



ecoRise

IMPACT REPORT

2019–2020



EcoRise inspires a new generation of leaders to design a sustainable future for all.

Through teaching sustainability, design innovation, and social entrepreneurship, our school-based program empowers youth to tackle real-world challenges in their schools and communities.



Dear Supporters:

Two years ago, we set an ambitious goal for 2021: EcoRise would become a national leader in sustainability education, providing programming in 4,000 classrooms, impacting over 250,000 students annually across the country. As we conclude this program year, I am pleased to share that we are on track to achieve this milestone, with 4,396 EcoRise teachers in 50 states serving 246,176 students.

The United Nation's definition of sustainability is "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Sustainability is not solely about wildlife conservation or resource protection. Social justice, racial justice, and public health are not merely related to sustainability, they are an inherent part of what it means to be sustainable.

Our students are introducing adults to this concept. This past May, we hosted Virtual Student Innovation Showcases, which took the place of planned city hall convenings that were canceled in response to the coronavirus pandemic. These showcases allowed students to share projects with an authentic audience of experts and community partners. During the NYC Showcase I attended, students outlined plans to address health disparities in the community (specifically asthma and COVID-19) by transforming a portion of 182nd Street into a leafy, pedestrian-friendly corridor.

Our Student Innovation Fund supports projects like this in communities large and small across the country (see page 20 of this report for additional examples), providing real-world opportunities for students to build the 21st-century skills necessary to be sustainability and environmental justice leaders.

Students have many superpowers. One of them is their unique ability to envision a positive future even in the face of adversity. On behalf of our entire team, thank you for your support of our student leaders at EcoRise. Together, #WeRise!

Jonathan Stott, Executive Director



Our Values

WE PRACTICE
Resilience

WE BUILD
Comradery

WE STRIVE FOR
Equity

WE ARE
Leading-Edge

WE EMBRACE
Integrity

WE CULTIVATE
Gratitude

WE BELIEVE

At EcoRise, we believe that social and environmental justice are inextricably linked, and that our lack of progress on climate change stems from a simple fact: The majority of K–12 students in the American education system graduate from high school without the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary to design resilient communities of the future.

Our solutions-oriented K–12 programs directly address the problem at its root, providing students the opportunity to act as sustainability leaders and change-makers, developing projects with social, environmental, and economic impacts in communities across the country—from New York City to the Texas Rio Grande Valley to Sacramento, California.



1 / **Education** is the bedrock of social and environmental change.

2 / **Youth** have the power to design a sustainable world.

3 / **Teachers** are the key to unlocking student innovation.

4 / **Partnerships** magnify and accelerate community impact.

Delivering Our Mission

In March 2020, as schools were shuttered across the United States, EcoRise acted swiftly to adapt to a remote learning environment by transforming our resources and virtually supporting our partner districts and teachers.

In response to the pandemic, we made eco-literacy accessible at home by...



- **Developing** a resource page for parents and caregivers who found themselves teaching from home for the first time: www.ecorise.org/parent
- **Collaborating** with community organizations to bring learning to students and families:
 - AUSTIN ENERGY
 - iDialogue
 - TREEFOLKS
 - METRO
- **Providing** robust curriculum and curating guides for more teachers, including PBL at Home and Games & Activities.

We also worked with school districts on COVID-19 support and strategies by...

- **Hosting 12 virtual trainings** discussing remote instruction for educators and parents.
- **Supporting virtual classrooms** to continue awarding Eco-Audit Grants.
 - We awarded \$17,882 to 32 projects across the U.S. after school instruction became remote.**
 - These projects will be implemented on school campuses next school year.
- **Adapting the Green Building Internship** for a virtual environment, engaging the first cohort of interns in online events to finish the year strong.
- **Hosting virtual showcases** where Eco-Audit Grant awardees and Green Building interns presented projects to green professionals from across the country.

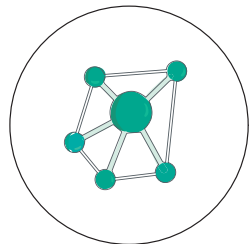


OUR PROGRAM

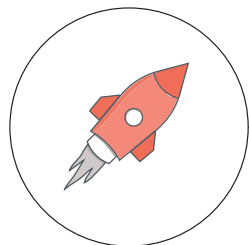
From classroom teaching to curriculum publishing, our mission-driven team has 174 years of collective work experience in the field of K-12 education. We understand the importance of teacher support and student agency. That's why our model is teacher-first, student-driven.



