

Workshops Related to Higher Education

#17 Creativity Boot Camp!

90-minute workshop presented by:
Daniel Cape

This down and dirty workshop will whip your creative muscles into shape, making you a lean mean creative machine. Using Robert Epstein's Generativity Theory, participants will gain greater insight into creativity; including how to think and act more creatively and how to intentionally facilitate novel activities to help clients become more creative. This interactive workshop will demonstrate how experiential learning environments offer optimal settings for using and fostering creativity.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#18 Neurodiversity and Sensory Processing: Embracing Differences

3-hour workshop presented by:
Lorilei Dreibelbis
John Dreibelbis

With activities, personal insights, and discussion let's build vocabulary and empathy to open windows to advocacy and inclusion. Too often modern traditions fail to create spaces (emotionally or physically) that support the body's neurological and sensory processes. Looking through the window of Neurodiversity gives invaluable insight into the infinite variability of people's experience with their environments, and understanding Sensory Processing provides new vocabulary and perspective from which to interpret and understand behavior. Help us build stronger community.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#19 Enhancing Motivation and Transforming Lives: Blending Experiential Education and Motivational Interviewing

90-minute workshop presented by:
Robert Valle
Wendy Stack

The workshop will model blending EE and Motivational Interviewing (MI) to work with vulnerable individuals as utilized by members of the Center for College and Success of NEIU. MI approach/core skills will be explained interactively to help facilitators have conversations that guide individuals to make decisions that support positive outcomes. "Self-Determination

Theory” will be briefly examined and emerging ideas from neuroscience, along with EE and by blending these approaches we work to resolve ambivalence, including with those who are stuck due to prior adverse experiences (trauma). Format: 60% interactive/practice/30% conceptual presentation/10% co-creation.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#29 9th Annual Trends and Issues in Outdoor and Adventure Programming Panel Discussion

3-hour workshop presented by:

Betsy Lindley

Tom Holman

Andrew J. Bobilya

Join us for another engaging panel discussion focused on an updated list of outdoor and adventure education trends and issues. Current field instructors, program managers and scholars will share their perspectives and those of others in the field. Participants should come ready to engage and share from their own experience as we discuss the trends/issues, brainstorm strategies to assist programs and identify best practices. Topics include: SEER research into practice, social justice competency, using outdoor education and experiential learning across disciplines, connecting students to nature, maintaining program “fun” in a risk adverse culture, and curriculum connections as an opportunity to gain educational traction. Panelists include: Mary Breunig, Evan Coulson, Brad Daniel, Brad Faircloth, Tonia Gray, Andrew Jillings, Maurie Lung, Pat Maher and Paul Shirilla.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#30 Partnering for Inclusion: Using Asset-Based Community Partnership to Reach All Students

90-minute workshop presented by:

Bix Firer

This workshop will illustrate examples of highly successful community partnerships Big City Mountaineers has developed to bring under-resourced students into outdoor experiential learning. Following this detailed look at our partnership model, I will introduce an asset-mapping activity that will allow attendees to develop a plan for developing more inclusive programs that engage their community's assets. While asset mapping is used a great deal in community organizing, service learning and development, it's application in outdoor experiential programs can open doors to new participants. The workshop attendees will then be provided with tools to apply at their programs.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#31 Sound Off!: Engaging Participants through Music, Rhythm, and Tone

90-minute workshop presented by:

Rohan Shahani

John Henri Rorabeck

Music is a universal language! Whether your participants are of different racial or ethnic backgrounds, learning styles, or personalities, music is an instructional medium that can help engage their feelings and emotions. Sound is a medium that all people can interact with - even those with different hearing abilities. In this workshop we will explore how sound, song, tone, and rhythm can be integrated into your presentations, and how it engages your participant's thoughts, emotions, actions, and feelings.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#34 Modèle Intégrateur pour l'Élaboration, l'Implantation et l'Évaluation de Programmes d'Intervention par la Nature et l'Aventure

90-minute workshop presented by:

Christian Mercure

Au Québec, la plupart des programmes d'intervention par la nature et l'aventure (INA) découlent d'initiatives d'individus ou encore de petits organismes. Dans un tel contexte, le développement et la mise en place de programmes d'INA incombent généralement à un petit groupe de personnes. Ces individus doivent alors être en mesure de maîtriser et de concilier tous les différents aspects associés à la conduite de tels projets. Dans le cadre de cet atelier, nous proposons d'explorer un modèle intégrateur qui permet de systématiser, de synchroniser et de schématiser l'ensemble des démarches associées à l'élaboration, l'implantation et l'évaluation de programmes d'INA.

