

Informally Speaking

Newsletter

Issue 29 Fall 2018



Message From the President

Happy Fall ISEA Members! I hope you had a memorable summer, and that you found a few moments to enjoy your own rest and relaxation, as well as learning!

Choosing a site for the annual ISEA conference is never an easy task. The Board considers location, facilities, cost, and nearby support organizations, just to name a few things on the check list. Additionally, when selecting a site, we seek to select a site committed to the importance of informal science education.

I'm excited to share that the ISEA Board has begun the "heavy lifting" planning phase for our upcoming annual conference. The theme for 2019 is "Resiliency, Rebuilding and Risk-Taking-working together to reinvent and advance informal science learning in Texas." This year we will be visiting the Coastal Bend, where we will gather at [Camp Aranzazu in Rockport, Texas.](#)

Camp Aranzazu is a perfect location on the edge of Copano Bay and offers a wide variety of venues to explore and observe local wildlife. The staff of Camp Aranzazu have spent the last year rebuilding from Hurricane Harvey. Camp Aranzazu also offers newly renovated bunk houses, classrooms/meeting rooms, dining hall, and outdoor gathering spots (think fire pits and screened gazebos!).

Camp Aranzazu is a special place that offers guest the opportunity to have fun through carefully designed programs that foster positive emotional and physical resilience. The mission is to enrich the lives of children and adults with chronic illnesses and special needs.

In the coming weeks, you will find an updated conference page on the ISEA website. Look for more information about the conference in spring 2019 and make sure to strongly consider answering the call for conference proposals later this month.

ISEA in Texas

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ISEA Conference 2019

Rigor's Picks

ISEA Board!

Contact Info Request

What is Hot!



[Facebook Friend Rigor TODAY!](#)

See you at the 2019 annual conference!

And you know fall is here when [CAST](#) is just around the corner. We hope to see many of you attending and presenting this year in Fort Worth. Be sure to catch the ISEA strand sessions, and don't forget to stop by our exhibit booth! More information about CAST is shared later in this newsletter.

Last, but most definitely not least, I am honored to welcome two new members to the ISEA Board-James Morgan and Dr. Brooke Miller. You can learn more about each of these professional educators in this addition of Informally Speaking.

Cheers!
Kristin Evans
ISEA President

LEARN MORE

2018 CAST in Fort Worth

Join us and thousands of science educators from all over Texas, as we convene in Fort Worth for an annual tradition. This year, the Science Teachers Association of Texas is Exploring New Frontiers at 2018 CAST. According to STAT, over 6,000 educators come together to learn about current innovations in science education. The ISEA booth can be found with our fellow Texas informal educators. Look for us.

Also, check out the CAST program for the ISEA affiliate workshops and presentations. Support your fellow ISEA member!



Emily Weerts and Daniel Burch, ISEA Board Members

You are invited to present an interactive learning session on our ISEA sponsored presentation stage located in the "Beyond the Classroom" exhibit area. Presentations should be 20-30 minutes in length, support the CAST theme, be engaging or interactive (hands-on/minds-on), and advance or promote informal science learning. Complete the proposal form to submit your presentation to ISEA for review. Space is limited, and not all submissions will be accepted. Sign up <https://goo.gl/forms/q9Qw5vMvGnoYQMqo2>

Mark your calendars....





ISEA
Informal Science Education Association of Texas

**22nd annual
ISEA Conference**

**February 20th-22nd
2019**

**Join us in the Texas
Costal Bend region
at Camp Aranzazu**

**Resiliency,
Rebuilding,
& Risk-Taking:**

**working together to
reinvent & advance
informal science
education in Texas**

**See you in
Rockport!**

Keynote Speakers.

It is with great pleasure and excitement that we announce our keynote speakers for the annual conference—Dr. Carolyn Finney and Betty Siegel.



Carolyn Finney— Writer, performer and cultural geographer. As a professor at the University of Kentucky, she was deeply interested in issues related to identity, difference, creativity, and resilience.

The aim of her current work is to develop greater cultural competency within environmental organizations and institutions, challenge media outlets on their representation of difference, and increase awareness of how privilege shapes who gets to speak to environmental issues and determine policy and action



Betty Siegel— Director of VSA and Accessibility at the accessible arts across AmJohn F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, is a driving force in erica. She is a respected expert and speaker on topics related to disability rights, compliance with disability laws and regulations, the arts and disability, and to accessibility to cultural programs and venues for individuals of all ages with disabilities.