**STANDARDS-
ALIGNED
CURRICULUM**



**TEACHER
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**



**STUDENT
INNOVATION
FUND**





Sustainable Intelligence Learning That Inspires Action

Builds sustainability knowledge across seven eco-themes: water, waste, food, energy, air, public spaces, and transportation

Audience: K–12 teachers who aim to cultivate eco-literacy and sustainability thinking in students of all ages; available in English and Spanish



EV Lessons for Schools Transportation, Education, and Access

Introduces students to electric vehicles (EVs) and helps them analyze transportation habits and their environmental impacts

Audience: Middle and high school teachers who seek to make students aware of an affordable, sustainable transportation technology and empower them to explore community transportation issues



Understanding Our Water Footprint Water Use on a Personal and Global Scale

Expands basic water conservation instruction to add a global perspective and cultivate an awareness and understanding of indirect water use; from the GRACE Communications Foundation

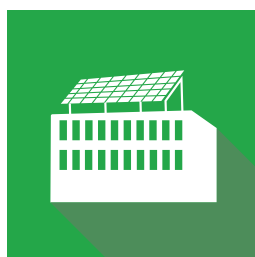
Audience: Middle and high school teachers who aim to motivate students to conserve water by using effective tools and wide-ranging perspective



Design Studio Framework and Activities for Innovation

Guides students to develop and implement creative solutions to pressing problems by using EcoRise's design-thinking process

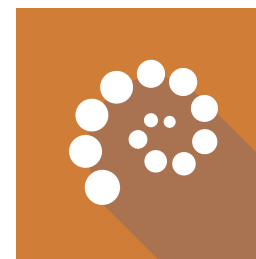
Audience: 5th–12th grade teachers who aim to foster collaboration and creative problem-solving skills via real-world projects



Green Building Lessons for a Sustainable Future

Prepares students to enter the green workforce with an understanding of green building techniques, sustainability, and climate resiliency; also offers an optional pathway for students to take the LEED Green Associate™ Exam to gain a valuable professional credential

Audience: High school teachers who seek to give their students valuable knowledge, experience, and credentials for entering the green workforce



Biomimicry and Science Applying Nature's Strategies

Challenges chemistry, physics, and biology students to look at “nature as mentor” in order to solve sustainability challenges

Audience: Middle and high school teachers who want to inspire students to appreciate and learn from nature as they design innovative solutions to common problems



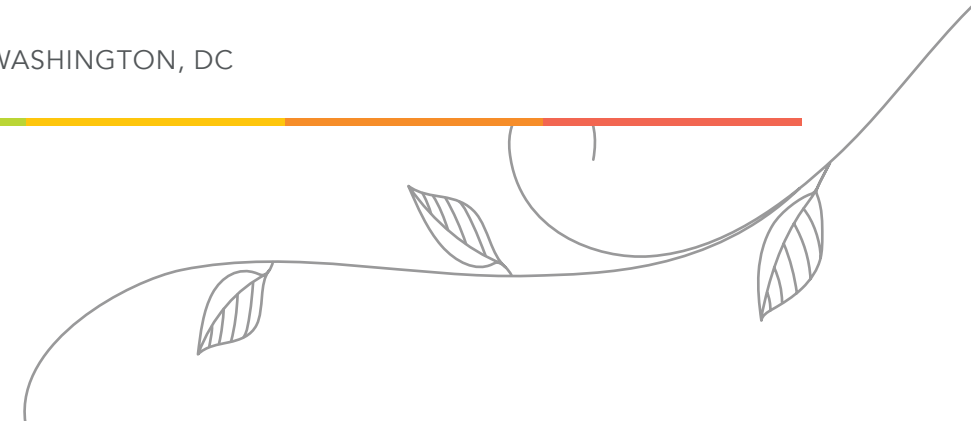
The Business of Social Good Entrepreneurship in Service of People, Planet, Profit

Introduces principles of social entrepreneurship, sustainability, and design thinking and challenges students to develop a business idea

Audience: High school business and entrepreneurship teachers who wish to model social, environmental, and economic balance to inspire students to create and support sustainable businesses

“These are some of the best lessons that I have ever taught. Students never forget these experiences. I did an activity with my students, and they were still talking about it two months later. Thank you, EcoRise, for inspiring my students to ask big questions and for giving me the tools to help them find the answers!”

THIRD GRADE TEACHER
BRUCE-MONROE @ PARKVIEW, WASHINGTON, DC



OUR
TEACHERS*This year we served***4,396***K-12 teachers,***1,744***schools, and***246,176***students!**We facilitated***7,929***hours
of teacher
trainings.*

In spite of the pandemic, EcoRise served 700 new schools and provided more than double the number of training hours to educators this school year!

