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Vibrant Landscapes of the Valley of Fire

GrantStation

Educational Alliance of Washoe County

U.S. Forest Service orders Arrowhead bottled water to stop taking water from SB Mountains

Celebrate amazing teachers who make life better with contributions big and small

Planting Justice cultivates urban agriculture, helps former inmates turn over a new leaf

Climate change is affecting museums, their communities, and all of humanity



Explore the vibrant landscapes of Valley of Fire State Park, Nevada . The winding roads through these stunning, multicolored rock formations make for an unforgettable adventure.

Interior Department Announces Nearly \$7 Million for Indian Youth Service Corps Projects, Supported by President's Investing in America Agenda

Projects will develop Tribal capacity in conservation, natural resource management, climate resilience

WASHINGTON—The Department of the Interior today announced nearly \$7 million through the [Indian Youth Services Corps](#) (IYSC) for Indigenous-led conservation projects across the nation. The IYSC, launched by Secretary Deb Haaland in 2022, is a partnership-based program helping provide meaningful education, good-paying jobs, and training opportunities to Indigenous youth through conservation projects on public and Tribal lands, and Hawaiian homelands. This latest round of projects will further advance the [American Climate Corps](#), the Biden-Harris administration's effort to empower a new, diverse generation of Americans to tackle the climate crisis and become part of a growing clean energy and climate-resilience workforce.

"Since time immemorial, Indigenous people have stewarded our nation's lands and waters" said **Secretary Haaland**. "Through the Indian Youth Service Corps, the Interior Department is preparing and supporting the next generation of stewards who will make lasting impacts for people, the environment, wildlife and Tribal communities across the nation. When we invest in Indian Country, we invest in America. I am thrilled that President Biden's Investing in America agenda invests so significantly in Indigenous communities."

Today's projects are part of an overall \$15 million committed from [President Biden's Investing in America agenda](#) to strengthen the IYSC and other corps programs for underserved communities. This investment is expected to grow IYSC partnerships by 30 percent to reach over 5,000 young people, as part of the American Climate Corps. Last year, the Department joined other federal agencies – including the Departments of Commerce, Agriculture, Labor and Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and AmeriCorps – in formally entering into a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) that established the American Climate Corps Executive Committee to provide leadership and consultation for these efforts.

"In communities across the country, President Biden's American Climate Corps is ensuring that the next generation of Americans is empowered to take on our most urgent climate challenges," said **White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi**. "From sea level rise to prolonged drought conditions, Indigenous communities are facing some of the most intense impacts of the climate crisis – and the investments we are making today will ensure Indigenous youth play a role in developing innovative climate solutions for their communities, while also putting them on a path to good-paying careers."

The projects announced today are funded through grants and financial assistance awards made to Tribal Nations, Tribally-affiliated non-profit organizations and other qualified non-profit youth serving organizations working in collaboration with Tribal Nations. The awards support top Departmental natural and cultural resources mission priorities by developing Tribal capacity in conservation, natural resource management, and climate resilience. They also provide Tribes and qualified non-profit youth serving organizations with financial resources that enable them to invest in, train and recruit a new generation of skilled Indigenous workers.

The IYSC is implemented by the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture and Commerce and follows guidelines that were established in consultation with Indian Tribes, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and other stakeholders.

The IYSC projects announced today will be facilitated through the Department's BIA, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with funding from the Inflation Reduction Act and annual appropriations. A full list of project awards is available on the [Department's website](#).

Last year, the Department [announced](#) \$3.5 million in IYSC grants for eight projects involving more than 20 Tribes and Tribal organizations. In June, [Secretary Haaland met with members](#) of the Barrio Youth Conservation Corps and the Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps at La Plazita Institute in Albuquerque, where \$250,000 from last year's awards are supporting restorative justice programming and technical training in environmental conservation and natural resource management.

President Biden's American Climate Corps is a groundbreaking initiative modeled after Franklin D. Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation. Following the inaugural cohort's swearing-in this year, the ACC Hub estimates more than 9,000 American Climate Corps members – nearly halfway to the goal of 20,000 members in year one – are already serving across the country, going to work conserving and restoring our lands and waters, bolstering community resilience, deploying clean energy, implementing energy efficient technologies, advancing environmental justice and more.