Audience Level: Intermediate -- Has had training and practice in the field of experiential education and has attended past AEE conferences. Some previous knowledge required.

#36 Mapping your Career in EE and Using ePortfolio to Help you Get Your Dream Job

90-minute workshop presented by:

Christian Bisson

Are you still seeking a dream job in EE? If so, this workshop can help you. First, let's clarify your professional value and let's help you find which professional sector of EE is best for you. Then,

let's throw away your old résumé and let's use a 21st century job application tool, the ePortfolio. This presentation will help attendees understand the benefits of using ePortfolio and help them start their own professional EE Portfolio. Bring your lap-top and let's work toward that EE dream job.

Audience Level: Intermediate -- Has had training and practice in the field of experiential education and has attended past AEE conferences. Some previous knowledge required.

#41 Intersectionality, Inside and Out

3-hour workshop presented by:
Chey Davis

Intersectionality, a concept recently cemented by Dr. Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, describes the deeply complex layering of identities in societal frameworks and how those identities create lived experience, specifically when they come into conflict with expectations and systems that are functionally unaware of difference. The understanding of intersectionality and identity, can make a program director, professor, teacher, trainer and psychologist invaluable to the field and their constituents. This workshop will set the foundation for understanding Intersectionality, allow space and support for creating an intersectional mindset, and allow space for creating materials for bringing intersectionality home to your organizations, schools, and corporations.

Audience Level: Advanced -- Has developed a solid base in both theory and practice and has significant experience from which to work

#43 The Experiential Creative Generalist : The Eloquence of Change

3-hour workshop presented by:
Kim Neal Wasserburger
Kim Olson

In the age of instantly accessible information and communication the importance of sincere and genuine experience transcends time and technology and becomes the marrow of change. The eloquence of change can be a subtle recognition of perspective in a shared experience. Choosing from available tools from the canyon to the clouds (adventure programming, expressive arts, sensory exploration) for the intervention, and to mysteriously but intentionally move to transference of the change, is an art and a learned skill. Kim and Kimmer bring 42 years of experience and will educate, navigate, allow for you to investigate, practice, laugh, reflect and experience.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#45 Working with White Participants in Outdoor Experiential Education

90-minute workshop presented by:

Karen Warren
Amelia Tarren

In spite of committed attempts to diversify programs in outdoor experiential education, many still serve a majority white population. This workshop will examine how anti-racism work with white participants is possible. We will experientially delve into the concepts of privilege, brave space, and white identity development. The intersection with other oppressions and how identity affects facilitation will be examined through dialogic information sharing, discussion, and shared problem solving.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#49 Creating Trans(gender) Inclusive Environments in the Outdoors, the Workplace, and Beyond

3-hour workshop presented by:

Meg Bolger
Perry Cohen

Many of us are working with and wanting to support transgender individuals than ever before, but we don't know where to start. As youth in our communities come out as trans and nonbinary it is essential to have foundational knowledge about the trans community, know how to be an ally, and how to create trans-inclusive environments. In this workshop we will work with participants to demystify vocabulary, better understand pronouns and gendered language, work through common scenarios around gender and the outdoors, and help participants assess how their work places can continue to become more trans-inclusive.

Audience Level: Beginner -- For individuals new to the field of experiential education and/or new to AEE. No previous knowledge required.