ESTABLISHED REGIONS

- Austin, TX
- Boston, MA
- Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX
- Houston, TX
- New York City, NY
- Rio Grande Valley, TX
- Sacramento, CA
- San Antonio, TX
- Washington, DC

EMERGING REGIONS

- Atlanta, GA
- Bay Area, CA
- Jersey City, NJ
- Miami, FL
- Nashville, TN
- New Orleans, LA

GLOBAL COMMUNITY

EcoRise works with education partners around the world to provide teachers access to our curricula and programs. Through our network of local champions, EcoRise lessons are being used in all 50 U.S. states and 49 countries.

PARENTS ARE TEACHERS, TOO!

After schools closed across the U.S. in response to COVID-19, EcoRise made additional materials and resources available to parents and educators worldwide free of charge. This school year we have served 1,041 freemium users who range from parents to teachers to non-profit educators.



OUR STUDENTS

EcoRise introduces students to the three pillars of sustainability:

*people, planet,
& prosperity.*

Grant awardees demonstrate the social, economic, and environmental impacts of their sustainability projects.

In 2019–20, we awarded

\$26,249

in Eco-Audit Grants to

\$17,524 was awarded while schools were closed because of COVID-19 during the spring semester.

51 *student innovations!*

The majority of these projects will be implemented next school year and will save an estimated

\$29,188

in resource costs for school districts per year!

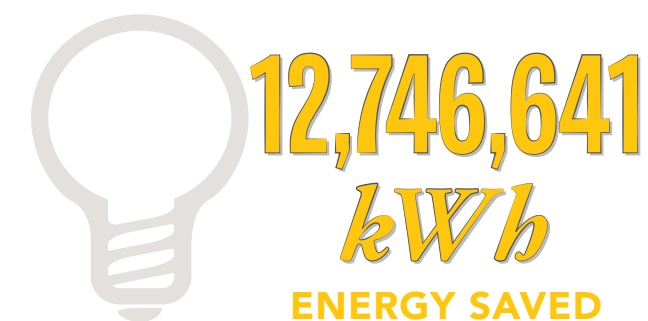
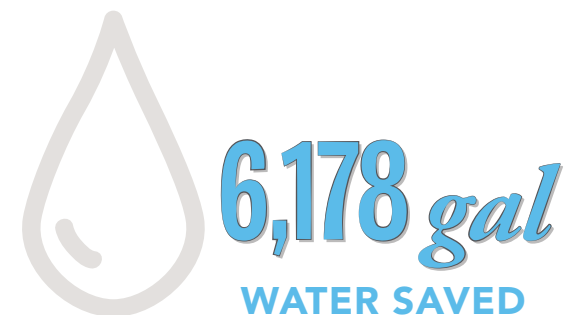


Examples of Student Innovations

An Indoor Peaceful Place
 Be Wise, Photosynthesize!
 Beeswax Wraps for Everyone!
 Blooms for Happiness
 Classroom Waste
 Clean Air Green Corridor
 Compost Is Magical like Unicorns
 Courtyard Cleanup
 Enclosed Butterfly Garden
 Equipment for Honey Bee Colony
 Fabulous Feathered Friends II
 Greenhouse Renovation
 Guardians of the Air
 Katy High School Prairie Trash
 Monarch Garden
 Nature's Music Makers
 No More Plastic
 Our Vertical Garden
 Outdoor Classroom
 Pony Express Recycling Project
 Rain Barrels
 Reducing the Plastic Bag Waste at Pelham Prep
 Refill Station for Nimitz
 Saving Electricity at Galindo Elementary
 Schoolwide Potted Plants
 Tree Guard
 Turtle Tank Insulation
 Weather Station for 2nd Grade Meteorologists
 Where Does All Our Waste Go?



National Environmental Impact



Virtual Student Innovation Showcases

CENTRAL TEXAS

Three schools and four teams represented Central Texas Student Innovations this year: From Galindo Elementary, Kindergarteners presented their plan to transform an unused hallway into a public space where students come to relax and read, and fourth graders showcased their Turn Off the Lights! education campaign. Boone Elementary Pre-K'ers discussed why they want to create a compost system in their school. Akins High School seniors presented strategies for earning LEED building certification points to the architects building the new Blazier Intermediate School!



"I would like to express my sincere appreciation for all of your work and dedication to protecting our environment. Continue to be caring, passionate, and innovative—our world needs leaders like you."

PAULA FLORES-GREGG
EPA REGION 6

SAN ANTONIO

Two teams represented the San Antonio Region: Fifth graders from Kuentz Elementary known as the Nature's Music Makers presented their bird habitat restoration project, which will increase biodiversity on their campus. Nimitiz Middle School'ers showcased their plans to restore the greenhouse on their campus in the fall.

HOUSTON

Representing the Houston area, middle school students from Cornerstone Academy showcased their plans to install a vegetable and pollinators garden on their campus.