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJEER) has published an updated version of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Community Change Grants Program (CCGP). This new version, known as Modification No. 3, replaces the previous versions of the NOFO. Modification No. 3 makes two major changes to the NOFO.

The first change is to the EPA map used to identify disadvantaged communities, so that it now reflects the most recent data in OEJEER's [update of EJScreen](#). For CCGP applicants' convenience, EPA has created a map called [EPA Disadvantaged Community Environmental and Climate Justice Program](#), that merges versions 1.0 and 2.0 of the EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities Map. New applicants should use this map to identify and describe disadvantaged communities per Appendix A of the NOFO. This new map also designates as disadvantaged any area of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands. This change does not affect any applications already submitted.

The second change is to remove the oral presentation component of the Track I Application process to reduce the burden to applicants and expedite the review and selection process to ensure funding benefits disadvantaged communities as quickly as possible.

The Community Change Grants Program is still accepting applications through **November 21, 2024**, and EPA encourages applicants to submit applications as soon as they completely meet the NOFO requirements. EPA will be making additional selections on a rolling basis for the remainder of 2024. EPA also encourages interested applicants to apply for technical assistance as soon as possible, as the last day to request new technical assistance is **August 16, 2024**.

To see Modification No. 3 and to learn more about the Community Change Grants and Technical Assistance, visit EPA's [Inflation Reduction Act Community Change Grants Program](#) webpage.

To learn more about environmental justice at EPA, visit EPA's [Environmental Justice](#) webpage. Read the July 25, 2024 Community Change Grants Initial Selections Announcement.

Indian and Native American Programs



The [Indian and Native American Programs community](#) offers training and resources for workforce professionals who support economic self-sufficiency through employment and job training programs for Native Americans, with a special focus on [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act \(WIOA\) Section 166 Grantees](#). Explore the advantages of [entrepreneurship courses at tribal colleges and universities](#), visit the community's [hub for Native American disability resources](#), or browse the community for topics that matter most to you.

Interior Department Announces Nearly \$47 Million Investment for Community-Led Local Park Projects

Funding will improve equitable access to the outdoors in economically underserved communities

WASHINGTON — The Department of the Interior today announced \$46.7 million in funding through the [Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership \(ORLP\) program](#) for the redevelopment or creation of 10 local parks in Tucson, Arizona; Porterville, California; Des Moines, Iowa; Kansas City, Missouri; New Brunswick, New Jersey, Garner and Raleigh, North Carolina; Cleveland, Ohio; and Houston, Texas.

Today's announcement brings the total nationwide investment of ORLP grant funding in 2024 to nearly \$127 million. The Department previously announced a \$21.9 investment in [March 2024](#) and \$58.3 million in [November 2023](#).

"The Biden-Harris administration is committed to ensuring that all Americans – regardless of their zip code or background – have access to nature and its benefits," said **Secretary Deb Haaland**. "Through the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership program, the Interior Department is investing millions of dollars for locally led projects that are creating new city parks and rehabilitating existing outdoor spaces, all driven by the needs and vision of local communities."

The announcement follows a [nationwide tour](#) by Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Shannon Estenoz to hear directly from community members on the need to connect communities with access to the outdoors, and to encourage state participation in the ORLP program.

The ORLP program, established in 2014 and funded through the [Land and Water Conservation Fund \(LWCF\)](#), enables urban communities to create new outdoor recreation spaces, reinvigorate existing parks, and form connections between people and the outdoors in economically underserved communities. The program helps advance the Biden-Harris administration's [America the Beautiful](#) initiative, a locally led, voluntary conservation and restoration effort that aims to address the nature and climate crises, improve equitable access to the outdoors, and strengthen the economy. Providing safe outdoor spaces for communities that are park-deprived is one of six areas of focus.

Since its inception in 1965, the LWCF State and Local Assistance Program has funded more than 46,000 projects in every county in the country. In 2020, Congress permanently funded the LWCF at \$900 million per year with wide bipartisan support through the Great American Outdoors Act, which was signed four years ago this week. The LWCF supports increased public access to and protection for federal public lands and waters — including national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and recreation areas — and provides matching grants to state governments for the acquisition and development of public parks and other outdoor recreation sites.



