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## **ALEX KUDRYAVSTEV WINS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD**

Local educator recognized by North American Association for Environmental Education

Ithaca, NY, November 1, 2018– Alex Kudryavstev, PhD, Extension Associate with Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources, was recently recognized by the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). Dr. Kudryavstev was honored with the Higher Education Educator of the Year Award, given to educators for promoting environmental education (EE) and using the environment as a context for learning in their teaching.

Dr. Kudryavstev began his career as a high school environmental sciences teacher in Siberia in 2001, and soon transitioned into a career as a global leader in urban EE. As a PhD student researching community EE programs in the Bronx, Dr. Kudryavstev helped conduct programs for high school students of color, and conducted groundbreaking work on sense of place. He has numerous publications that apply research-based evidence for place-based education (under his pen name, Alex Russ), facilitated the first online urban EE professional learning community, and provides expertise in urban EE on the advisory board of the Global Environmental Education Partnership (GEEP). As the current director of Cornell University's EE online learning initiative, he developed and taught the Urban EE online course, engaging more than 500 professionals and students from more than 50 countries. Given the U.S. and global increase in number of people living in cities, Dr. Kudryavstev's leadership in bringing urban EE to colleagues and students fills a critical need. By working across disciplines, he brings novel perspectives and creates innovative approaches to EE teaching, research, and practice.

"Dr. Alex Kudryavstev's inspiring teaching methods, combined with his extensive knowledge and ability to engage people of all ages, reflect the best in the field of environmental education," said Judy Braus, NAAEE's Executive Director. "Our award winners truly exemplify innovative, inspirational, and resilient leadership that will help us shape a more sustainable and equitable society."

This year, NAAEE presented 13 awards to outstanding individual and organizational leaders across North America and worldwide. For a full list of 2018 winners, visit [www.naaee.org/our-work/programs/awards](http://www.naaee.org/our-work/programs/awards).

### **About the North American Association for Environmental Education**

For four decades, the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) has been dedicated to advancing environmental literacy and civic engagement through the power of education. NAAEE supports

a network of more than 20,000 educators and 56 regional affiliate organizations working in environmental education in more than 30 countries. For more information, visit [www.naaee.org](http://www.naaee.org).

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