

## Sustainability Initiative Newsletter

June 17, 2014

### School Spotlight



Brooklyn's P.S. 31 Eco-Machine student team manned a booth at the Go Green Greenpoint Festival at McCarren Park and sold painted pot air plants and reusable water bottles.



### Partner Spotlight

[Solar One's Education Program](#) promotes experiential learning opportunities through science, technology and design.

## News

- DSNY Golden Apple Award Winners announced!
- Sustainability Coordinator Vicki Sando wins Verdant Brainiac award from Urban Green Council
- The Harbor School's Billion Oyster Project awarded millions of dollars
- Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge hosts 50 teachers in pollinator program
- White House Releases the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Climate Assessment Report

## Upcoming Events

## Opportunities

## Resources

## School Spotlight



It was a great day for P.S. 31 at the Go Green Greenpoint Festival at McCarren Park in Brooklyn. The school's Eco-Machine team manned a booth at the festival and sold painted pot air plants and reusable water bottles. They enjoyed visits from many wonderful people including NWF's [Emily Alix Fano](#), NY Assemblyman Joe Lentol, GCEF's Richard Mazur, and District 14 Superintendent Alicja Winnicki. The



students and teacher Sheri Sankner showcased their recycled art projects and sustainability efforts for the year!

**Way to go P.S. 31!**

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## News

- This is the last Sustainability Initiative Newsletter of the school year. We were thrilled to share your stories all year long and share neat opportunities with you. We look forward to an exciting 2014-2015 year and hope you all have a relaxing and happy summer.
- **DSNY Golden Apple Award Winners** announced! Click [here](#) for more info and congratulations to the winners!

### *TrashMasters! Super Recyclers*

Division	Borough	Award	Prize	School
Elementary	Brooklyn	Citywide & Borough Winner	\$10,000	PS 29 John M Harrigan
Elementary	Brooklyn	Borough Runner-Up	\$2,500	PS 32 Samuel Mills Sprole
Elementary	Brooklyn	Honorable Mention	\$1,250	PS 316 Elijah G Stroud
Elementary	Manhattan	Borough Winner	\$5,000	PS 6 Lillie D Blake
High School	Bronx	Notable Student Effort	(n/a)	Cardinal Spellman High School
High School	Manhattan	Notable Student Effort	(n/a)	Stuyvesant High School

### *TrashMasters! Reduce & Reuse Challenge*

Division	Borough	Award	Prize	School
Elementary	Brooklyn	Citywide & Borough Winner	\$10,000	PS 185 Walter Kassenbrock
Elementary	Brooklyn	Borough Runner-Up	\$2,500	Brooklyn Arbor
Elementary	Queens	Borough Winner; Queens Golden Shovel	\$6,000	PS 209Q Clearview Gardens
Intermediate	Brooklyn	Citywide & Borough Winner; Brooklyn Golden Shovel	\$11,000	Brooklyn Urban Garden School (BUGS)

### *TrashMasters! Team Up to Clean Up*

Division	Borough	Award	Prize	School
Elementary	Brooklyn	Citywide & Borough Winner	\$10,000	PS 32 Samuel Mills Sprole
Elementary	Bronx	Borough Winner; NYRP Rose Award Winner	\$5,000	PS 54 Fordham Bedford Academy

High School	Bronx	Citywide & Borough Winner; Bronx Golden Shovel	\$11,000	DeWitt Clinton High School
High School	Queens	Borough Winner	\$5,000	Maspeth High School
High School	Staten Island	Notable Student Effort	(n/a)	St Joseph Hill Academy

- **Vicki Sando**, Sustainability Coordinator extraordinaire for P.S. 41 in Manhattan, was named the 2014 “Verdant Brainiac” in the annual EBies awards by the Urban Green Council. The Verdant Brainiac award recognizes the most innovative green renovation project, particularly one that overcame significant barriers (cost, institutional, technological) in a manner that is scalable. In 2006, she founded The Green Roof Environmental Literacy Laboratory (GELL) Project, transforming the roof at P.S. 41 into a green space open to students. Vicki continues to share her experience and expertise by developing a [K-12 Green Roof Curriculum Guidebook](#) in partnership with M.S. 442 and The Bronx Design & Construction Academy. Check out the award announcement [here](#).
- **The Harbor School's Billion Oyster Project** was just awarded a \$60 million grant from HUD to build and populate a living, growing oyster reef off the coast of Staten Island. The [project](#), designed by SCAPE, will directly involve Harbor School students over the long term in strategic oyster restoration. Congratulations to the Harbor School!!



On June 5th, 50 teachers came out to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge for a PD workshop led by NWF Eco-Schools, Gateway National Recreation Area, and Community Greenways Collaborative staff. The workshop focused on climate change impacts on pollinators, phenology, and how to create a schoolyard habitat. Teachers planted hundreds of pollinator-friendly native plants like milkweed, English aster and John Pye weed. A great day was had by all despite the morning rain.