#52 The Construct and Dismantling of Self: How Experiential Education Impacts Social Identity

3-hour workshop presented by:

Robert Owen
Addison Odum

It is through our experiences of the world that we build, shift and shape our identity. Social pressures, family dynamics, culture, media and other forces impact choice. How does

experiential education help not only our youth, but adults, call into question who they are? How does our relationship with nature, constructed challenges such as initiatives, storytelling and adventure, strip away previously embraced ideas of character, language and presentation? As facilitators, we can challenge our students often damaging concept of self and others. This workshop is a hands on exploration of identity, intended to pinpoint and debrief misconceptions, stereotypes and behavior.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#57 Experiential Learning in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

90-minute workshop presented by:
Andrew Potter

Become a skilled advocate for experiential education in an era of increasingly technological confusion! Recent studies have demonstrated the important link between instructional methodology, student engagement and their acquisition of 21st Century skills. Experiential learning and related teaching strategies play a vital role in forming learning environments that empower students and deliver on both cognitive and affective skill development. Educators need to be equipped with both simple and complex teaching tools to be successful in the preparation of students for the challenges of the 21st Century.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#59 Diversity: Discrimination or Inclusion?

90-minute workshop presented by:
Belinda Clemmensen

This session explores diversity and begins to unpack how difference can lead us to discrimination or inclusion. The cycle of discrimination will be defined from difference to stereotype, prejudice and action (discrimination or inclusion). We are poised for a culture shift towards increased inclusiveness. Open, effective communication optimizes the opportunity to discuss experiences related to inclusion and discrimination. Many people fear that they may say the wrong thing, and struggle with intent vs. impact. While there are guardrails, it isn't about being perfect. Diversity and inclusion are best nurtured in an open environment where positive intent and dialogue are fostered.

Audience Level: Advanced -- Has developed a solid base in both theory and practice and has significant experience from which to work

#63 Overcoming Separation and Prejudice to Build Community Across Differences

90-minute workshop presented by:

Lara Mendel

Brian Lowe

Learn “game-tivities” and tools that inspire thought and action concerning diversity and community among all ages. Separation and the resulting prejudice, discrimination, and violence have launched to the forefront of our national conversation. As educators, we have an opportunity, perhaps even a responsibility, to address these issues and work toward a more inclusive, just, peaceful future. We will take an experiential education approach to do doing just that. We will play, challenge ourselves, move past the ‘peace blockers” (blame, guilt, and defensiveness), and use the “Three Keys to Peace” (listening, empathy, and assertiveness) to work toward a better future.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#66 The Human-Nature Connection, Healing Ourselves by Appreciating Nature

3-hour workshop presented by:

Misty Blakesley

In this fun, experiential workshop, we will explore ways to encourage the awareness and release of trauma held in the mind, body and spirit. We will notice and appreciate Nature, patterns in Nature, patterns in ourselves and ourselves as part of Nature. By reinforcing our positive connections within ourselves and to those around us, we will be able to strengthen our individual and community resiliency. We will also explore indigenous perspectives of healing and community. This workshop is open to all ability levels. Gentle movement and interactive activities are included. Bring clothing to spend a short amount of time outside.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#74 Do No Harm: Our Journey Towards Inclusive Facilitation and Program Practices

6-hour PDI presented by:

Frannie Varker

Evan Small

As facilitators and educators, we often pride ourselves on our ability to recognize and work with difference. But how effective are we really? This workshop will challenge us to examine our

own biases, beliefs, and actions about the world around us. We will delve into topics like social justice, intercultural competence, and inclusion/exclusion in order to provide a shared language and a shared platform for action. Drawing on concepts from Sustained Dialogues, Deliberative Dialogues, and Difficult Conversations, participants will leave with an understanding of how to implement skills to become a more aware and inclusive facilitator.

