

## **YLACES Newsletter**

An update on Youth Learning As Citizen Environmental Scientists

February 2022

### **President's Letter**

As we enter the beginning of yet a third year facing COVID-19, we at YLACES reflect on the continuing loss of life and health challenges facing communities, the burdens borne by healthcare providers, and the limitations of educators seeking to engage and inspire young people in safe, educational settings. We hope 2022 brings improved health, lessened fear, and a more normal life.

One thing we've all experienced through the COVID-19 crisis is the hunkering down within our small groups. This approach has worked well within the YLACES and GLOBE communities to scale student research symposia (SRS) to one-day local convenings (see details here). We hope to see additional local SRSes in 2022.

At the start of 2021, YLACES made 24 grants to US schools and other organizations to help environmental education and student research continue even with the constraints imposed by the pandemic. Only two more US proposals were funded in the second round of proposals, and both grants included clear support for student research.

Internationally, instruments were provided for GLOBE measurements in seven countries – six through the GLOBE Plus Post program in partnership with the US Department of State and the purchase of Davis weather stations for two GLOBE schools in Croatia.

Our winter grant cycle is underway, with an extended due date of February 28 to accommodate attendees at the <u>Maryland Association for Environmental</u> <u>and Outdoor Education</u> (MAEOE) virtual conference (February 4-5). I will be presenting about YLACES and Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE) along with esteemed colleagues at both MAEOE and the upcoming Virginia Association for Environmental Education (VAEE) conference.

Updated grant guidelines are available <u>here</u>. We hope to see many applications for local SRSes and school or informal education center-based student research initiatives. I look forward to reporting out on the upcoming grant cycle in a future newsletter.

Start planning now, and we will see you at MAEOE, VAEE, SRS, or at another event in 2022.

We hope that 2022 brings us closer together as we get back to a sense of normalcy,

Dixon M. Butter

### **Grant Corner**

# School of Natural Sciences and Graphics Rijeka and the High School of Petrinja, Croatia

YLACES recently provided automatic weather stations to two schools in Croatia under the leadership of teacher Marina Pavlić. The schools, School of Natural Sciences and Graphics Rijeka and the High School of Petrinja, Croatia, are installing the weather stations and will soon be reporting weather data on an ongoing basis. An article about the project is available on the school websites here and here.

We look forward to seeing new data from these schools very soon!







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#### Youth Learning As Citizen Environmental Scientists

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