- The **White House releases the 3rd National Climate Assessment report**, by far the most comprehensive look ever at climate change impacts in the United States. Based on four years of work by hundreds of experts from government, academia, corporations, and public-interest organizations, the assessment confirms abundant data and examples that climate change isn't some distant threat -- it's affecting us now. The good news is that there are [sensible steps](#) that we can take to protect this country and the planet. There's great information on the site for students and teachers to get engaged. [Check it out!](#)

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## Events

- **July 2:** Free Summer Conference from [FoodFight](#): Register for *E.A.T.: Educating America's Teachers to Lead the Fight Against Obesity* and join leading experts in the fields of health, nutrition, food politics, sustainability and school food reform. Arm yourself with the tools necessary to be a change agent in your school. Click [here to register](#).
- **July 27-August 1:** Join the [Cloud Institute](#) in New York City for the EFS Summer Design Studio. The week-long intensive has been developed for educators, faculty, curriculum supervisors, administrators, and community leaders who want to learn how to design and embed Education for Sustainability (EfS) into their curriculum, assessments, organizational learning strategies and programs. Learn more [here](#). Deadline to sign up July 1.
- **September 27:** *Plan ahead!* The Center for Green Schools' Green Apple Day of Service gives parents, teachers, students, companies and local organizations the opportunity to transform all schools into healthy, safe and productive learning environments through local service projects. Check out [project ideas](#), read last year's [highlights](#) and register your [2014 project](#) today!

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## Opportunities

- [GrowNYC's Recycling Champions Program](#) (RCP) is now accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year! It's a free educational program available to any NYC public school, grades K-12, that is struggling with school-wide recycling or organics collection. As an RCP school, you'll be provided a dedicated outreach coordinator who will work collaboratively with administration, faculty, and students to bolster recycling through professional development, classroom lessons and activities, contests, free recycling bins, and more. The application is due **Wednesday, June 18 at 5:00pm**. For the application or if you have questions, please email the RCP Manager, Robbie Lock, [rlock@grownyc.org](mailto:rlock@grownyc.org) or 212.341.0169.
- **"Growing a Wild Brooklyn & Queens" Program:** In September 2014, NYC Eco-Schools is launching a new gardening education and on-site ecological restoration program to benefit pollinators, in partnership with Gateway National Recreation Area and the American Littoral Society. They are looking for five more schools (one classroom per school) in Brooklyn or Queens to participate. This is an inter-generational project; as such, you must be willing to include grandparents from the school in the project. The program will also include at least two field trips (Fall 2014 and Spring 2015) to Gateway during the 2014-15 school year, as well as seed germination and plant-growing in the classroom. If you're interested in participating, please email Emily Fano at [fano@nwf.org](mailto:fano@nwf.org) ASAP.
- **Materials for the Arts Summer ASPDP Workshops:** Learn how to save left over items at your school from the waste stream and free supplies from Materials for the Arts. These materials can be creatively reused to make engaging projects for lessons in all content areas. During these fun studio-style courses, teachers focus on developing lesson plans, aligned with the Arts Blueprint and Common Core standards, for their own students. MFTA is offering week-long sessions beginning July 7. Upon successful completion of each course, DOE staff earn three "P" In-service credits, for professional certification and salary differential requirements (+30), from the New York City Department of Education After School Professional Development Program (ASPDP). Check out their website for more [details](#).
- **Edible Schoolyard NYC Summer ASPDP Course:** *Creating the Garden and Kitchen Classroom for Standards Based Instruction*. The class, which counts for 3 P-credits, runs from July 14-July 18, 2014. Participants will engage in

hands-on activities to show them techniques for incorporating gardening and cooking to teach across the subjects--science, math, social studies, ELA and the arts. In addition to gaining access to Edible Schoolyard NYC's inter-disciplinary, standards-based curriculum, participants will work with one another and with our instructors to create a unit to bring back to their own school sites. Register through the ASPDP [website](#). Once there, scroll through the "Course Provider" menu and select "Edible Schoolyard NYC at PS 216." If you have any questions, please contact Liza Engelberg at [le@esynyc.org](mailto:le@esynyc.org).

