

Summer Nature Camp

Meet the Staff . . .



Judy Onufer
Camp Director

Judy has been with the Museum for 4 years as Director of Education. She has more than 25 years of experience in science and environmental education. Her career highlights include high school biology, physics and environmental science teacher, as well as adjunct professor of elementary science education for Seton Hall University. She holds a BA in Botany and Ed.M. in Science Education from Rutgers University, and a fellowship in Physical Science from Princeton University.



Carl Heitmuller
Lead Counselor, Blazers and Eco-Rangers camps

Carl is a full-time environmental educator who has been with the Museum 14 years. He has been instrumental in the development of our camp program as well as our catalog of 30 programs that are presented to more than 10,000 school children each year. Carl has acquired his impressive knowledge of wildlife and outdoor education through many years of experience as well as an Associates degree in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Field Biology and Conservation from Orange County Community College.



Alicia Ocana
Lead Counselor, Ramblers half-day program and Assistant Camp Director

Alicia has been with the Museum for 2 years as an environmental educator and program management assistant. This will be her second summer working with our camp program. Her career experiences include Flight Director with the Challenge Center school program

in Airmont, NY, and Instructor/Program Coordinator at Astrocamp in California. She holds a BS in Physics from St. Peter's College.



Kari Leigh McDermott
Lead Counselor, Trekkers camp

During the school year, Kari is a teacher in our Young Naturalists pre-K program. She holds a BS in Childhood Education with a concentration in general science, from SUNY Oneonta, and is currently working towards a Masters of Science in Literacy. This will be her 4th summer camp with the museum.

Brian Kussard, Assistant Counselor, Trekkers camp (lower elementary grades)
Brian is a valued member of the environmental education team at the Museum. His career experiences include Para-educator for Orange-Ulster BOCES working with special-needs students, and interpretive nature tours for school groups. He holds a BA in Environmental Studies from SUNY Binghamton.



Colleen Cullen
Assistant Counselor, Blazers camp

Colleen was a camper here many years ago. She then returned as a volunteer CIT in high school. She is now a valued member of our summer camp staff! Colleen is currently working on a Bachelor's degree in Communications. Taking into account her years as a camper with us, this will be her 8th season with the museum's summer program.