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## ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION WINS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD

Local organization recognized by the North American Association for Environmental Education

Goodyear, AZ, 1BNovember 1, 2018– Arizona Association for Environmental Education (AAEE), Arizona's professional association for the state's environmental educators, was recently recognized by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) for leadership in the environmental education (EE) field. AAEE was honored with the Outstanding NAAEE Affiliate Organization Award for their progress and development over the past year.

In 2018, AAEE has made significant contributions to the field of EE through regional collaborations, a reflective self-assessment to inform a new strategic plan, expanding EE certification across Arizona, and the launch of a new active and energetic website that provides opportunities for users to engage with AAEE and the field as a whole. AAEE has reached the top 1% of nonprofit organizations on GuideStar by achieving the 2018 Silver Seal of Transparency and is restructuring its membership model to raise awareness and elevate the professional status of EE. AAEE has also worked hand in hand with NAAEE to support broad initiatives for the field including the Global Environmental Education Partnership (GEEP), the Natural Start Alliance, and the Affiliate Network. AAEE has made significant contributions to the field of EE through these exhaustive efforts and is continuously pursuing more strategies for catalyzing early childhood environmental education, a diverse and inclusive movement, civic engagement, and the professionalization of the field.

"AAEE's determined efforts and accomplishments in leadership and service to environmental education reflect the best in our field," said Judy Braus, NAAEE's Executive Director. "Our award winners truly exemplify innovative, inspirational, and resilient leadership that will help us shape a more sustainable and equitable society."

This year, NAAEE presented 13 awards to outstanding individual and organizational leaders across North America and worldwide. For a full list of 2018 winners, visit www.naaee.org/our-work/programs/awards.

## About the North American Association for Environmental Education

For four decades, the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) has been dedicated to advancing environmental literacy and civic engagement through the power of education. NAAEE supports a network of more than 20,000 educators and 56 regional affiliate organizations working in environmental education in more than 30 countries. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.naaee.org">www.naaee.org</a>.

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