

Ilya Shmulenson

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Ilya is a network weaver who draws people and organizations out of their silos to work collaboratively and build connections. His interest in environmental education grew out of his work in primate conservation and behavior. Prior to his current role as the Director of Programs at Keep Austin Beautiful, he was the Operations Director and Year-Round Programs Coordinator at Eden Village Camp, a farm-to-table, back-to-the-land sleep-away camp in New York's Hudson Valley.

He is a current member and former co-chair of the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee to the Superintendent of the Austin Independent School District and a mentor and trainer for the Children & Nature Network's Natural Leaders Network. Ilya currently serves on the Michael & Susan Dell Community Collaborative for Child Health at the University of Texas' School of Public Health, the nonprofit steering committee for the Cities Connecting Children to Nature initiative with the City of Austin and the National League of Cities, the steering committee for the construction, program development and long term sustainability vision for a new environmental education center being developed just south of Austin, TX by the YMCA with the help of the National Park Service called Camp Cypress, and the steering committee for Austin's Let's Move! Outside initiative which grew out of a national Let's Move campaign initiated by First Lady Michelle Obama focused on making people healthier through physical activity.

Ilya earned a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Washington, a Bachelors of Art in Anthropology from Hunter College – City University of New York, and a Certificate in Education for Environment and Community from IslandWood.

Education

2009-2011	Master of Education (M.Ed.) - Curriculum and Instruction- focus on environmental education University of Washington	Seattle, WA
2009-2010	Certificate in Education, Environment, and Community IslandWood Graduate Residency Program	Bainbridge Island, WA
2004- 2007	Bachelor of Arts- Anthropology Hunter College- City University of New York	New York, NY

Professional Experience

Oct. 2015- Present	Director of Programs <i>Keep Austin Beautiful- Austin, TX</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoted from Education Programs Manager• Cultivate strategic partnerships with city officials and agencies, private businesses, community groups and schools• Integrate organization's youth education programs with volunteer engagement programming which reach over 11,000 youth and 26,000 volunteers annually• Manage \$400,000 programs budget to ensure efficient use of finances for program delivery
July 2013- Oct. 2015	Education Programs Manager <i>Keep Austin Beautiful- Austin, TX</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed and evaluated education programs reaching 11,000 students at over 100 sites• Served as member of leadership team to develop and promote strategic plan, secure financial support for initiatives, and make organizational decisions.• Supervised, trained, and supported professional development of education staff• Managed \$200,000 education budget to ensure efficient use of resources in program delivery• Generated monthly, quarterly and annual evaluative reports to ensure program efficacy

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- April 2015-
Present **Trainer Children & Nature Network's Natural Leaders Network Legacy Camp**
Children & Nature Network
- Designed and delivered curriculum on leadership and communication styles, personal narrative, career decisions, and fundraising for 2015 Legacy Camp
 - Support "home team" of 7 young professionals working in the home communities to engage citizens to experience the outdoors
 - Work collaborative with other trainers and staff for C&NN
- Sept. 2013-
May 2015 **Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee Co-Chair**
Austin Independent School District and Keep Austin Beautiful- Austin, TX
- Developed strategic vision on committee function and structure
 - Led committee of teachers, parents, business leaders, and city employees to assist the district in being a recognized example of environmental education, stewardship, and sustainability
 - Advanced plans ranging from greening facilities to environmental curriculum implementation
- August 2013 **Children & Nature Network's Natural Leaders Network Legacy Camp Participant**
Bainbridge Island, WA
- Chosen as one of 55 participants from a North American search to learn skills to mobilize and inspire future outdoor enthusiasts
 - Participated in training focusing on identifying leadership styles, developing communication skills, and exploring community organizing
 - Applied gained skills in Austin, TX by organizing Get Outside events
- April 2011-
January 2013 **Operations Director and Year Round Program Coordinator**
Eden Village Camp and Jewish Farm School, Putnam Valley, NY
- Developed long-term business and educational models
 - Assisted with planning, developing, and implementing curricula for programs
 - Coordinated programs and retreats via effective communication with clients and on-site staff
 - Supervised facilities management on 248 acre site, including cabins, lake, pool, dining hall
- August 2009-
August 2010 **Environmental Educator**
IslandWood- Bainbridge Island, WA
- Taught experiential, hands-on environmental stewardship curricula to 4th-6th graders
 - Developed environmental curricula integrating science, technology and the arts
 - Program Developer and Site Educator for *Stewardship Stories*, a program for inner-city high school students to produce digital media stories expressing their environmental and community stewardship- in partnership with Seattle Parks & Recreation (3/2010-3/2011)
- January 2008-
July 2009 **Chief of Staff**
Hazon, New York, NY
- Managed relationships between Executive Director, staff, Board of Directors stakeholders
 - Identified funding opportunities and assisted with grant submissions and reports
 - Created and maintained key promotional tools and press packets

Select Professional Volunteer Experience and Speaking Engagements and Awards

- Oct 2016 **Presenter at 2016 North American Association of Environmental Education Annual Conference**
- Presented on instilling community sense of place through service learning

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- Sept. 2016 **Presenter at the Waste360 Recycling Summit**
- Presented on panel focusing on current issues facing the recycling industry
- Oct. 2015 **Presenter at 2015 North American Association of Environmental Education Annual Conference**
- Presented sessions on developing effective programming to promote zero-waste strategies
- April 2015 **Children & Nature Network and Westcave Preserve Planning Committee**
- Served on leadership committee planning for “Technology and Environmental Education” portion of 2015 national Children & Nature Network’s conference in Austin, TX
- Oct. 2014 **Presenter at 2014 North American Association of Environmental Education Annual Conference**
- Presented sessions on integrating technology into environmental education
- 2013-2015 **Co-author on Urban Environmental Education e-book with the Cornell University Civic Ecology Lab’s Urban Environmental Education Project-Based Learning Community**
- Co-authored e-book chapters on integrating mobile technology into environmental education and the importance of outdoor service-learning to inspire environmental stewardship

Publications and News

Shmulenson, I., et al. “Mobile Technology in Urban Environmental Education”. Urban Environmental Education, pgs. 65-69 < <https://naaee.org/sites/default/files/uee-2015.pdf>>

Roche, B., Brown, J., Shmulenson, I. “Promoting Environmental Action Competence through Urban Environmental Stewardship”. Urban Environmental Education, pgs.104-108. <https://naaee.org/sites/default/files/uee-2015.pdf>

AISD Sets Best Practices for District Wide Recycling - <http://keepaustinbeautiful.org/blog/aisd-sets-best-practicesdistrict-wide-recycling>

Do the Right Thing & Recycle - <http://keepaustinbeautiful.org/blog/small-middle-school-leading-way-zero-wastedistrict-8>

Green Teens a Camping Trip Beyond Compare - <http://keepaustinbeautiful.org/blog/green-teens-camping-trip-beyondcompare-march-18-2014>

Fox 7: AISD and Keep Austin Beautiful team up to find school that recycles the most - <http://www.fox7austin.com/good-day/21978021-story>

Fox 7: Keep Austin Beautiful/ACL Cares - <http://www.fox7austin.com/good-day/31936606-story>

Shmulenson, I., Hearn, G.W., Morra, W.A., Butynski, T.B. Hunting pressure and declining monkey populations on Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, Annual Meeting Issue 2008, Supplement 46, p 193.