We are working with each speaker to facilitate an additional session during the conference, extending the opportunity for our members to engage with these amazing women. Carolyn Finney may lead a "book discussion" on her recent book "Black Faces, White Spaces."

Betty Siegel may lead a panel discussion on accommodation and accessibility. More to come as we plan session logistics.

Live Auction-- Get ready to bid!

The conference auctions are not only a fun way to pick up a few necessary souvenirs or gifts for yourself, it is a way to support ISEA members. Funds raised during the auction are used to sponsor future conference attendees through scholarships. Be sure to plan ahead and pool your funds with colleagues to out bid the competition!

Taking Rigor Home!

Check out our mascot on Facebook. Rigor is going home with someone after the 2019 Annual ISEA Conference...maybe it will be you! Remember Rigor comes with a carrying case and then returns to the 2020 Annual ISEA Conference. Help Rigor make memories and tracks across ISEA and Texas!

Fossil Rim Wildlife Center.

A fabulous addition to the live auction that you will want to be prepared to bid for this coming conference. A donated night in the Safari Camp for two. This would be in a personal cabin with two twin cots, air conditioning and heat, and a private bathroom. Breakfast is provided in our glass-walled pavilion for a great view to watch several species of antelope come up for a morning drink (especially now that we're getting rain!!!). A morning safari tour will follow breakfast, transporting two guests in an open-air safari vehicle with a guide to show them around Fossil Rim

Dates and Deadlines:

Proposal for Presentation: Open October 12, 2018 and close November 16, 2018

Scholarship Application

Conference Registration: Opens November 1, 2018

Rigor's Picks

Recommendations to support you

Texas Children in Nature Summit

Are you looking for more opportunities to add to your professional development in addition to ISEA? A chance to connect with more informal in the state? Look no further, the TCIN Summit will be December 6-7 in Corpus Christi.



What does Rigor Like?

Rigor likes podcasts, and so should you!

This month Rigor is recommending the AirSpace podcast. This bi-weekly 30-minute long podcast comes from our colleagues at the Smithsonian Air and Space museum. It's hosts explore trending topics in space exploration interview experts on various topics. Recent episodes look into how deep sea exploration has evolved and how it informs space travel, women pilots who made air-travel what it is today - Amelia Earhart's lesser known cohort, and robots. Give it a listen today!

Here's a fun podcast that looks at current topics and provides a good though process. Let's know things - <https://letsknowthings.com/>

Cornell University online

Tap into the great resources that include professional development! Cornell University's Civic Ecology Lab is offering three on-line courses for Fall 2018. Fees are moderate and participants are world-wide.

This year's offerings include Climate Change Science, Communication and Action; Civic Ecology; and Introduction to Environmental Education.

For more information check out:
<https://civicecology.org/Course-CE>

Hey Astronomers!

Do you enjoy exploring the night sky? This website is great for amateur and professional astronomers alike to explore the night sky any time of the year. It highlights significant astronomical features/goodies every night.

<http://earthsky.org/tonight>

ISEA Board Members

We are working for you!

The board is a group of volunteers who are educators committed to science education in Texas. Visit the ISEA website and learn more about us and what we do as a group to help keep you informed about the latest information related to science education.



Do you have something to share? If you have an event, a professional development, or simply found a link to something fantastic that all of our Texas educators will benefit from, email us ISEA@gmail.com, go to our facebook link, or join us on Twitter. We want to hear from you!

New Board Members

The ISEA Board welcomed two new members to the fold at the August Board Retreat in Austin.



Dr. Brooke Miller is the Evaluation Specialist with 4-H Capital Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.

James Morgan is the Assistant Director of Education with Fossil Rim Wildlife Center. Each has joined a few board committees and will play active roles in the planning of the 2019 annual conference.



Welcome!

Informal Science Organizations

Contact Information Request

Thank you for taking a few moments to fill out our information sheet about our membership. The board is to collect contact information to add to our informational document we shared at CAST 2017. Please take a few moments and let us know a little bit more about who you work for.

[Click here to share information.](#)

Forward this email

ISEA Texas