Regional Student Showcases are hosted each spring to celebrate the next generation of innovators across the country. However, this spring all in-person events were canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic. EcoRise adapted the experience for students by hosting 12 Virtual Showcases that engaged 43 students and 97 green professional volunteers from across the country.

"I am thankful that [the students] focused on a real issue that they saw they could improve. It's an inspiration to all of us to tackle the problems we see in our lives head-on in order to make the world a better place."

SALLY PARKER
DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS



"I was really impressed! Thank you to EcoRise for giving our next generation the opportunity to learn the importance of taking care of our environment and the skills to share that information with the public."

JENNIFER TRIANA
METLIFE

WASHINGTON, DC

Representing Washington, DC, Student Innovations, C. W. Harris Elementary School had four student teams participate in virtual showcases! First graders showcased the work they did this year to increase the number of birds and other pollinators on their campus. Fourth grade teams presented the compost system they are building, the weather station they created at their school for more accurate forecast information, and how they are using aquaponics to bring fresh produce to their community.

NEW YORK CITY

Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School (WHEELS) high schoolers represented NYC Student Innovations with a project that supports a larger community initiative: the Clean Air Green Corridor of 182nd Street that will turn a busy street into a pedestrian zone for the health and well-being of the community.

THANK YOU!

EcoRise staff, students, and teachers have so much gratitude for all of the green professionals and district administrators who volunteered their time to be an authentic audience during our virtual showcases!

Student and Teacher Impact

This year, EcoRise partnered with the the Center for Youth and Communities at Brandeis University’s Heller School for Social Policy and Management to design, implement, and analyze a rigorous evaluation plan measuring student and teacher outcomes. A snapshot from end-of-year student and teacher surveys follows.

SUSTAINABLE INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM

Students who participated in the program reported the following:

- 91%** are more aware of the **environmental issues in their school or community.**
- 91%** have a better understanding of **why sustainability is important** to their community and the broader world.
- 84%** believe young people can persuade others to **act on environmental issues.**
- 85%** reported an **increase in 21st-century skills** such as collaboration, design-thinking, and communicating with stakeholders.

After participating in the program, teachers reported the following:

- 96%** will **continue using EcoRise resources and curricula** next school year.
- 94%** are **more aware of sustainability issues** in their communities.
- 94%** reported that EcoRise resources give them new tools to **address their school’s academic goals.**
- 92%** are more **confident integrating sustainability and environmental issues** in their teaching.
- 92%** are more **committed to student-driven learning.**
- 92%** are better able to **create authentic learning experiences** for their students.



GREEN BUILDING ACADEMY

Students who participated reported the following:

- 100%** are more aware of **green workforce job opportunities.**
- 100%** have a better understanding of **why sustainability is important** to their community and the broader world.
- 83%** are more aware of the **environmental issues in their school or community.**
- 83%** are more **aware of the steps they can take** to make their community more sustainable.
- 80%** reported **new motivation** to integrate the principles of green building and environmental sustainability into their **post-secondary plans** for employment and careers.

After participating in the Green Building Academy, teachers reported the following:

- 100%** feel **connected to a larger community of support** by EcoRise.
- 86%** say EcoRise resources and staff help them to be **a more effective environmental educator.**

ECORISE TEACHER AMBASSADORS

At the end of the school year, the 2019–20 cohort of Teacher Ambassadors reported:

- 100%** are more **confident school or community leaders.**
- 100%** are **more effective educators.**
- 96%** have the **tools and confidence to engage other educators** in EcoRise resources.
- 91%** are more confident in their ability to **facilitate professional development.**

Empowering Student Climate Leaders

EcoRise's eco-literacy programs go hand-in-hand with climate resiliency and mitigation, which is why we are proud to be a climate education partner of two major cities in Texas. This school year, EcoRise partnered with the City of San Antonio to provide climate training to teachers as a part of the city's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. We have facilitated professional development and provided tools to teachers as well as connected students and teachers to local resources, empowering them to be active participants in the larger city-wide community.