- **SunWorks Center at P.S. 333 ASPDP Course:** : *Water, Energy, and Waste: Integrating Themes of Sustainability into Your Classroom*. July 10 to July 18, 8:30am to 1:30pm (July 15 8:30-3:30). The course was created to support teachers' ability to provide an engaging STEM + sustainability education to their students. Participating teachers will receive 3 professional credits for the course. Sessions will be conducted in the Sun Works Center at P.S. 333 by resident science teacher Shakira Pravasoli. Participating teachers will be provided all associated materials, including small hydroponic kits and composting bins for classroom use. To apply go to ASPDP course catalog COURSE CODE: P17-263S14



### U.S.-Taiwan Sustainable Schools Program for 5 NYC Eco-Schools

The National Wildlife Federation Eco-Schools program is looking for **5 schools to participate in the [U.S.-Taiwan Sustainable Schools program](#) in 2014-15!** The program is a partnership between the U.S. EPA, EPA Taiwan, and NWF Eco-Schools. Your school will be paired with a sister school in Taiwan to collaborate on sustainability projects. Email [fanoe@nwf.org](mailto:fanoe@nwf.org) for more information. **Apply by September 30, 2014.**

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## Resources

- [Laura B. Vogler Foundation Grant](#) - awards one-time grants concerned with the health, well-being, and education of children. Deadline July 1.
- [Kinder Morgan Foundation Grant](#) - \$5,000. For program in which youth are provided the opportunity to learn through the environment. Deadline July 10.
- [Zayed Future Energy Prize 2015](#) - \$100,000 grants for high schools. Deadline July 14.
- [Dominion K-12 Energy or Environment Program Grants](#) – up to \$10,000. Deadlines July 16, September 1.
- [Aetna Regional Grants](#) – up to \$50,000. Cycle deadline July 30.
- [American Honda Foundation Grants \(K-12\)](#)—up to \$75,000. Deadlines August 1, November 1.
- [Project Learning Tree GreenWorks!](#) - \$1,000-2,000. Three types of grant opportunities. Deadline September 30.
- [City Parks Foundation Capacity Fund Grants](#) – up to \$5,000. Deadlines October 1.
- [NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants](#)—up to \$5,000. Deadlines October 15.
- [Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant 2015](#) – \$500. Deadline October 15.
- [New York Restoration Project's Gardens for the City](#) – Application for assistance with revitalizing public spaces. Rolling deadlines.
- [Hart Seed Company Donations](#) – Free seeds for your school garden for the cost of shipping and handling only.
- [The Awesome Foundation](#)—\$1,000. Rolling deadlines.
- [Build It Green! NYC](#) - two non-profit reuse centers filled with low-cost salvaged building materials.

- [The Pollination Project](#) – up to \$1,000. Rolling applications.
- [The World We Want Foundation](#) - \$500 - \$5,000. Supports Young Global Citizens making positive social change. Rolling applications.

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## Partner Spotlight



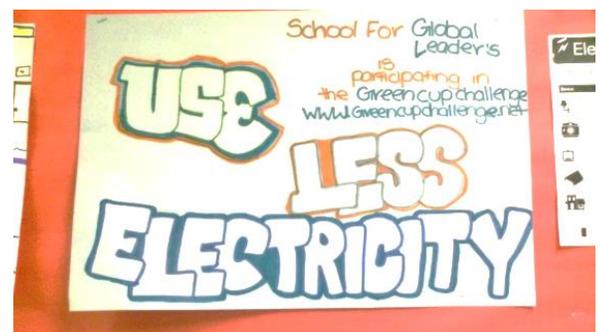
On June 16, a kick-off celebration was held at the **High School for Construction Trades, Engineering and Architecture**, commemorating the installation of vacancy sensors at the Queens high school. This year, through Solar One's Cleantech program, HSCTEA students had the opportunity to explore building performance and energy efficiency through a series of classroom activities and building audits. Eleventh graders Ashaki Gumbs and Scander Garcia (pictured with their Principal Lakeisha Gordon), went a step further, taking the data from the building audits to write a report, outlining how upgrades to school lighting could save energy and lower the school's carbon footprint. Their work was submitted to DOE Division of School Facilities resulting in the plans to

install vacancy sensors in all classrooms.

At Monday's event, energy managers and installers discussed the project with the school community and Gumbs and Garcia received **Solar One's Student Achievement Award** for outstanding work in energy efficiency and sustainability. These dedicated students look forward to participating in future sustainability efforts at HSCTEA.

[Solar One's Education Program](#) promotes experiential learning opportunities through science, technology and design. The programs increase environmental knowledge while fostering sustainable behaviors and stewardship. Using the urban environment as a laboratory, the programs introduce K-12 students to hands-on real world experience and support the development of creative thinking and problem solving skills.

Solar One provides dynamic sustainability lessons focused on environmental literacy, renewable energy, and actions students can take that will have an immediate, tangible effect to improve their urban environment. Working with hundreds of schools and community organizations in all five boroughs, Solar One provides K-12 Education through the [Green Design Lab™](#) and [Enrichment Education Workshops](#), and also offers professional development workshops for teachers seeking training on teaching sustainability and starting school greening programs.



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# Contact Us

Office of Sustainability, Division of School Facilities

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