

Awards 2011

Presented on November 4th

Michael Stratton Practitioner Award—Recognizing and honoring an experiential practitioner who has demonstrated consistently high levels of performance in working directly with students or clients. This person’s work “in the trenches” demonstrates that an individual practitioner can bring about significant change and impact the lives of students, participants or clients.

Rick Medrick

Rick Medrick, Ed.D., is currently chair of the PhD Program in Sustainability Education at Prescott College, a program he helped design and has served as faculty since 2005. Prior to that he was Chair for the Master’s degree (MAP) in Adventure Education. Since 1973 he has been founder and director of Colorado-based Outdoor Leadership Training Seminars (OLTS), training outdoor leaders and offering outdoor programs for all ages from schools and colleges to corporations using climbing, backpacking, whitewater rafting, and backcountry skiing.



Karl Rohnke Creativity Award—Presented to an individual whose outstanding commitment to experiential education principles is evidenced through the design, creation and/or production of experiential education resources.

D. Maurie Lung

D. Maurie Lung has loved the out-of-doors and adventure since childhood exploring nearby woods and her many summers at camp. All of this led her to study outdoor recreation and environmental education and an early career in camping. Currently, she is a licensed Mental Health Counselor and Marriage Family Therapist with over 20 years of experience with adventure-based and experiential programming. She started her own organization, Life Adventures Counseling and Consulting, LLC in St. Petersburg, FL, where she integrates her knowledge of recreation, experiential education, and psychology to provide unique therapeutic and consulting services.



Servant Leader Award—Recognizing individuals for their active, excellent servant leadership to AEE and its members. These leaders exemplify that the “how and why” of doing something is as important as the “what will be done.”

Terry Nail-Williams

Terry integrates a wealth of experience in coaching, leadership and organizational development in her work with people from diverse backgrounds within schools, non-profit organizations and corporations throughout the U.S. and internationally. Her work focuses on strength-based experiential curriculum and facilitated programs emphasizing



ing participatory processes, performance, and teamwork. Topics include: transformational leadership, communication, health & wellness, conflict resolution, cultural relevance/competence, collaborative group processes, and group facilitation.

Distinguished Researcher Award—Presented to recognize exemplary and long-standing (more than 15 years) research productivity and visibility in the fields of Experiential Education.

Mike Gass

Mike currently serves as the REAP representative to AEE’s CORE Committee, Director of Outdoor Behavioral Healthcare Research Consortium (OBHRC), Director of the NATSAP Research Database Initiative, and Editor of the Journal for Therapeutic Schools and Programs. He has presented over 125 AEE Conference workshops and written over 20 published works in the JEE. His latest book is Adventure therapy: Theory, Practice, and Research, co-authored by Lee Gillis and Keith Russell.



Organization of the Year Award—Recognizing and honoring an organization that maintains innovative and outstanding programming at consistently high standards and demonstrates a high level of commitment to and support for the work of AEE.

High 5 Adventure Learning Center

High 5 Adventure Learning Center was created to help individuals, schools and communities use experiential education as a catalyst for positive change—to improve the way people live, learn and work together. We are a recognized national and international institution that has conducted thousands of professional trainings, built hundreds of challenge courses, and produced countless programs involving young people. In our highly competitive Information Age, an ability to communicate effectively, get along with others, perform to capacity and face challenges is not only key to living a full life, but is essential for thriving in our ever-changing global world.



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