NEWS RELEASE

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Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Of Las Vegas Recycled Art Contest Open To Residents Ages 5 & Older *Entries Due By Oct. 13, 2024*

The city of Las Vegas invites residents ages 5 and older to submit entries in this year's Recycled Art Contest. In celebration of America Recycles Day, residents are encouraged to gather their creativity and used materials to make art from recycled objects. Prizes will be awarded for both youth and adult categories during a reception at Las Vegas City Hall Saturday, Nov. 16, from noon to 2 p.m. Up to 25 artwork entries will be displayed Nov. 1-30, 2024, in the second-floor lobby of City Hall, located at 495 S. Main St. Entries are due by Oct. 13, 2024. Fill out the entry form [online here](#).

A panel of four local artists will judge the contest, awarding prizes for:

- Best in Show
- Best Use of Material, and
- Best of Upcoming Artists (ages 5-9)

The People's Choice awards for winning artwork for youth (ages 10-17) and adult entries will be voted on by exhibit reception attendees Nov. 16.

Two digital photos of artwork are to be submitted with each entry form. Participants will be contacted to drop off their artwork at City Hall Oct. 21-24 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. by appointment for judging; maximum artwork weight is 50 pounds, but there are no dimensional limits. Artists will be required to sign an art loan agreement (for the duration of the month-long exhibit) and schedule a December date to pick up their artwork.

For more information in English, email vacosta@lasvegasnevada.gov or call 702.229.2179; for information in Spanish, email kavila@lasvegasnevada.gov or call 702.229.3422. For more city of Las Vegas events and opportunities, visit www.lasvegasnevada.gov/discover or call 702.229.ARTS (2787).

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Editor's Note: [Download photos of 2023 city of Las Vegas Recycled Art Contest entries here](#); no password is required.



Application Deadline: September 15th

Visit our website to apply, learn more, and receive application tips!

National Opportunities

Grants Improve Access to Dental Care for Children

The AAPD (American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry) Foundation is dedicated to making dental care accessible to all children.

Organizations Working to Defend Basic Freedoms Funded

The Herb Block Foundation is committed to defending the basic freedoms guaranteed to all Americans, combating all forms of discrimination and prejudice, and improving the conditions of the poor and underprivileged.

Support Available for Adult Literacy Programs

The Wish You Well Foundation supports adult and family literacy in the United States by fostering the development and expansion of new and existing adult literacy and educational programs.

Grants Aid Crime Victims and Their Families

The mission of the MrBallen Foundation is to honor victims and families of victims affected by heinous crimes.

Regional Opportunities

School-to-Career Efforts for Black Youth Supported in NBA Markets

The NBA Foundation seeks to drive economic opportunity in the Black community through employment and career development by funding programs that generate successful transitions from school to meaningful employment for Black youth.

Funds Advance Rural LGBTQ+ Organizations in the Upper Midwest

PFund Foundation builds community and provides resources for LGBTQ+ individuals across the upper Midwest.

Grants Benefit Youth and the Environment in Oregon and Hawaii

The Healy Foundation supports nonprofit organizations in Hawaii and Oregon in the areas of youth, environment, and community.

Support Strengthens Kansas Health Initiatives

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Foundation is committed to helping all Kansans lead healthier lives.

Federal Opportunities

Program Supports Workforce Development

The Good Jobs Challenge program supports regional workforce training systems in designing and implementing activities for established sectoral partnerships that place program participants in good jobs and advance industries in the federal key technology focus areas.

Great Lakes Restoration Efforts Funded

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative supports projects in the Great Lakes basin.

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The mission of the **Sea Otter Foundation and Trust** is to ensure the survival and recovery of sea otters in their habitats. Grants are made to support research, conservation, and education efforts across the United States. [Learn more](#) about the funding guidelines and application process.

**The Explorer Pipeline Partner Agency Program** supports nonprofit organizations in communities along the pipeline corridor in Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Program's areas of interest include health and human wellness, STEM and education, family and youth, and diversity and inclusion. [Learn more](#) about the funding guidelines and application process.

