



Cultivating the Future
of Environmental Education

Summit Schedule

Saturday, September 12, 2026

**Berna Facio Professional Development Center
3315 Louisiana Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM**

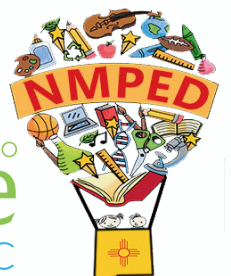


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Summit Schedule

TIME	LOCATION	ACTIVITY
8:30	South Hallway	Welcome Coffee and Registration
9:00	Rm 100	Opening Remarks with EENM Board
9:15	Rm 100	Keynote with Elizabeth Cuna of The Semilla Project
10:00	Rm 100	Networking game with prizes!
10:10		Break
10:20	Breakout Rooms	Workshop Session 1
11:05		Break
11:15	Breakout Rooms	Workshop Session 2
12:00	Commissary	Lunch - Themed lunch discussions in breakout rooms
1:00	Rm 100	NMPED Outdoor Learning Initiative Presentation
1:30		Break
1:40	Breakout Rooms	Workshop Session 3
2:25		Break
2:35	Breakout Rooms	Workshop Session 4
3:20		Break
3:25	Rm 100	Closing Remarks with the EENM Board and more prizes!

Keynote Speaker: Elizabeth Cuna

Executive Director

The Semilla Project

Eli Cuna is an immigrant from Torreón, Coahuila, Mexico, a mother to Wiyakpa and Colibrí, and a nationally recognized organizer working at the intersection of immigrant rights, climate justice, and economic justice. For more than a decade, she has helped build and strengthen national organizing infrastructure, mobilizing immigrant youth, workers, and families to advocate for policies such as DACA and broader immigrant protections. Her leadership centers on the belief that communities most impacted by injustice must be the architects of the solutions that shape their future. Through movement building, leadership development, and systems change strategies, Eli works to advance community power, immigrant dignity, and a deeper relationship between people, land, and collective well-being.



Session Information

You are invited to attend whichever workshop sessions call to you! If you are struggling to decide between the options, we have sorted sessions into two summit pathways:

Community Partner Pathway - Choose this track if you work in administration or leadership at a community-based organization like a nonprofit, small business, or government agency. This track will focus on developing skills and knowledge in funding, decision-making, program-building, and more! **To follow this pathway, see page 3.**

Teaching Pathway - Choose this track if you are a classroom teacher or nontraditional outdoor educator who is mostly working directly with youth. This track will focus on developing skills in program facilitation and evaluation while providing hands-on activities you can take back to your classroom or student group! **To follow this pathway, see page 4.**

Community Partner Pathway

10:20am-11:05am: Session 1 Options (select one)

- **Kue Kache (Let's Plant): Cultivating Kinship Through Land-Based Learning** with *Kiksuyapi Collective* - Learn how Kue Kache uses an Indigenous working farm as a living classroom for community-centered outdoor learning. Leave with practical strategies for integrating food systems, environmental stewardship, and cultural knowledge in programming.
- **Aliens - why they invented the bee: What youth hear when you are talking** with *Youth Agricultural Cooperative* - In this youth-led session, learn about shared decision-making strategies and leave with tools to increase engagement with the youth in your program or organization.

11:15am-12:00pm: Session 2 Options (select one)

- **Beyond Access: Building Belonging Outdoors** with *Nature Niños* - Learn how Nature Niños intentionally builds belonging, consistency, and long-term pathways that keep youth engaged year after year. Leave with practical strategies for creating outdoor programs where every child feels like they belong, regardless of background or prior outdoor experience.
- **Fellowship Capstone Presentations** with the *EENM Fellows* - Learn about the diverse community projects our fellows carried out over the last year across the state. Leave with insights into what works when designing short-term outdoor programs.

1:40pm-2:25pm: Session 3 Options (select one)

- **Cuentos y Cantos al Desierto, Supporting Bilingual Outdoor Education Models** with *Blanca Stacey Villalobos* - Learn about the value and necessity of supporting bilingual outdoor education. Leave with insights into the logistics necessary to make these programs a reality and activities to engage a bilingual and multicultural population.
- **Indigenous Service Ethic Applied to the Non-Human World** with *Project Venture* - Learn about Project Venture's work to reframe conservation within an indigenous scope and worldview. Leave with a deeper understanding of how Native-led organizations are changing the workforce development landscape.

2:35pm-3:20pm: Session 4 Options (select one)

- **Growing together: An Indigenous Experiential Approach to Environmental Education** with *Project Venture* - Learn how to use Indigenous experiential education strategies to strengthen connections among people, place, and community. Leave with adaptable, hands-on activities and facilitation strategies you can immediately implement with youth.
- **An Intergenerational Community and the Healing Practice of Composting** with *NM Master Composters* - Learn about the philosophy of composting—including why it's crucial in the desert Southwest. Leave with an understanding of how a unique mentorship model works to build compost confidence.