Audience Level: Advanced -- Has developed a solid base in both theory and practice and has significant experience from which to work

#77 Reaching your Play-State: An Examination of How Optimal Play has the Power to Transform

3-hour workshop presented by:
Nicolas Salibrici
Brian Gibbs-Griffith

Throughout childhood, our play-time is very important to us. I know this because as I watch my seven year old son play, he always reminds me of how serious this time is. Whenever it is time to go he always says, "but Daddy, I'm not done playing yet." The importance of this play-time is in fact life-altering. As adventure practitioners, we use this "play-state" to develop the very life-skills that inform our adult world of responsibility, relationships and decision-making. This workshop will demonstrate the nature and freedom of "play-state" and highlight how that "play-state" informs our adult world.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#79 Risk Assessment & Safety Management (RASM): A Comprehensive Risk Management Approach for Any Organization

90-minute workshop presented by:
Rick Curtis

The Risk Assessment & Safety Management Model (RASM) is used by outdoor programs around the world and provides a comprehensive approach for identifying the causes of accidents, assessing changing risk levels, and managing risk by reducing negative hazard factors and introducing positive safety factors. You'll leave with a model that you can use to train your staff through hands-on analysis of accident scenarios and provide them with concrete tools for assessing risk and reducing it and provide your clients with an innovative curriculum that has broad educational applications.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#83 Four Essential Behaviors for Effective Group Leadership

90-minute workshop presented by:

Nate Folan

Ever wonder what makes group leaders and facilitators effective? In this practical, activity based session, Nate will share his answer to this question – four practical behaviors of group leadership that inspire engaging, inclusive, and effective learning experiences for a variety of groups in any setting. Really, the consistent practice of each behavior is what matters. Let's explore and practice each behavior through interactive activities and reflect on the impact when applied. Identify your areas of strength and growth, then choose one behavior to practice when leading your groups. Walk away inspired with a deliberate practice for effective group leadership.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#84 Active Debriefs: Spark Conversations that Matter

90-minute workshop presented by:

Nate Folan

Physical activity benefits our body, lifts our mood, and readies our brains for learning. It also acts perhaps, as a catalyst for conversation. Let's leverage recent brain research and play with the process of debriefing. Experience a variety of activities – all different than last year – that move meaning beyond the traditional debrief circle. Explore a new debriefing paradigm for practitioners who desire to keep participants engaged, recognize their group's desire to play, and ultimately want to explore an active way to spark conversations that matter.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#86 Presenting like a Rock Star: Exciting Presentation Techniques for Engaging Your Audience.

90-minute workshop presented by:

Jeannette Deloya

Carla Hacker

Debra Polster

Presenting Like a Rock Star is a workshop designed to support all those who wants to develop their skills in creating exciting and effective presentations; educators, as well as leaders in any field who regularly present to others. This will be a highly interactive and engaging workshop.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#88 The Neuroscience of Connection: Taking the Role of the Experiential Educator to the Next Level!

90-minute workshop presented by:

Zach Burns

Renee Burns

As experiential educators, working with different groups requires us to consider how various facilitation techniques and process strategies help create positive group development and encourages connection. But what does “connection” on the biological level look like? This experientially-based workshop not only dives into the crucial role the facilitator plays in creating connections, but explores how the neuroscience of relationship plays out in all group experiences. This workshop is open to all, and individuals with experience as group facilitators in ANY setting are encouraged to attend!

Audience Level: Intermediate -- Has had training and practice in the field of experiential education and has attended past AEE conferences. Some previous knowledge required.

#89 Meaningful Reflection Brings Learning to Life

90-minute workshop presented by:

Jennifer Stanchfield

Take advantage of teachable moments and bring learning to life with engaging reflection techniques. Enliven the traditional sharing circle with active, brain-based strategies to increase participant buy-in and ownership. Use multiple methods including movement, metaphor, reflective games, art, and interactive dialogue to increase relevancy, depth of understanding, and connection to real life and future learning. Create lasting lessons learners will carry forward. Join in this interactive session and take away inspiration, new perspectives, and practical tools for weaving meaningful reflection and dialogue throughout your program.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#92 Storytelling, Leadership and Emotional Intelligence

3-hour workshop presented by:

Eric Boggs

Storytelling matters. Our stories have the impact the lives of others but also shape our own futures. Attention to the craft of storytelling emphasizes meaning making as a vital component of the experiential learning cycle which is often ignored.