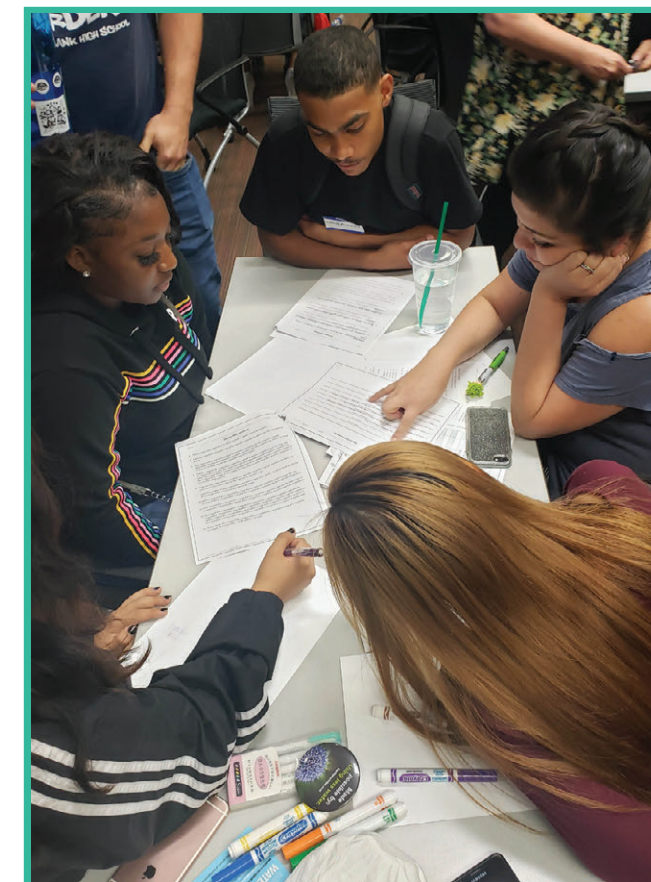
The City of Houston has launched its **Climate Action Plan**. EcoRise is excited to be an educational partner of the City of Houston and bring professional development and resources to the region so that teachers and students can become active participants in greening their city and effecting change in their communities.

There has never been a more important time to engage students as environmental leaders and changemakers in our communities. This year, EcoRise has been advancing our climate education agenda nationally by partnering with school districts, local municipalities, and leading-edge companies that truly “walk the talk” on sustainability.



EcoRise partner school district, **Sacramento City Unified School District**, hosted its first annual **Youth Climate Summit in October 2019** with the support of the City of Sacramento, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, EcoRise, and SeaVeers. EcoRise facilitated activities for participating students, and EcoRise Teacher Ambassadors Aimee O'Brien and Sandy SanAhmadi co-trained teachers at the event. By the end of the day, more than 100 students and teachers were ready to share action plans to collaborate with stakeholders and improve their school's environmental footprint.

Adding to the successful launch of the **Electric Vehicle Lessons for Schools** last year with the support of Austin Energy, EcoRise has continued to train and support Austin ISD teachers to incorporate EV, transportation, and energy lessons into their students' learning. We also brought the EV Lessons for Schools curriculum to a new region, Madison, Wisconsin, through a partnership with Madison Gas and Electric!



LOOKING FORWARD

EcoRise is excited to partner with the City of San Antonio, Texas, and the National Resources Defense Council next school year to engage San Antonio youth in promoting the city's ambitious Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. We will be focusing on youth of color and students that have been historically underrepresented in the environmental movement in climate justice, civic action, and the launch of the Mayor's Youth Engagement Council for Climate Initiatives.

Race Equity & Environmental Justice

To create a more racially diverse and inclusive organization, we started by looking at our internal practices and providing staff the space to collectively examine our biases. Two years ago we redesigned our hiring policies and practices to ensure that we are recruiting, interviewing, and hiring from a racially diverse pool of excellent candidates. Additionally, we have invested in professional development on anti-racism for staff, hired a racial equity consultant, hosted monthly staff meetings dedicated to race equity conversations and resources, convened an Equity Working Group comprised of board and staff members, and provided space for racial affinity groups to meet and work through uncovering and unlearning biases.

At EcoRise we recognize that environmental justice and racial justice are inextricably linked.

Our staff is deeply committed to providing culturally responsive educational resources to ignite the next generation of racially diverse green leaders. The field of environmental education has historically been dominated by white-led organizations and we commit to doing the personal and collective work necessary to create a more racially diverse, equitable, and inclusive movement. Over the past year we have leveraged a variety of resources to help our staff and teachers embark on a journey to reflect on our racial biases and the inequitable systems in which we exist in order to effect change and create a more sustainable and just world for all.

This year we began working to transform our programs and partnerships through the lens of racial equity. We sought out school partners with similar goals around equity, diversity, and inclusion. For teachers, we began embedding resources and conversations into our professional development opportunities, working with them to examine the intersections between racial equity, education, climate justice, sustainability, and the built environment. We are committed to continuing to learn and grow in these efforts with our partners and the teachers we serve.



