



Session #1: "City-level Careers"

Wednesday, March 3, 5:30-7:30 pm

WENDY
LAO



Associate Planner for the City of San Mateo

Wendy Lao is currently a city planner in the Bay Area. Her work excites her because she has the opportunity to work with tree and landscape plans, architecture and urban design, affordable housing, transportation and bicycle planning, policies and more – all of which have an opportunity to impact the environment and the community.

Wendy graduated with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning with a specialization in City in Regional Planning from UC Davis, and worked a few years in the environmental education field before obtaining her master's degree in Urban Planning from San Jose State University. After interning at the Sierra Club and the City of San Jose, she began working as an Assistant Planner at the City of Pacific Grove in Monterey County. Wendy is currently an Associate Planner for the City of San Mateo.

LISA
GAUTHIER



East Palo Alto Councilmember, Environmental Advocate

Lisa Gauthier was elected to the East Palo Alto City Council in 2012 and is currently serving as Councilmember. She previously held the positions of Vice Mayor in 2014 and 2018 and Mayor in 2015 and 2019. Lisa recently worked as the Government Affairs Manager at Study.com, an online education company in Mountain View, where she supported the company's community impact programs – including Working Scholars, a community-funded free college initiative.

Lisa is an active board member with Live in Peace, CCAG, San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services, Stanford Medicine Community Council, San Mateo County Flood and SLR Resiliency Agency and San Francisco JPA. She is a graduate of Emerge, a leadership program for democratic women and a Regional Area Director for BWOPA (Black Women Organized for Political Action). She was awarded the Athena Award from the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce in 2018 and was recently chosen as one of Silicon Valley's 100 Women of Influence for 2020 by Silicon Valley Business Journal. In 2019, she earned her bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus in general management from Thomas Edison University in New Jersey.



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CATHY CORREIA



Environmental Compliance Officer for the South Bay Regional Wastewater Facility

Cathy Diana Correia was born and raised in the countryside of Morgan Hill, California. She attained a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Master's in Environmental Urban Planning at San José State University. She spent her early career working as a geologist in the environmental consulting industry. Her work focused on the assessment, investigation and cleanup of contaminated soil and groundwater that had been impaired by the oil industry and other industrial operations. During this time, she was primarily in the field managing exploratory drilling investigations or writing technical reports for regulatory agencies.

Over the last decade she has worked for the Environmental Services Department at the City of San José. Currently, she serves as the Environmental Compliance Officer for the south bay Regional Wastewater Facility providing technical expertise on the environmental due diligence, compliance, and risk management of plant lands. The work she does is for the protection and preservation of human health and the environment.

ADRIANA FERNANDEZ ARRIAGA



Housing and Environmental Justice Specialist

Adriana Fernandez Arriaga is uplifting and amplifying the voices of Nuestra Casa's Spanish speaking and immigrant community. "Climate change and the housing crisis hit my community hard, yet we are left out of the brainstorming and decision making meetings." Not one to shy away from a challenge, Adriana is shifting that paradigm through authentic community engagement. She organizes and empowers the community residents of East Palo Alto, eastern Menlo Park, North Fair Oaks and Redwood City to take ownership of their advocacy abilities and ensure the inclusion of low income and immigrant communities in key discussions and policies.

Adriana serves on the Executive Board of the San Mateo County Parks Foundation where she ensures underrepresented, low-income communities have access to and feel safe in parks so that everyone can enjoy and care for the parks. She was chosen to be part of the Green Foothill's Community Advocates Leadership Academy where she is working to amplify the non-traditional sustainability practices of the Latino and immigrant communities of San Mateo County and is an alumni of the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley Latino Board Leadership Academy.



Session #2: "Hands-on Careers"

Wednesday, March 10, 5:30-7:30 pm

ANA MUNOZ



Urban Wood Rescue Specialist for the Sacramento Tree Foundation

Ana Munoz works as an Urban Wood Rescue Specialist at a lumberyard with the Sacramento Tree Foundation. Urban Wood Rescue was established to divert trees from landfills and prepare them for sale to be used in furniture and construction. Ana's day-to-day duties include program administration, outreach, and yard inventory work. She graduated from Sacramento State University with a Bachelor of Science in environmental studies as well as a minor in biology. During her time in school, Ana was an intern for Breathe California Sacramento Region, where she taught middle and high school students about the importance of clean air in the Sacramento region.

She first developed a love for woodworking in her high school's woodshop program and is excited to continue to be connected to the art through her work at Urban Wood Rescue. Her interests outside of work include volunteering in bird rehabilitation at the Wildlife Care Association, and spending time with her hairless guinea pig, Hippo.