Participants will walk away with a newfound efficacy in storytelling as a tool for leadership development. resources to develop their own stories, and tools to listen to the experiences of others. This workshop will be interactive and participative as you work to craft your story, refine how its told and share with your peers. No prior experience required.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#93 Gamesmithing: Don't Panic! It's Organic!

3-hour workshop presented by:

Justin McGlamery

Chris Ortiz

Come PLAY at this entirely co-created and experiential workshop where we will explore emergent leadership, group dynamics, creativity, divergent thinking, improvisation and innovation. Amidst the activity and discovery, we will pause to deconstruct the elements of a great game. We will even attempt to smith our own creations based on these principles. Bring your best self, your willingness to play, trust, and learn with and from others and remember: Don't Panic, it's Organic Gamesmithing.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#94 What if We Could Walk to Peace?

90-minute workshop presented by:

John Lee

How can people living in conflict-affected communities with no positive or neutral experience of the "other," learn to cooperate? Experiential peacebuilding is a term used by the Outward Bound Peacebuilding to describe an approach that applies experiential learning to the challenge of building relationships between people on different sides of conflict. The theory behind this work is that experiential learning can build common language, accelerate trust and facilitate positive experiences among adversaries. This interactive session explores the theory and

practice of experiential peacebuilding, as well as providing participants with a framework for developing their own experiential peacebuilding activity.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#100 EcoWellness: Integrating the Natural World into Experiential Education and Therapy Settings with Intentionality

90-minute workshop presented by:
Ryan Reese

The EcoWellness model of counseling was developed to serve as a guide for clinicians in agency and school settings in assessing and integrating the human-nature connection in traditional models of therapy. The purpose of this workshop is to provide experiential educators and therapists with an overview of the EcoWellness model, how it might be applied in experiential settings, and highlight some of the ethical and multicultural considerations from a clinical perspective. Prior training and experience in outdoor education and wilderness therapy programs and familiarity with the Ethical Guidelines for the Therapeutic Adventure Professional are recommended but not required for attendance.

Audience Level: Intermediate -- Has had training and practice in the field of experiential education and has attended past AEE conferences. Some previous knowledge required.

#112 Asphalt Stepping Stones to Wilder Places: Place Based Learning on Outward Bound Canada's Urban Expeditions

90-minute workshop presented by:
Marika Chandler
Rob Wallis

Outward Bound Canada has been taking youth on expeditions down our cities' ravines, waterways, and trails for 6 years. Today we will take you with us! This workshop will explore how and why, in an ever growing urban world, it is necessary to engage youth on urban expeditions. By operating in urban centres we are able to address many barriers students face to outdoor education including: financial, emotional, medical, cultural and more. We will share our development of urban expeditionary curriculum, campsite partnerships, and the quirks of urban expeditions while exploring your own city maps and Montreal green spaces.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#125 Is Our Program Meeting Our Environmental Objectives?

90-minute workshop presented by:

Elizabeth Andre

The mission of many outdoor programs includes some pro-environmental aim. The curriculum, however, often focuses almost exclusively on intra or interpersonal growth and physical challenge. We often assume participants leave with pro-environmental feelings just by virtue of being outdoors. Without deliberate attention to environmental outcomes in the design of our programs, however, it is possible, and perhaps likely, that students are neither connecting with nature in the way we would hope, nor developing pro-environmental attitudes. We'll explore ideas for enhancing our existing curriculum to better achieve the environmental aspects of our mission.

Audience Level: Intermediate -- Has had training and practice in the field of experiential education and has attended past AEE conferences. Some previous knowledge required.

#128 Going Off The Grid: An Examination of The Failings of Outdoor Education

90-minute workshop presented by:

Bill Mitchell

Ryan Howard

Humanity is currently watching the effects of climate related changes become the most pressing issue of our time. At the core of outdoor education is the assertion that the interdependent relationship between humans and nature is critical. As outdoor educators we are emboldened to work towards fostering a recognition of the problem and equipping students with the tools to make meaningful change towards addressing the issues related to climate change. This workshop asks critical questions about how we continue to miss an important opportunity to equip our students with tools to enact large scale change.