Teaching Pathway

10:20am-11:05am: Session 1 Options (select one)

- **Seeds of STEM: Growing Intergenerational STEM Experiences** *with Explora* - Learn about the strategies Explora uses to integrate cultural knowledge and community expertise into outdoor learning. Leave with hands-on activities you can use to teach students about water and land.
- **Exploring traditional agroecological knowledge in school garden programs in New Mexico** *with Tomasz Falkowski* - In this dual-purpose session, participate in university research exploring the role of school gardens as sites for maintaining and teaching traditional agroecological knowledge while also engaging in peer-to-peer learning via group discussion around school gardens.

11:15am-12:00pm: Session 2 Options (select one)

- **Implementing Composting in APS schools** *with Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District* - Learn about the successes and challenges of Ciudad's current composting program, and leave with actionable tips to start composting at your school!
- **Working Through the New Mexico Outdoor Classrooms Framework to Normalize Outdoor Learning** *with TOTAL NM* - Learn how the New Mexico Outdoor Classrooms Framework promotes practical implementation for integrating outdoor learning across PreK-12 classrooms, all content areas, and diverse learning environments. Leave with an understanding of how to use this incredible tool.

1:40pm-2:25pm: Session 3 Options (select one)

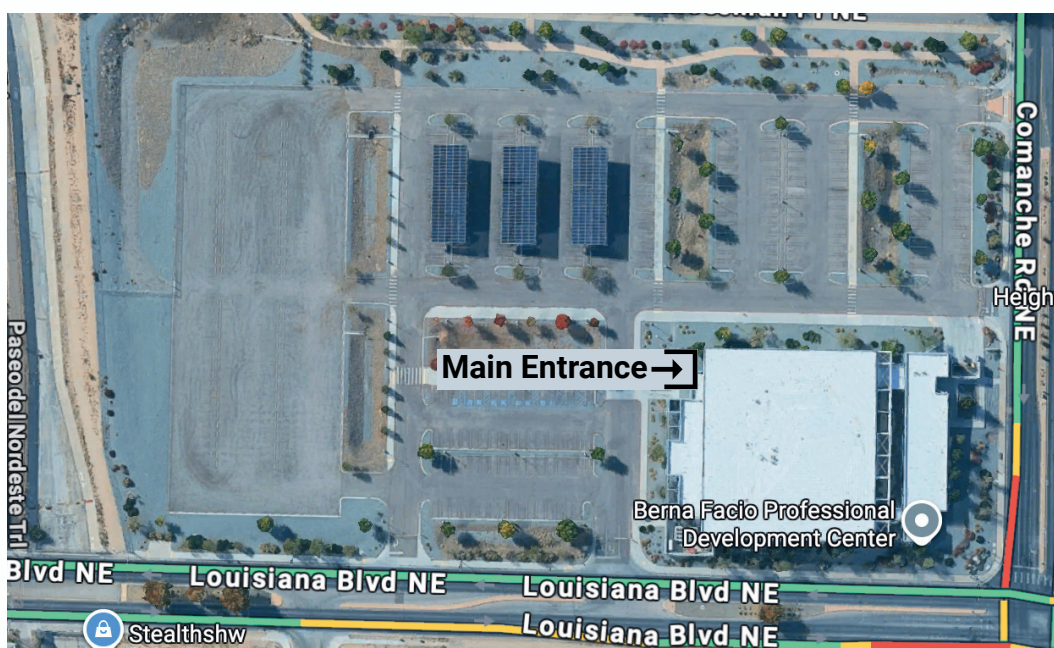
- **A Spectrum of Fires in New Mexico** *with the Bosque Education Guide* - Learn about the diverse roles that fire plays in different NM ecosystems. Leave with activities you can use in your class to teach about fire.
- **Ecological Partnership** *with Abbott Botanical Assessments* - Learn about nature-immersion techniques and Project Learning Tree, an award winning environmental education program designed for teachers. Leave with activity ideas to help your students connect to the world of plants.

2:35pm-3:20pm: Session 4 Options (select one)

