



Green Works

Our students had many opportunities for nature learning and outdoor exploration this year.

Mission: Empowering Students
to care for our environment, contribute to our economy, and create healthy communities.

Green Works in Kansas City develops Kansas City’s future leaders through hands-on environmental science, outdoor experiences, service projects, career exploration, workplace training and paid summer work experiences.

Key Principles

- We serve students living in the Kansas City Public School District.
- We incorporate project- based learning in a social setting with other students and caring adults.
- We follow national best practices including quality staff, small class size and long-term involvement.
- We offer holistic experiences including field trips and service projects to appeal to all types of learners.
- We involve volunteer professionals to help students build self-confidence and strengthen their social networks.
- We incorporate a respect for the environment into every aspect of our programming and administration.

ANNUAL REPORT

September 2018 - August 2019



Feature on 90.9 The Bridge

Staff Tamika and Elaine, along with intern Atra-Niese were featured on the Bridge Give Back Friday program in July. Atra-Niese talked about her summer Green Works’ internships at Henderson Engineering and KCP&L while Tamika and Elaine discussed the importance of summer work experience for teens. The link to the program is available on our website.

IMPACT: 140+ Students served annually 15k Hours of internships funded 100% Student high school graduation rate 4k+ Native plants planted in urban KCMO



Board member Manuel regularly volunteers with the Excelebrate program helping our students with their LinkedIn profiles, resumes and practice interviews.

Board Members

- Jensen Adams, Former Energy & Sustainability Manager at Kansas City Public Schools
- Deana Barger, Environmental Manager for Harley-Davidson Vehicle and Powertrain Operation
- Scott Bingham, Principal Landscape Architect with BBN Architects, Inc.
- Ryan Bresette CPA, Live Like Luke Foundation
- Amy Coopman, Employment law attorney at Foland, Wickens, Eisfelder, Roper & Hofer, PC
- Kate Corwin, President at Green Works in Kansas City
- Calvin Girard, Senior Manager Integration Success for KCP&L and Westar, Evergy Companies
- Neila Seda, Project Designer at McClure Engineering Company
- Manuel Solano, M.D., Medical Director for Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center

Our Programs

Environmental education and workforce development for urban teens



Elaine Warren (GW staff) and student Lorenzo at our internship kick-off event in June.

ECOS

Our core environmental program ECOS (Environmental Connection Opportunities for Students) is a year-long out-of-school program that includes field trips to urban parks, hikes, bird watching, identification of native trees and plants, water quality testing, solid waste and recycling projects and a ride on the Missouri River. This year we held ECOs school-year programs at the Linwood YMCA, and the Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center. In addition, we offered ECOS summer programs (including kayaking experiences!) for students at Operation Breakthrough, the Linwood YMCA and the Kauffman School.



Students at the Linwood YMCA spent a rainy summer afternoon testing water quality.

Summer Internships

We placed 13 of our accomplished Excelebrate graduates into paid summer internships that aligned with their interests and skills. Several additional students secured their own summer internships! Our students spent their summers at Henderson Engineering, KCP&L, Kansas City Young Audiences and Slaggie Architects to name a few.

Along with improving students' self-esteem and resiliency, internships impact academics and future success. A Department of Labor study found that summer employment can increase reading and math levels by more than one grade in a majority of students. And summer internships can increase future job success and earnings. Early employment provides a smoother transition to the labor market and higher weekly earnings for up to 15 years after high school graduation.



Brenda spent her summer working with Slaggie Architects.

Excelebrate

Our workforce development program helps students prepare for post-secondary education and the workforce. Students take skill and interest evaluations, research three growing careers, prepare a resume, take part in job shadowing, and participate in money management training and soft skill training.

