

**Contact:**

Katie Carpenter, Director New York Agriculture in the Classroom

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kse@cornell.edu // (607) 255-9253

For Immediate Release

SIXTY EDUCATORS RECEIVE NEW YORK AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM SCHOLARSHIP TO ATTEND NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN MAINE

New York State teachers earn a scholarship to attend one of the largest gatherings of educators with a passion for teaching through food and agriculture.

Ithaca, NY— Aquaculture, school gardens, oxen, whoopee pies, distilleries, sustainability, biodiversity and more will be the focus of this year's National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Portland, Maine. For the first time, New York Agriculture in the Classroom has dedicated scholarship funding to provide sixty New York teachers the opportunity to attend the premier professional development conference about teaching through a lens of food and agriculture. The scholarship is valued at over \$1,200 for each winner.

During this unique experience teachers will network with educators from across the country, participate in over thirteen experiential learning workshops, and bring home resources with the latest technology, methods, and tools for integrating agriculture and food systems in their classrooms. This year's conference theme is "Agriculture for ME - On Land and Sea". Educators will receive a scholarship value of \$1,200 which includes National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference registration, transportation, lodging, and 28 hours of CTLE Professional Development Credit.

Fifty-one classroom teachers, eight Cornell Cooperative Extension educators, one post-secondary administrator were awarded scholarships. The teachers span in grade levels from Pre-K through grade twelve in all subject areas, and range in teaching experience from one to thirty-two years. The organization is most proud that the attendees are representative of each region of New York State; from north of the Adirondack Mountains in Franklin County, as west as Buffalo, throughout the heart of Central New York, surrounding the capital district, and a strong contingent from four of New York City's boroughs and Long Island.

Amy Gosier, a first-grade teacher at Ballston Spa Central School in Saratoga County, will be recognized at the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference as a national recipient of the USDA-NIFA Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award. The award is only presented to eight educators from across the nation in a competitive application process. New York is very proud of Gosier for her creativity and academic merit of her classroom activities, earning her top honors in the country.



3rd Floor, Kennedy Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853

nyaitc@cornell.edu
agclassroom.org/ny

“It is of great excitement that we can provide this exceptional professional development experience to so many educators from across our state. I know that each scholarship recipient will leave the conference with plans on how they will use agriculture as a vehicle for student learning and achievement.”, says Katie Carpenter, Director of New York Agriculture in the Classroom.

New York Agriculture in the Classroom is an outreach program of Cornell University, with a goal to increase the agricultural literacy of our students so that they may be able to understand and communicate the source and value of agriculture as it affects their daily lives. Special thanks to the New York Farm Bureau State Promotion and Education Committee for assistance in reviewing applications and providing recommendations in this competitive process.

National Agriculture in the Classroom Scholarship Recipients

First Name	Last Name	School Name	County
Sarah	McArdle	Berne Knox Westerlo Elementary	Albany
Karen	Levy	Albany Jewish Comm. Ctr Early Childhood Program	Albany
Stephen	Ritz	Community School 55 / Green Bronx Machine	Bronx
Jessica	Santiago-Sterzinar	P176X	Bronx
Armen	Kassabian	Bronx International High School	Bronx
Jeanne	Quarto	James Madison HS	Brooklyn
Margaret	Negrelli	Jim Thorpe School	Brooklyn
Jillian	Kellogg	Chenango Valley Nursery School	Broome
Alexis	Halstead	Windsor Central School District	Broome
Megan	Truesdail	CCE Broome	Broome
Christina	Hall	CCE Chenango	Chenango
Veronique	Krohn	Beekmantown CSD	Clinton
Lindsay	Meyers	Ichabod Crane Central School	Columbia
Erin	Pierce	Walton Central	Delaware
Cindy	Mostert	Delaware Academy and Central School	Delaware
Andrea	Maserjian	Morse Elementary, Poughkeepsie City School District	Dutchess
Bill	Maserjian	Poughkeepsie Middle School	Dutchess
Rebecca	Maroney	Noxon Road Elementary School	Dutchess
Kimberly	Schildwaster	Kenmore-Tonawanda Union Free School District	Erie
Bethany	Perry	Davis Elementary (Malone Central Schools)	Franklin
Errolynn	Bradley	Salmon River Central School District	Franklin
Jenny	Harkins	Pavilion Central School	Genesee
Pamela	Coloton	Hunter Tannersville Central School District - Elementary	Greene
Margaret	Smith	CCE Greene and Columbia	Greene
Terrence	Harris	Jefferson Community College	Jefferson
Robert	Bucci	CCE Lewis	Lewis
Jen	Briggs	Hamilton Central School	Madison
Stephanie	Locke	DeRuyter Central School	Madison
Mary	Coolbaugh	DeRuyter Central School	Madison
Derek	Kelly	Rochester City School District #17	Monroe

Andrea	Lista	CCE Monroe	Monroe
Denise	Krohn	Amsterdam School District	Montgomery
Christina	Buck-Zermane	P138M @ site 30	New York
Heidi	Feltz	CCE Niagara	Niagara
Diana	Daigler	Royalton-Hartland CSD	Niagara
Brianne	Willson	Camden Central School District	Oneida
Chad	DeVoe	OCM BOCES	Onondaga
Amy	Jones	Farm to Table SAA @ FLTCC	Ontario
Molly	Kotarski	CCE Orleans	Orleans
Amy	Parr	Cooperstown Junior/Senior High School	Otsego
Michelle	Hitchcock	Cooperstown Junior/Senior High School	Otsego
Ellen	Bayer	Flushing High School	Queens
Erica	Ballester		Queens
Ann	Alvord	The Riverview School	Queens
Stephen	Yesko	Martin Luther High School	Queens
Sue	Kendzierski	Flushing High School	Queens
Louis	Chugranis	South Orangetown Middle School	Rockland
John	Antoski	Burnt Hills- Ballston Lake Central Schools	Saratoga
Amy	Gosier	Ballston Spa Central School	Saratoga
Jennifer	Rehberg	Middleburgh Central	Schoharie
Patricia	Parsons	South Seneca Central School	Seneca
Melinda	Conger	Morristown Central School	St. Lawrence
Tiffany	Irish	Morristown Central School	St. Lawrence
Elizabeth	Kurtz	Wayland-Cohocton Central School District	Steuben
Maria	Plitt	Eastport Elementary School	Suffolk
Christina	Cassel	Southampton Intermediate School	Suffolk
Kate	Downes	NY FarmNet	Tompkins
Rae	Schraver	Cambridge Central School	Washington
Jenny	Clark	Marion Elementary	Wayne
Lisa	Byers	Pioneer Central at Arcade Elementary	Wyoming

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