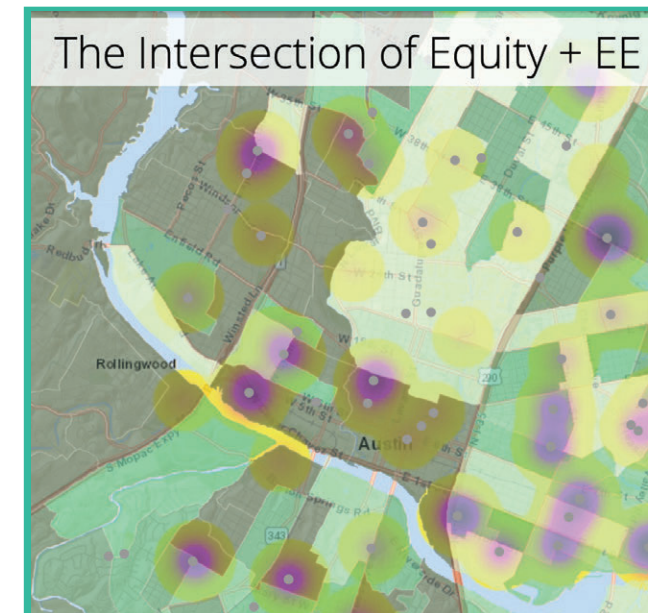
In its second year, Gen:Thrive is expanding across Texas and Louisiana.

Gen:Thrive is an EcoRise led collective mapping initiative aimed at expanding access to sustainability and environmental education programs in K–12 schools. Working with service providers across the state, we are creating a data-driven approach to bring programs focused on environmental literacy and climate justice to the places that need it most. By mapping the intersection of social and environmental factors, this project helps identify areas of greatest need, uncover opportunities for partnerships, and empower a generation of youth who are ready to cultivate just, thriving, and healthy communities.

Looking to deepen your understanding of race equity in environmental education? We recommend these resources:

- *Examining Equitable and Inclusive Work Environments in Environmental Education* by Lawrence Hall of Science at the University of California, Berkeley and Youth Outside
- *Why Every Environmentalist Should Be Anti-Racist* by Leah Thomas
- *Awake to Woke to Work* by Equity in the Center
- *The Green Insider's Club* by Dr. Doreceta E. Taylor

The Intersection of Equity + EE



LOOKING FORWARD

We have work to do! Our staff, particularly our white staff, will continue to push ourselves to uncover our biases and create more inclusive spaces for our teachers, students, and partners. All staff will continue to include specific and measurable goals pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion. For our teachers and students, we are excited to publish and share a new suite of free Environmental Justice lessons this August, designed specifically for a variety of blended learning environments. Additionally, we are eager to continue collaborating with local and national environmental justice organizations across the United States to deepen our collective impact.

Advancing the Green Schools Movement

With EcoRise’s support, T. A. Brown Elementary in Austin, Texas, has been transformed from an evacuated building to a newly constructed green school where student learning is rooted in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics) and outdoor learning. Austin ISD administrators worked with architects and the community to create a vision for the campus that will be used as a model for the district’s future modernization projects. With innovative indoor and outdoor features, every space of the new school can be used for learning. EcoRise has been working with the teachers of T. A. Brown since 2018 when they were housed in portables waiting for the new school to be constructed. EcoRise collaborated with national and community-based partners to train the teachers to effectively integrate sustainability curricula into their classrooms, facilitate outdoor learning lessons, and connect their future modernized space to classroom instruction. Moving forward, EcoRise will continue to play an integral role in training and supporting teachers to utilize the building to maximize STEAM integration and create hands-on, problem-based student learning experiences.

Green schools are better for school communities for three important reasons: they reduce environmental impacts and costs, improve occupants’ health and performance, and increase sustainability literacy. At EcoRise, we are enriching the green schools movement and helping foster a culture of sustainability in schools across the U.S. through our eco-literacy curricula, School as a Teaching Tool program, and Green Building Academy.

C. W. Harris Elementary School in Washington, DC, is thrilled to have a beautiful, modernized school building that is in the process of becoming LEED certified. Since 2018, EcoRise has partnered with Perkins Eastman and DC Public Schools to train and support C. W. Harris teachers in leveraging their modernized building and school grounds as a powerful STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) teaching tool that connects green building features to classroom instruction. Through the EcoRise curricula, students discover what sustainability means to them and their community and are empowered to become active participants in the sustainability of their built and natural environment. C. W. Harris students have even applied for and received several Eco-Audit Grants over the past two years, funding student-driven initiatives such as cafeteria-to-garden composting, hydroponic herb gardens, and a farmers’ market to provide fresh food to families in the community.