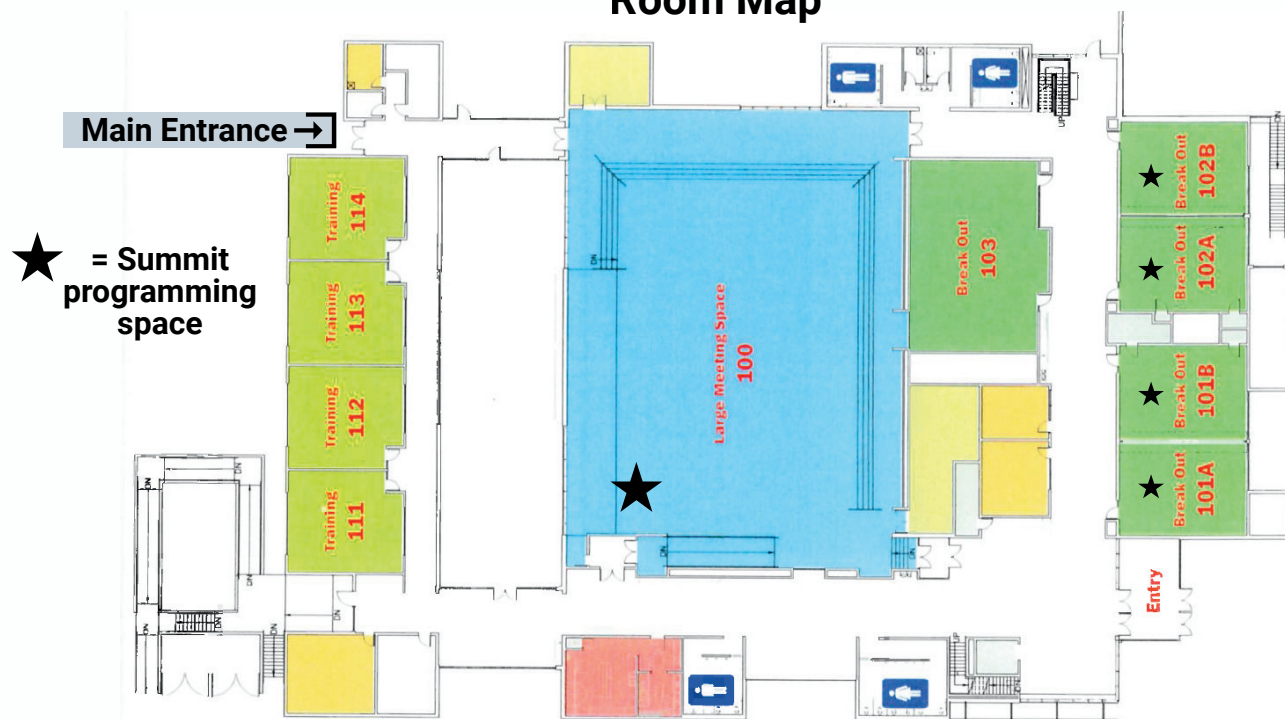
- **The KES Approach: A Systems-Based Framework for Outdoor Education** *with Escalera Academy* - Learn the philosophy of The Kinesiology, Engineering, and Sustainability Approach--a framework that asks the question: What makes outdoor recreation possible? Leave with a new perspective on outdoor gear as a portal to learning.
- **Journaling and Reflection as a tool to Ignite Embodied Learning** *with Reunity Resources* - Learn best practices for engaging students in journaling and reflection activities in the outdoors. Leave with practical strategies to evaluate student reflection while maintaining rigor and inspiration.

Navigating the Summit

Location Map



Room Map



Become an EENM Member

Environmental Education of New Mexico is a membership-based organization. Our members help shape the direction of our work by offering their unique perspectives, and we reciprocate by providing benefits to both individuals and organizations. Teachers can register for free memberships with EENM.

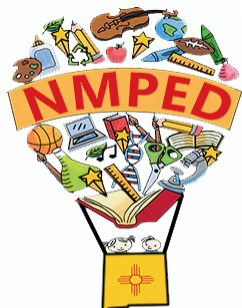
Organizational Member Benefits:

- Representation and involvement in advocacy for EE issues
- News and events shared in EENM newsletters
- Organizational member listing on EENM website
- Social media posts shared on EENM's Instagram and Facebook platforms
- 1-hour consultations with EENM leadership team
- Listing in EENM Annual Report
- Discounts on EENM professional development opportunities

Individual Member Benefits:

- Discounts on EENM professional development opportunities
- Discounts to the Outdoor Learning School and Store
- Access to individual consultation with the EENM leadership team
- Belonging to a network of like-minded outdoor learning professionals and supporters

We are grateful to our current members, including the following organizations:



To become a member or get in touch with us for any reason, email info@eenm.org or visit our website at www.eenm.org.

Congratulations to our 2025 Fellows!

Over the past year, each of these fellows have spent over 50 hours growing their skills and knowledge in outdoor learning. Their work culminated in independent capstone projects serving youth across the state. We are proud of the work they have done, and we can't wait to see what they do next!



Amara Szrom

Northern New Mexico Program Coordinator at the National Forest Foundation

Based in Taos, NM



Anna Martin

NM Grown Program Manager at the NM Farmers' Marketing Association

Based in Corrales, NM



Dr. Anuoluwapo Ogunleye

Assistant Professor of Agriculture at Eastern NM University

Based in Portales, NM



Blanca Stacey Villalobos

Artist, Cultural Worker, Founder of Song Dog Relations LLC

Based in Albuquerque, NM



Leanna Dawn McClure

Founder and CEO of Kiksuyapi Consulting

Based in Isleta, NM



Mary Stone

Education Director at the Upper Gila Watershed Alliance

Based in Silver City, NM



Meghan Baker

Senior Education Coordinator at the Randall Davey Audubon Center

Based in Santa Fe, NM



Nikoma Henkels

Community Outreach Coordinator at the Bernalillo Community Museum

Based in Albuquerque, NM