Program Outcomes

Working towards our mission to empower Kansas City's future leaders to care for our environment, contribute to our economy and create healthy communities, we measure our success with the following program outcomes:

1. Increase in science literacy
2. Changed behaviors towards the environment
3. Improvement of life skills including financial literacy
4. Hours of work experience through paid summer internships
5. Increase in social capital connections

Mighty Missouri SOS Workforce Social Enterprise

This year we received funding from KCMO Water Services and MARC to pilot a new program called Mighty Missouri SOS. Select students are beginning to design, market and sell products that align with water conservation and water quality. Our kick-off sales event was certainly convenient as we participated in our Tower East neighborhood Wanderfest in May. We welcomed a stream of new faces to our classroom and sold local soda, all-natural insect repellent, repurposed/reusable shopping bags, reusable water bottles and more. Visitors enjoyed talking to our students about the water quality connection and left with information on what they can do to protect and conserve our water.



Our alums sold Polly's Pop at Wanderfest. Polly's is manufactured in Independence with water from the Missouri River.

Community Education

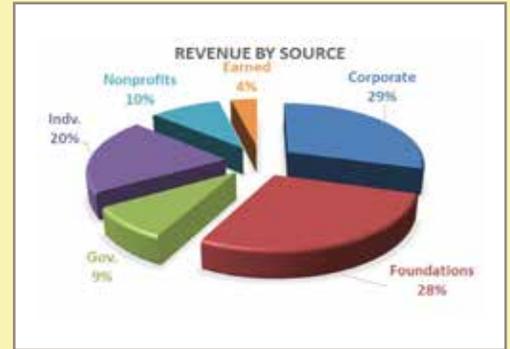
We continued our successful community education program series hosting two programs this year. In January we offered a program that covered the environmental impact of the clothing industry and how to stay stylish without participating in the current "buy new, throw away" culture.

In March we repeated our popular program on birds, learning about common backyard birds, and then how we can plant and design our yards to support our backyard birds.



Jennifer Niehouse-Fox presented "Wardrobe Rehab" as part of our community education program series.

Revenue



Year 12 Funders

- Taylor & Patti Abernathy Trust
- Bank of America
- BlueScope
- Country Club Christian Church
- GM Fairfax Assembly and Stamping
- KCMO Water Services
- M.R. and Evelyn Hudson Foundation
- Mariner Foundation
- RA Long Foundation
- Sherman Family Foundation
- Shumaker Family Foundation
- Spire
- State Street
- United Way of Greater Kansas City
- US Bank



Kate taught the first four years of the ECOS program.

History and Contact Info

Green Works in Kansas City was founded by Kate Corwin, an IT professional, former business owner and community leader. Green Works was incorporated in the state of Missouri in February of 2007 and recognized as a nonprofit corporation under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code in September 2007.

Contact us: kate@greenworkskc.org, 816-304-8400
607 East 31st Street, Kansas City, MO 64109
greenworkskc.org



How You Can Help



Jerry Rose is a regular volunteer.

There are many ways to help Green Works including the following*:

- Give a monetary contribution and consider giving monthly.
- Donate a car, truck, boat, motorcycle or RV.
- Join others who have designated Green Works for a planned gift through a charitable bequest or beneficiary designation.
- Volunteer as a guest instructor, student mentor, or planting assistant. Email info@greenworkskc.org for a volunteer application.
- Write a review of Green Works on GreatNonprofits - greatnonprofit.org.
- Connect to us on Facebook or Instagram.
- Sign up for our newsletter and then share with your friends. (Simple form at the bottom of the website homepage.)
- Get your company involved. (See website for ideas.)

* Check our website support page (greenworkskc.org/support) for details.

Looking Ahead to Next Year

We'll be expanding our new Workforce Social Enterprise program with products offered on our website and in retail stores, and new community education initiatives around water quality and conservation. We're also working on an environmental art piece for the fence along the back parking lot of our midtown classroom space. And we're testing a Repair Event concept in the Fall with our neighbors including Maker Village, the 816 Bike Collective and Stitching Change. We're offering free repairs of ordinary household items. If the concept works, it will become a regular event.



Take a look at the new Student page on our website to read about the successes of some of our former students!