In its second year, the EcoRise Green Building Academy is growing, serving 40 teachers this school year in Massachusetts, Texas, and across the U.S. The Academy supports educators through year-round professional development that focuses on our innovative curriculum: *Green Building Lessons for a Sustainable Future*. Teachers of Career and Technical Education and Environmental Science courses use the curriculum to help students better understand the principles of green building, sustainability, and green careers, while preparing them to take the LEED Green Associate™ Exam. As a part of the Academy, EcoRise partnered with the University of Texas School of Architecture to pilot an exciting opportunity for students this year in Austin, Texas: the Green Building Internship Program. This program was thoughtfully designed as an equitable pathway to green careers for historically underrepresented populations in the architecture, construction, and design industries, including women and students of color. Six high school seniors successfully completed their school-year internship studying under the architects at BLGY Architecture, who are building a new LEED certified intermediate school in Austin. The pilot program was funded by the City of Austin Office of Innovation and Glimmer Austin.



LOOKING FORWARD

In June, EcoRise launched our first Summer Green Building Internship, matching eight interns from Austin ISD and Del Valle ISD with mentors in the fields of green building, climate resiliency, urban forestry, urban planning, heat mapping, energy conservation, and sustainability education. EcoRise plans to optimize and scale the program across Texas and Massachusetts next school year.



2019–20 Teacher Ambassadors

Teacher Ambassadors are champions of sustainability education, implementing EcoRise resources and curricula in their classrooms while inspiring and empowering other teachers locally and nationally.



Allison Bearden
Instructional Spec.
Tomball, TX



Aimee O'Brien
Grade 4
Sacramento, CA



Cherice Green
STEM Coordinator
Washington, DC



Christy Mederos
Kindergarten
Austin, TX



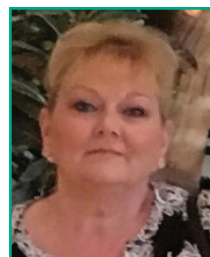
Corinne Akins
Garden Coordinator
Belle Chasse, LA



David Ward
Grade 4
Round Rock, TX



Denisse Ochoa
Librarian
Pharr, TX



Dianna Koon
Grade 8
San Antonio, TX



Erika Bryant
Grade 7
Luling, TX



Isabel Anaya
Grade 5
Helotes, TX



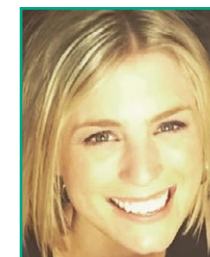
Jennifer Grolemond
Grade K–4
Rumson, NJ



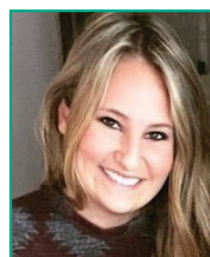
Jennifer Humphrey
Grade 6–7
San Antonio, TX



Kathy Bahlmann
Grade 7
Luling, TX



Keely Wells
Grade 3
Washington, DC



Lyndsey Hurley
Instructional Spec.
Spring, TX



Mary Ann Settlemyre
Grade K–6
Centreville, VA



Rosalie Patel
Kindergarten
Austin, TX



Sabina Malkani
Grade 3
Washington, DC



Sandy SanAhmadi
Grade 5
Sacramento, CA



Vielca Anglin
Grade 9–12
New York, NY

SPONSORED BY:

Lakeshore
Foundation



Southwest®

EDUCATION FELLOW



Denise Ortiz
Grade 11–12
New Braunfels, TX

EcoRise has changed the lives of my students and empowered me as a teacher leader. This organization has strengthened my teaching skills and has provided me with professional development and leadership opportunities. I became an EcoRise Teacher Ambassador to “give back”—because I have seen first-hand how invested EcoRise’s staff is, both in student learning and in building relationships with teachers.

As a Teacher Ambassador, and now Education Fellow, I have facilitated EcoRise professional workshops for new teachers, written curriculum, and collaborated with peers. I love that I can connect with and impact teachers who share the same devotion to their students and sustainability education as I do. These opportunities impact teachers by proving a clear and concise vision for their own classrooms.

I am thoroughly impressed at how EcoRise never loses its focus on students and teachers. The organization has made a huge impact on my students’ leadership and problem-solving skills. And it has had a huge impact on me: With over 20 years’ experience, I still had never quite seen myself as a leader, and I carried a fair amount of self-doubt into my classroom. EcoRise leadership training and staff have provided the safety net and support to help me become a strong, independent, confident advocate and high-performing science educator.



