

Friday General Session Keynote Speaker

Mariah Reading

Mariah Reading is an eco-artist and strong advocate for the existence, preservation, and accessibility of the National Parks. She was born and raised in Bangor, Maine where the surrounding landscape gave her a deep appreciation of nature's beauty that was reinforced by her degree in Visual Arts at Bowdoin College. The 2016 National Park Centennial propelled her Recycled Landscapes, designed to bring attention to the need of preserving and protecting the environment. Having already visited 22 National Parks, she plans to continue her project in all 59 US National Parks. Mariah has dedicated herself to the field of eco-art through her Artist in Residence at Denali and Zion National Parks, working as an Arts In the Parks Volunteer at the Guadalupe Mountains National Park, assisting in Yosemite Facelift efforts, developing a K-12 STREAM curriculum with University of California Santa Barbara Oceanography students, creating conservation workshops with the Channel Islands National Park, and partnering with Mount Rainier for volunteer projects.



“I have been contemplating my relationship with art and the vast amount of waste creating can produce. Classically trained as a landscape painter, I pivoted to eco art when the parallel between painting landscapes and feeding landfills became overwhelmingly apparent. The landscapes that so richly inspired me were being hurt by the waste I created in order to depict them. To rectify this unwanted connection, I have developed a zero-waste practice that involves creating canvases from debris found during my travels through National Parks and protected landscape environments.”

Inside the Studio with Mariah Reading



Join eco-artist Mariah Reading in creating recycled landscapes out of eco-canvases that would otherwise feed landfills. This hands-on workshop spotlights the dramatic work of Reading and is absolutely adaptable to your classroom as you develop curriculum STE(A)M applicable and community minded. By the end of the workshop, the educator will have a foundation of ways various materials can be upcycled to create sustainable paintings.

Bring a usable piece of trash such as plastic water bottle, old license plate, crumpled posters/flyers, dog-chewed shoe, ripped binder, single-use lunch containers, etc. Also bring your favorite brushes and travel photos or other resource images to work from. Additional supplies will be provided.

Come prepared to create!

Friday, Nov 15 from 4:30pm - 6:00pm.

TICKETED EVENT