#### **Supporting Underserved Small Business Owners Through TD Ready Challenge**

*Eligible charitable and nonprofit organizations must submit applications by September 5.*

Applications are now open for TD Bank Group's annual TD Ready Challenge grant program. This year, the Bank invites charitable and nonprofit organizations in its North America footprint to submit proposals for innovative solutions for the creation or growth of small businesses in underserved communities through novel strategies, technologies, or partnerships, particularly in industries that are still recovering post-pandemic.

Ten grants are available in increments of USD \$1 million or CDN \$1 million, depending on the applicant's country of residence. TD will accept applications until 4 PM EDT on September 5, 2024. Access additional details about this year's Challenge and [apply today](#).

## [Getting Started With the Google Ad Grant](#)

*Tuesday, August 27, 2024*

Is your nonprofit taking advantage of \$10,000 per month of free advertising from Google? The Google Ad Grant is a great opportunity for nonprofits to dip their feet into the world of paid advertising without spending money out of pocket. During this webinar, Jessica King of Getting Attention will walk you through the basics of Google's Ad Grant program, including who is eligible and how to get the grant.

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Biden-Harris Administration Partners with Rural Utility to Bring Affordable Clean Energy to Rural Americans as Part of Investing in America Agenda

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8, 2024 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA is moving forward in the awards process with a new clean energy project through the [Powering Affordable Clean Energy](#) (PACE) program. Secretary Vilsack announced that SE Municipal Solar LLC in Nebraska has been selected to move forward to receive nearly \$30 million to build eight solar photovoltaic generation facilities totaling 18.72 megawatts. The facilities will produce enough electricity to power more than 1,700 residential homes throughout the State and will be located in Alliance, Gering, Sidney, Imperial, Ansley, Pender, Crete, and Stuart, Nebraska.

The funding for USDA's PACE program is from the Inflation Reduction Act, which is the largest investment in rural electrification since President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Rural Electrification Act into law in 1936. The Inflation Reduction Act partners with rural communities to deliver clean, affordable energy.

To learn more, read the full [NEWS RELEASE](#).



USDA Enhances Farm Loan Program to Help Producers Build Equity, Save for Long-term Needs and Invest in Operations

The USDA FSA Farm Loan Program reforms are particularly significant for American Indian and Alaska Native producers, who often face unique barriers in accessing financial resources. The FSA has demonstrated exceptional dedication to working with Tribal producers by making its programs and services more impactful across 68.5 million acres of Tribal land and has been instrumental in supporting the agricultural and economic development of Tribal communities. The Intertribal Agriculture Council commends FSA's commitment to understanding and addressing the specific needs of producers ensures that these programs will provide financial assistance and promote long-term sustainability and growth for Indian Country. To learn more, visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

Helpful Links

- [Loan Assistance Tool](#)
- [Online Loan Application](#)
- [Direct Loan Paper Application](#)
- [Online Loan Payments](#)
- [Contact FSA](#)

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**[Education Alliance of Washoe County](#)**

Join us for an unforgettable Evening of Pure Imagination and make a difference in the lives of Washoe County School District students!

Proceeds from this magical night will benefit WCSD students through a variety of engagement programs, including robotics, sports, arts, and more. These programs are designed to spark curiosity, inspire creativity, and make students excited about going to school every day.

**Saturday, September 21     6:00 - 9:00 PM     Eldorado Convention Center**

Don't miss out on supporting these impactful initiatives! Grab your tickets now through our website.

Want to play a key role in making this event a success? Consider becoming a sponsor! Please email [sarah.gobbshell@washoeschools.net](mailto:sarah.gobbshell@washoeschools.net) for more information.

**[ED-ALLIANCE.ORG](http://ED-ALLIANCE.ORG)**

**[An Evening of Pure Imagination - Education Alliance](#)**

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U.S. Forest Service orders Arrowhead bottled water to stop taking water from San Bernardino Mountains

“The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has ordered BlueTriton Brands, the company formerly known as Nestlé that bottles and sells bottled water brand Arrowhead Water, to stop drawing water from the San Bernardino Mountains in California. The decision by USFS supports a cease and desist made last year by the California Water Resources Control Board that stated the company did not have water rights for diverting and bottling water in the San Bernardino National Forest.