Two years ago, we set an ambitious goal for the 2021 school year: EcoRise would become a national leader in sustainability education, providing programming in 4,000 classrooms, impacting over 250,000 students annually. Here is the progress we’ve made on each of our goals:

PROGRESS TO GOALS

	JUNE 2019	JUNE 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Expanding our programs to 10 of the U.S. cities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as New Orleans and New York City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">6 high-impact hubs2,796 teachers enrolled156,576 students impacted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9 high-impact hubs4,396 teachers enrolled246,176 students impacted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Expanding our programs in rural and urban communities that lack strong environmental education programming to reach 250,000 students annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Program established in 2 rural communities in Texas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Program established in 3 rural communities in Texas
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Diversifying and expanding our library of curricula for K–12 educators to fan the flames of the movement globally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Piloted Green Building Program: Trained 7 teachers with 7 students passing certification examDeveloped electric vehicle and water footprint curricula	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Redesigned Design Studio for virtual platform, design-thinking frameworkAdded remote learning resources for teachers and parentsIncreased free access to lessons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hosting a Summer Institute to showcase effective practices and empower educators around the world to create their own EcoRise program anywhere.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hosted inaugural Summer InstituteFirst cohort of 11 Teacher Ambassadors completed program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2nd Annual Summer Institute trained 21 teachers and 8 partners20 Teacher Ambassadors completed the program1 Education Fellow completed the program

Partnering for Greater Impact

We are building an alliance of visionary people and organizations that are passionate about changing the world by bringing sustainability, leadership, and innovation into our children’s classrooms.



SPOTLIGHT PARTNERS



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



DISTRICT PARTNERS



Excellence for All, Boston Public Schools
New York City Department of Education
North East Independent School District
Sacramento City Unified School District

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

1% for the Planet
Balcones Resources
BNY Mellon
Citizens Environmental Coalition
City of Austin Innovation Office
City of Austin Office of Sustainability
City of Houston
City of San Antonio
The Cynthia & George Mitchell Foundation

The Environmental Fund of Texas
Eversource
Green Mountain Energy Sun Club
Glimmer Austin
H-E-B
Humanscale
Love Tito's
The Meadows Foundation
MetLife Foundation
Office of the State Superintendent of Education (DC)
Perkins Eastman, DC
The Pisces Foundation
Rackspace
Salesforce
SeaVeEs
Southwest Airlines
Structure Tone
Target
The Threshold Foundation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2 and Region 6
United States Green Building Council (USGBC) Massachusetts

PROGRAM COLLABORATORS

Austin Energy
Biomimicry Institute
BLGY Architecture
Captain Planet Foundation
Dream in Green
Green Building Education Services
Green Schools National Network
iDialogue
Lane County, Oregon
Madison Gas and Electric
Math for America
National Wildlife Federation/EcoSchools USA
North American Association of Environmental Educators (NAAEE)
PEAS
Plant the Seed
San Mateo County Office of Education
United States Green Building Council (USGBC)
University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture
USGBC Center for Green Schools

OUR TEAM

STAFF

Jessica Cravens
Program Manager

Laura Fuller
Communications & Design
Manager

Zakhia Grant
Program Manager

Jennifer "Jenji" Henson
Director of Special Projects

Kristi Hibler-Luton
Program Director

Brittany Jayroe
Program Director

Gina LaMotte
Founder, President &
Chief Innovation Officer

Amaryllis Martin
Finance & Operations Manager

Jaynell Nicholson
Project Manger

Abby Randall
Deputy Director

Gamal Sherif
Program Manager

Jonathan Stott
Executive Director

Kizzy Hannibal Xolani
Program Manager, Founding
Member

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Abi Nix
Amie Thronson, Chair
Craig Steinfeld
Dan Jensen, Treasurer
Esther Nai
Jenny Robertson
Josh Wiener
Juan Lopez
Katherine Bisner
Kelley Tapia, Secretary
Laura Nettleton
Mitch Jacobson
Robert Leon
Tommy Lynn
Valerie Barron

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Amy Lukken
Brandon Knicely
Bungane Mehlomkulu
Charlie Gutierrez
Dan Graham
Katie Sternberg
Kerry Getter
Lee Walker
Lev Freedman
Lucia Athens
Matt Singleton
Peter Klante
Philip Berber
Rachel Fagan
Susan MacMurchy
Suzi Sosa



"I am extremely proud to have been a part of this wonderful organization for three years now. EcoRise is dedicated to improving environmental education for all teachers and students. Their support for teachers goes above and beyond any I have experienced in my 32 years of teaching. They are committed to making this a better world for all."

EIGHTH GRADE SCIENCE TEACHER
PEASE MIDDLE SCHOOL, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

AWARDS



2019 Winner: Education



2018 Best of Green Schools
Award: Collaborator





Join our movement.



EcoRise is cultivating the next generation of resilient youth who are passionate about creating a more just and sustainable world for all.

In the face of adversity and the climate crisis, join us in harnessing the power and potential of young leaders by championing transformative K–12 sustainability education.

- **Spread** the word about EcoRise
- **Connect** us to new schools
- **Fuel** our work with a generous donation
- **Bridge** new community partnerships



ECORISE.ORG • INFO@ECORISE.ORG • #WERISE