Audience Level: Advanced -- Has developed a solid base in both theory and practice and has significant experience from which to work

#129 Developing a Montreal Sense of Place

90-minute workshop presented by:

Julie Carlson

This workshop will introduce you to principles of place-based learning by directly engaging them in developing their own sense-of-place in Montreal. This session will include direct sense-of-place experiences and reflection strategies that you will be able to, in turn, lead and facilitate for other learners/clients of any age.

Audience Level: Beginner -- For individuals new to the field of experiential education and/or new to AEE. No previous knowledge required.

#131 Team Development with Only Paper and Markers

90-minute workshop presented by:
Chris Ortiz

Do you need your program to do more with less? Does it seem like your materials budget is non-existent? This workshop will be filled with programming ideas to help engage students, physically and mentally in activity with academic purpose utilizing just paper and a marker.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#142 History Repeating Itself? Exploring Hahn's Six Declines of Modern Youth in Contemporary Society

90-minute workshop presented by:
T. Grant Lewis

Kurt Hahn is considered to be a significant contributor to the foundations of experiential and outdoor education. Due to the dilemmas that afflicted the youth of his time, Hahn believed in the need for authentic challenges for the development of character. The lasting impact of Hahn's beliefs can be explored within the context of contemporary society. In this workshop, participants will review Hahn's work, including how the Declines Hahn identified are still relevant today. Through discussion and co-creation, participants will determine ways to prevent and reduce current Declines, while considering how to apply 'Antidotes' to their programs and professional practice.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#147 International Experiential Education Roundtable

90-minute workshop presented by:
Juan Antonio "Tony" Dixon
Misty Blakesley

We invite experiential education and therapeutic adventure/adventure therapy practitioners from around the world to network in this workshop. Participants will share what is happening in their countries and communities and will be encouraged to share their perspectives, approaches, and modalities. This workshop is open to all backgrounds, cultures, and people.

We will also have a short presentation of the 8th International Adventure Therapy Conference that will be held in Australia in 2018.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#152 Facilitating Performance: Leveraging Mental Skills to Enhance the Performance of Experiential Educators.

90-minute workshop presented by:

AJ LaLonde

Angela Veatch

Katy Tran Turner, Kelly LaLonde, Marcus Washington, Brian Miles, Brad Marshall

As educators, facilitators, and coaches our main priority is to create an optimal environment for effective learning. We must keep in mind that facilitating is a performance moment and we can employ specific, deliberate strategies to ensure we are performing optimally - especially under pressure or stress. Sport and Performance Psychology consultants have been teaching mental skills to enhance performances under pressure for over 40 years. This workshop will introduce select mental skills and provide examples of how these skills can be applied to experiential education practitioners to enhance their readiness to perform.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#155 Experiential Bridging Between Nations, Cultures and Languages Between Latin America & Canada

90-minute workshop presented by:

Jeff Willis

Monique Willis

Santiago Ramos

Latin America is the new frontier of community and outdoor-based experiential learning especially in countries like Colombia. Come and partake in an interactive and informative workshop to understand the rapid and emerging developments in Colombia through a collective and immersive approach from Canadian perspective.. It is opportunity to learn new perspectives through a different lens while gauging future potential clients and markets. Canada has a lot to offer the world with our perspectives of environmental, social and Indigenous learning practices. Mixing with the many positive changes of Colombia, Navigo is setting a new platform for leadership, language and cultural immersive experiences.

Audience Level: Beginner -- For individuals new to the field of experiential education and/or new to AEE. No previous knowledge required.

#157 Building a Better Boat: Risk Management Strategies for Greater Program Transparency

90-minute workshop presented by:

Austin Paulson

Boats are built for a journey and designed to handle conditions for their use and to support the crew, passengers, and cargo they transport. So too are effective adventure programs. This workshop overviews the rationale and practices for building adventure programs designed to get us where we want to go. Understanding the capacity of our boat, the roles and expertise of our shipmates, and the responsibility of governing bodies on the seas will lead us to specific conversations about program management and assessment strategies. This workshop is for instructors and program managers interested in program review and risk management topics.