According to the decision fact sheet, the company was ordered to stop operations at 10 of its 13 diversion points and was required to submit monthly reports for the remaining water being taken and bottled. Now, USFS has denied BlueTriton's application for a new permit and is requiring the company to stop its bottling operations in the San Bernardino Mountains. The company has been ordered to remove its diversion infrastructure, including a pipeline, from the area, the Los

Angeles Times reported. BlueTriton Brands has sued to challenge the decision, according to a court document filed on August 6. ... ” [Read more from EcoWatch.](#)

Patch and T-Mobile are partnering to [celebrate amazing teachers](#) who make life better with contributions big and small. Do you know an outstanding educator you'd like the rest of Reno to know about, too? [Nominate them using our simple form](#), and we'll take care of the rest!

Planting Justice cultivates urban agriculture, helps former inmates turn over a new leaf

Extracts:

Lustig said America’s capitalist ethos is predicated on profit and squeezing laborers for the most an employer can get out of them. “Treating everyone with respect and giving them room to move forward and take part in society is something I see here every day that’s very moving. I wasn’t naive to this before, but being surrounded by people impacted by food deserts, incarceration, born into abject poverty and social injustices, when given opportunity to uplift themselves — the resilience is mind-blowing. It’s transforming their lives, the lives of their families. Digging your hands in the dirt is very human. When communities who were in touch with that for hundreds of years return to that genetic urge to grow, eat, and share food? There’s gratification, even in beginning that process. I hope our urban farm connected to social justice model can be an example for the world.”

“Ultimately, though, without tangible products you can smell and taste and places where you can gather, we all just know the problems, have ideas, possible solutions, and policies,” Raders said.

“If we’re not trying these things out in real time and accepting feedback, we just have doomsday scenarios. We need actual models and play spaces for following an iterative project. **If our model can be adopted in part or in whole by other organizations around the country, that’s our long-term goal.**”

<https://localnewsmatters.org/2024/08/11/planting-justice-cultivates-urban-agriculture-helps-former-inmates-turn-over-a-new-leaf/>



Wednesday, August 14, 2022 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm Eastern Time

Virtual

Climate change is affecting museums, their communities, and all of humanity. As trusted institutions with significant influence and resources, museums have the power to help avert the

worst case outcomes, through skillful use of information and thoughtful planning. How can museum professionals stay up to date on climate risk and climate action? How can they reduce their own climate impact, while helping their communities adapt?

Join CFM director Elizabeth Merritt for **Future Chats—a new series from AAM** exploring trends, breaking news, and implications for our sector. On Wednesday, **August 14**, Elizabeth will chat with special guest Marcy Rockman, a leading expert in climate change and cultural heritage, with US-national and international experience in climate change science, cultural heritage management, and policy.

After the chat, participants will join virtual discussion groups to explore the implications for museums of one recent climate story and share their own experiences coping with climate extremes in their communities, on their operations, and in their programs.

General portions of this FutureChat will be recorded. Breakout discussions will not be recorded and are only available to live participants.

Speakers: **Marcy Rockman** is an archaeologist with experience in national and international climate change policy. Her research focus is landscape learning, which explores how humans gather, remember, and share environmental information, and she's used this to address situations as diverse as cultural resource management in the American West and homeland security risk communication in Washington, DC. From 2011-2018 she served with the US National Park Service (NPS) as the inaugural Climate Change Adaptation Coordinator for Cultural Resources. Recently, she's held a range of policy and research roles, including developing heritage capacity for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), working with climate, heritage, and conflict with ICCROM, and developing climate-focused hearings for the U.S. Congress. Marcy holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Arizona, and B.Sc. in Geology from the College of William and Mary.

Elizabeth Merritt is AAM's vice president for strategic foresight, and founding director of the Center for the Future of Museums—a think-tank and research & development lab for the museum field. She is the author of the Alliance's annual TrendsWatch report, and writes and speaks prolifically on the trends shaping the future of nonprofit organizations. (M.A. Duke University, B.S. Yale University, Museum Management Institute).

It is *free* to register!

1. Login or create your profile at the Register button above.
2. Confirm your contact details and proceed through the check out process. **You will not be charged.**
3. After submitting your order, you will receive an order confirmation number – you are registered!
4. The details to join the live event will be sent to you via email prior to August 14.

This is the first in a series of Future Chats that will be scheduled in 2024—stay tuned for more details!