three-day program also includes more than 20 workshops and half a dozen field experiences. (A list of presenters by county is attached. THV is happy to arrange interviews and provide photos.) Field experiences include:

- **Orange County:** *The Battle for Storm King Mountain & the Beginning of Grassroots Environmentalism*, a workshop and hike marking the 50th anniversary of the Storm King decision, a cornerstone of the modern environmental movement.

- **Dutchess:** *Biomimicry: Engaging & Inspiring Students with Today’s Science and Tomorrow’s Jobs*, a tour of the living building at Omega Institute and workshop with the director of the Center for Environmental Education, Putnam-No. Westchester BOCES.

- **Saratoga:** *Loyal to Whom?* Ranger Bill Valosin will provide an unusual dialogic tour of Saratoga National Historical Park using participants’ own experiences he’ll guide the group in an examination of several Revolutionary War-era families.

- **Columbia/Greene:** *River Crossings: Contemporary Art Comes Home*. Participants will visit Thomas Cole National Historic Site and Olana State Historic Site to explore this special exhibit with staff from both sites plus the Albany Institute of History & Art.

- **Rockland:** *Using Local Industrial Sites to Engage Students*. Garnerville Arts & Industrial Center is the backdrop for exploring ways to use poetry, objects, and post-industrial landscapes to engage students.

- **Ulster:** *Advanced Manufacturing Project and 3D Printing Initiative*, SUNY New Paltz. Participants will be introduced to the project and then engage in a hands-on session with the director of its MakerBot Innovation Center.

While *Teaching for Engagement in the Hudson Valley* was developed with K-12 teachers and non-formal educators in mind, anyone interested in the subject matter is encouraged to attend. For a detailed schedule and more information, visit THV’s website. To get first choice of field experiences participants are urged to register immediately. Registration is $125 for all three days, $85 for two days, and $45 for a single day for those who register by July 4. [Register here.](#)

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**About THV**

Launched in 2003, Teaching the Hudson Valley helps educators discover, appreciate, and share the region's natural, historic, and cultural treasures with children and youth. THV fosters collaboration among schools, museums, parks, historic sites, archives, art galleries, libraries, and other physical resources and promotes the value of place-based learning.

THV's growing collection of free K-12 lesson plans uses significant Valley sites to teach virtually all subjects. Our [grant programs](#) have enabled tens of thousands of students to visit significant places in our region and make it easier for teachers to get students out of the classroom and into the community. And, our summer institute and other programs offer rare opportunities for school and non-formal educators to meet, exchange ideas, and collaborate.
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Presenters by area

ALBANY
Ashley Hopkins-Benton, NYS Museum
Alene Onion, WAVE coordinator, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Erika Sanger, education director, Albany Institute of History & Art
Paul and Mary Liz Stewart, founders, Underground Railroad History Project

COLUMBIA—Paul Banks, interpretive program assistant, Olana State Historic Sites

DUTCHESS
Debby Brooks, art teacher, Poughkeepsie High, and Hudson Valley Writing Project
JoAnne Myers, prof. of political science and women’s studies, Marist College
Susanne Norris, environmental education and natural resource specialist, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Site, NPS
Jeff Urbin, educator, FDR Library/Museum

GREENE—Melissa Gavilanes, education director, Thomas Cole National Historic Site

NEW YORK CITY
Shira Eve Epstein, author and professor, School of Education, City University of NY
Lauren Santangelo, Schwartz Postdoctoral Fellow, New School/NY Historical Society

NATIONAL
Willow McCormick, elementary school teacher and Oregon Writing Project fellow
Beth Sciumeca, centennial coordinator, & Cris Constantine, education coordinator, NorthEast Region, National Park Service

ORANGE
Christine McCartney & Ginny McCurdy, English teachers, Newburgh Free Academy

PUTNAM-WESTCHESTER
Laura Compagni, museum educator
Dorna Schroeter, director, Center for Environmental Education, Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES

REGION-WIDE
Chris Bowser, Rebecca Houser, and Steve Stanne, educators, Estuary Program, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Kate Brill, Audrey Friedrichsen, Althea Mullarkey, and Reed Sparling, Scenic Hudson
Susan Hereth, education director, Hudson Valley Seed, and adjunct geography professor, SUNY New Paltz
Mary Ellen Iatropoulos, education director, Spark Media Project (formerly Children’s Media Project)

ROCKLAND
Monique Avakian, poet
Robin Rosenberg, president, Garnerville Arts & Industrial Center

SARATOGA—Bill Valosin, Saratoga National Historical Park, National Park Service

ULSTER—Dan Freedman, dean, School of Science and Engineering, and Aaron Nelson, director, MakerBot Innovation Center, SUNY New Paltz