ISABELLE MINN



Principal Landscape Architect at PlaceWorks

Isabelle has over nineteen years of experience in community-based design and planning. Her work has focused on landscape architecture and urban design, with an emphasis on the protection of open space and natural resources, as well as on improving and greening urban areas. She has managed a wide range of projects from large, open space master plans to urban forestry plans and site planning and design projects. She strives to create a balance between protecting resources and increasing public access. Isabelle has developed multidisciplinary studies addressing physical, biological, cultural, and policy issues that affect watersheds. She has also managed many trail planning and design projects, from large-scale trail master plans to construction documents, and she is an expert on the development of urban greening projects.

Isabelle has a Master of Science in Resource Ecology and Management and a Master of Landscape Architecture, both from the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. She also has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Resource Science from the University of California, Davis.



Session #2: "Hands-on Careers"

Wednesday, March 10, 5:30-7:30 pm

JASON SHIRAR



Arborist for S.P. McClenahan Arboriculturists

Jason Shirar has been working in the tree care industry for eight years and is currently employed in the bay area by S.P. McClenahan Arboriculturists. He spent three years, during and after college, working on tree crews to become familiar with not only the science, but also the physical side of arboriculture.

His credentials include a Bachelors Degree in Urban Forest Management, ISA Certified Arborist, ISA Certified Municipal Specialist, QAL License holder (for pesticide usage), TCIA member, and a 2015 graduate of the Davey Institute of Tree Science. He also volunteers with Canopy, and has taught short courses for the UC Master gardener program, and the OLLI program, based out of Santa Clara University.



Session #3: "Education Careers"

Wednesday, March 17, 5:30-7:30 pm

DR. JORGE RAMOS

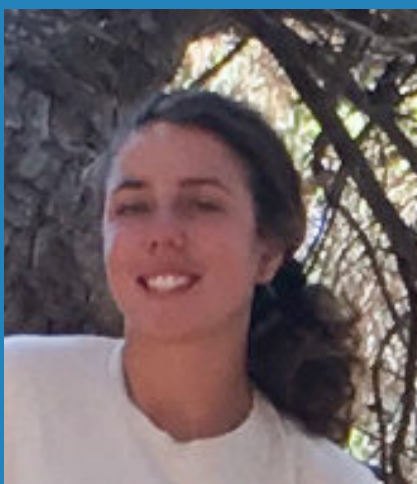


Director for Environmental Education at Stanford's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve

Dr. Jorge Ramos oversees the education program at Jasper Ridge that can amount to more than 8,000 educational and outreach visits a year by people from very diverse ages, interests, careers and backgrounds. Jorge earned a Bachelor of Science degree at The University of Texas at El Paso, a Master of Science degree at University of Washington in Forest Resources, and a PhD at Arizona State University.

Always including multiple international and diverse stakeholders in his research, Jorge discovered his enthusiasm for environmental science and communication and hands-on experiential teaching. Since then, in positions at University of Washington, Arizona State University, and Conservation International, he honed his skills in developing curricula, teaching at levels from K-12 to university to NGOs and governments, coordinating multimedia, and communicating environmental issues to everyone from children to policy makers at the highest levels. Fluent in Spanish as well as English, Jorge has founded and led national and international initiatives to promote the inclusion and retention of a diverse population in science.

GABRIELLE TRUDEAU



Founder of Ulistac Natural Area Restoration and Education Project (UNAREP)

As a high school student in Santa Clara, Gabby volunteered at Ulistac Natural Area, which was then an abandoned golf course. This awoke a passion and curiosity in her for the California landscape that motivated her to pursue a degree from San Jose State University in Environmental Studies with a focus on Restoration and Resource Conservation. During her time at university, she continued her volunteer work with Ulistac, eventually partnering with several of her teachers to form the nonprofit Ulistac Natural Area Restoration and Education Project.

UNAREP is unique in that its restoration work focuses on education rather than what was there historically. In addition to her role with UNAREP, Gabby has also served as a cultural liaison and translator in Cochabamba, Bolivia for students from the International Honors Program (IHP), and is currently a certified arborist and Community Forestry Coordinator at the local urban forestry nonprofit Canopy.



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DAVID J. X. GONZÁLEZ



Environmental Health Sciences Researcher & Doctoral Candidate at Stanford University

David Gonzalez is a doctoral candidate in the Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources at Stanford University. He studies environmental health sciences with a focus on reproductive health, health disparities, and exposures to extractive industries. In his research he applies interdisciplinary methods from epidemiology, econometrics, and environmental science, and conducts field work and population-level studies in California and Peru. He teaches geospatial methods, environmental science, environmental justice, and academic skills for undergraduates. He also serves in several capacities to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the sciences.

Among other activities, he facilitates the Frosh Scholars Program at Stanford's El Centro Chicano y Latino and serves on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of the Society for Epidemiologic Research. David received a MS in epidemiology from the Stanford School of Medicine, a MEd in environmental science from the Yale School of the Environment, and a BS in ecology and evolutionary biology from the University of California at Davis.