

ELYSSA MARIE SERRILLI

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EDUCATION:

Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ May 2008

MA: Environmental Studies, Concentration Education

Graduate Teaching Assistant, NJ School of Conservation, Montclair State University

Research: Sustainable Redevelopment at NJSOC; Biofuels & Waste Vegetable Oil Recycling

National Outdoor Leadership School, Lander, WY July 2005

Rocky Mountain Outdoor Educator 24-day field course

Skills: Risk Management, Leadership Development, Backpacking, Rock-climbing, First Aid

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ Dec. 2003

BA: Linguistics, Minor Environmental Science

Clubs: Ultimate Frisbee, NJPIRG

Westfield High School, Westfield, NJ June 1997

Activities: Spanish Club, Latin Club, Environmental Club, Track, Soccer, Rock climbing

EMPLOYMENT:

Adjunct Facilitator Apr. 2009 – present

Princeton-Blairstown Center, Blairstown, NJ

Duties: Low & high ropes facilitation, canoeing, team & trust building, campfires & storytelling.

Administrative Support Guide Oct. 2008 – June 2009

Ridge and Valley Charter School Blairstown, NJ

Duties: Lead teacher and special ed support in grades K-8; office support; newsletter publication.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, NJ School of Conservation Sept. 2006 - May 2008

Montclair State University, Stokes State Forest

Duties: Field-based outdoor education (natural sciences, confidence- and team-building, recreation, colonial living skills), equipment maintenance, curriculum development.

Youth Mentor, NJ City University AmeriCorps Program Sept. 2006 - Mar. 2007

NJ Youth Corps of Essex County, International Youth Organization, Newark, NJ

Duties: Mentor at-risk, inner-city youth, assist in worksite activities, plan field trips.

Environmental Worksite Crew Chief, NJ Youth Corps Sept. 2004 - Aug. 2006

International Youth Organization, Newark, NJ

Duties: Design and lead environmental community service projects with at-risk youth, network with local organizations, write and oversee grants, maintain and purchase equipment.

NJ Watershed Ambassador, NJDEP/AmeriCorps Program Aug. 2002 – Aug. 2003

Host Agency: Great Swamp Watershed Association, Madison, NJ

Duties: Watershed education and outreach; fieldwork; citizenship and community building.

SKILLS:

Environmental education; outdoor recreation guide; community service worksite supervision; community organizing; grant research, writing, and management; public speaking; media relations; sustainable living skills (energy auditing, organic gardening, canning/preserving, leather tanning, blacksmithing, candle making, ferments, composting, biofuels); English/Spanish bilingual.

(i) Scholarships & Appointments

Winter 2010 Internship at Rancho Mastatal

- 3 months of sustainable, community-based living and working (“living the vision”)
- Spanish language immersion and home stay
- WFR Certification (Wilderness First Responder) – medical training
- Green collar job training
 - Solar energy, green building (timber framing, cob, and stone), methane biodigesters, humanure, passive solar water heating, goat herding, basket weaving, bread baking, organic gardening, food preparation, tree cultivation)

2009/2010 AmeriCorps Alums Policy Liaison – advocacy, building alumni network in NJ

Summer 2008 PERC Enviropreneur Camp Fellow

- 3-week intensive training in sustainable small business development and redevelopment with leading “enviropreneurs” from around the world.
- Focus on market-based solutions and for-profit, hybrid business models.

Summer 2008 Theta Healing Institute for Knowledge (THiNK) Scholarship Recipient

- 1-week Rainbow Children course for teaching meditation to children, instructor Viana Stibal.

2008 Echoing Green Semifinalist

2007 Wild Gift Semifinalist

2007/2008 Graduate Teaching Assistant, NJ School of Conservation

- Masters student appointment at Montclair State University’s field campus in Stokes State Forest, Sussex County, NJ.
- Year round outdoor education to 5th grade through college students in team building and confidence building, recreation, natural sciences, and Colonial and Native American living skills.

Summer 2006 Internship at Rancho Mastatal

- Work exchange internship at an environmental learning and sustainable living center with near-zero waste/carbon in La Cangreja rainforest, Costa Rica.
- Duties included organic farming, composting, endangered rainforest tree cultivation, ayurvedic food preparation, teaching English, youth mentoring, site maintenance.

Summer 2005 Rivendell NOLS Scholarship Recipient

- Annual scholarship for 3 Newark educators
- Funded participation in Rocky Mountain Outdoor Educator course, National Outdoor Leadership School, Lander, WY, June 2005.

(ii) Grants Written & Received

- NY/NJ Harbor Estuary Mini-grant Program – funded a 9-month education and outreach campaign for Newark elementary school students performed by members of NJ Youth Corps of Newark, NJ. (2005)
- Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership – funded equipment and operations costs for a 12-month education and stream-monitoring program for members of NJ Youth Corps (2005)
- Newark Arts Council – 3 month community art education and mural painting program for NJ Youth Corps community & kick-off barbeque and block party (2006)

(iii) Synergistic Activities

- Event co-coordinator, Annual Passaic Paddle Canoe Relay Race (2005-2006).
- Volunteer, Bioneers By the Bay satellite conference at UMass Dartmouth (October 2007).
- Speaker, Sussex County’s Step it Up Rally, “The science of global warming” (2007).
- Speaker, Evolve Music Festival, “Environmental Activism” (2007)
- Speaker, Evolve Yoga & Music Festival, “Empowerment and Forgiveness” (2009)
- Volunteer, Sustainable Living Roadshow, Democratic and Republican National Conventions (2008).
 - A traveling, veggie-powered environmental carnival, music festival, and green business fair.

(iv) Member:

- U.S. Partnership – Decade for Education in Sustainable Development
- ANJEE (Alliance for NJ Environmental Education)
- Environment New Jersey
- NJ Wild Edibles Group
- Transition Northwest New Jersey
- Permaculture Network of New Jersey
- NOFA-NJ (Northeast Organic Farming Association)
- FOR-NJ (Food & Organics Recycling)
- Green Collar Futures, *Co-founder* :)
- Community Green, *Assistant Organizer*

(v) Masters Research

- Advisors: Dr. William Thomas and Ms. Regina Kelly, NJ School of Conservation
- Research Project: “Sustainable Redevelopment at the NJ School of Conservation”

(vi) Certifications

- Project W.E.T. (Watershed Education for Teachers) facilitator and trainer, Project Learning Tree facilitator
- American Red Cross CPR/First Aid, Wilderness First Aid
- OSHA 40-HR HAZWOPER, NJIT
- Rutgers Cooperative Extension 40-HR Urban & Community Forestry Academy