Audience Level: Intermediate -- Has had training and practice in the field of experiential education and has attended past AEE conferences. Some previous knowledge required.

#160 Experiential Education: An Engine for Integrated School-wide Social Emotional Learning

90-minute workshop presented by:

Larry Childs

There is a nation-wide SEL movement recognizing that student social emotional development is not only an essential responsibility of schools but a 'missing link' in the elusive quest for meaningful school improvement. At Project Adventure, we acknowledge that experiential educators are well-equipped to help advance SEL programs but also support and assume a key school leadership role for better alignment and integration of SEL often disconnected and scattered initiatives. Using an interactive format, this workshop will explore easily adoptable strategies to elevate your SEL programming and leadership abilities as a critical resource for any school or district.

Audience Level: Intermediate -- Has had training and practice in the field of experiential education and has attended past AEE conferences. Some previous knowledge required.

#164 Radical Flexibility: The Key to Running Expeditions with Unique Populations

90-minute workshop presented by:

Danny Peled

Expedition leaders love systems. However, we find that radical flexibility is key when working with unique populations. At Boreal River, we run expeditions on Quebec's Magpie River with a

diverse range of groups—from Innu youth to people living with cancer to political leaders. We put a lot of energy into deciding how to adapt to participants' needs and traditions. During this interactive session, we will use case studies from our expeditions and draw on your experiences. You'll learn about how other organizations enable flexibility while maintaining quality. You'll come away with tools and ideas for your own programs.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#166 Nurturing the Spirit in Our Staff and Participants: Spirituality and Experiential Education

90-minute workshop presented by:

Andrew J. Bobilya
Brad Daniel
Glenn Middleton

Do you consider how to give attention to the spiritual dimension of the human life in your programs? Join us for an engaging discussion on spirituality and experiential education. Learn from others and share ideas about if and how we can encourage spiritual development in the lives of our staff and participants. The workshop facilitators hope to encourage an open dialogue where one faith orientation or spiritual practice is not elevated above another in our discussion.

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education.

#167 21st Century Program Participants: Can We Achieve the Same Outcomes with Different Levels of Risk?

90-minute workshop presented by:

Brad Daniel
Andrew Bobilya

Outdoor adventure programs have traditionally embraced challenge and stress as tools for personal growth. To what extent are these concepts useful with a new generation of participants? This workshop will explore whether outdoor programs can encourage personal growth in the mental, physical, emotional, social, and/or spiritual dimensions using different levels of challenge. We will review recent research and discuss several key questions: Is there an optimal amount of stress that encourages personal growth? How does this generation respond to programs that embrace challenge and stress as tools for growth? How can programs be modified to serve the current generation?

Audience Level: Open to All -- Topic does not depend on level of knowledge or involvement with the field of experiential education

#171 Accreditation: Organizational Development and International Recognition

90-minute workshop presented by:

Steve Pace

Would you like to know more about AEE's accreditation program? Would your organization benefit from going through a developmental process for improvement, followed by international recognition by the first recognized accreditation process focusing on experiential adventure programming? AEE accredits a wide variety of adventure programs and organizations, including wilderness adventure programs, outdoor behavioral healthcare programs, colleges and university outdoor programs, K-12 school programs, youth programs, and corporate teambuilding and training programs. If you would like to learn more about this process or if you are interested in serving as a reviewer for the program then this workshop is for you.

Audience Level: Open to All

#172 AEE Accreditation Roundtable

90-minute workshop presented by:

Steve Pace

Accreditation reviewers, members of accredited programs, and anyone with ties to the AEE Accreditation Program are welcome to join in on this discussion. We will be sharing all the latest news and updates, as well as brainstorming ideas for the future. A significant part of this workshop will focus on the improvements made to the accreditation standards in the newest editions of the accreditation standards manuals.

Audience Level: Open to All