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ALLEY POND ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

228-06 NORTHERN BOULEVARD • DOUGLSTON, NEW YORK 11362-1068

Alley Pond Environmental Center, Inc. July 2015 - June 2016 Annual Report

228-06 Northern Boulevard, Douglaston, NY 11362
718-229-4000 www.alleypond.com

Alley Pond Environmental Center Inc., a private, non-profit organization, sited in a New York City Park, offers lessons in the diverse ecosystems of Alley Pond Park to children in every school district in New York City and Nassau as well as to adults.

Located in northeast Queens, in the wetland section of Alley Pond Park, Alley Pond Environmental Center (APEC) is open to all who want to learn about the wonders of nature and ways to sustain our planet. Admission to Alley Pond Environmental Center (APEC) is free. Our ambassador animals (turtles, rabbits, doves, snakes, etc.) love to have people come to visit them. Our nature trails are open dawn to dusk. Educational programs are offered for all ages from 18 months to seniors. From our Wee Sprouts for 18 month olds and their parents to our monthly Astronomy programs for all ages there is a diverse selection of programs to choose from. In addition, daily school classes visit the Center for fun and educational programs. In 2015-2016, over 73,683 school children, pre-schoolers, teens and adults enjoyed programs at APEC.

APEC's MISSION STATEMENT:

The Alley Pond Environmental Center (APEC), a nonprofit environmental education organization, is dedicated to **educating** children and adults in the New York metropolitan area, **protecting and preserving** Alley Pond Park, open spaces and waterbodies, and **advocating** for sustainable environmental policies and practices.

HISTORY AND FEATURES:

APEC was founded in 1972 and incorporated in 1976. Our landlord is the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. We have a license agreement to operate our building and maintain the local grounds. Our main building features a live Animal Room, Pre-School Rooms, two small classrooms, and two large classrooms. The grounds feature nature trails, an observation deck overlooking Alley Creek, windmill pond, an apiary, Douglaston Estate Windmill and our Log Cabin.

APEC is open seven days a week for much of the year.

Did you know that it costs Alley Pond Environmental Center:

- \$750 a month to feed and care for our live animals.
- \$1,725 a month to buy supplies to keep the animals and Center clean
- \$1,000 a year to buy supplies keep the grounds and trails useable
- \$1,000 to print our quarterly program guide/newsletter and other brochures to promote our program offerings
- \$1,675 a month to provide supplies for our programs for children

MANAGEMENT – WHO SETS THE POLICY FOR OUR ORGANIZATION?:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: APEC’s governing body is a group of dedicated volunteers who meet monthly September through June to set policy and oversee the organization.

Board members as of **June 30, 2016** include:

Rita Sherman - President

Richard Blum - Vice President

Michael Agnello - Treasurer

Mary Ann Gallagher - Secretary

Andrew L. Barnes

Dr. John Charos

Ching Kuo (Edward) Chiang

Barbara Friedman

Sarah Maldonado

Nicole M. Repetti

Theresa Bonavolonta

Patricia Costello Charos

Kenneth Chiang

Debbie Kamer

Thomas McGlinchey

Dimitri Tsimoyianis

Terese Cavanagh

Dit Cheung

Frances Filloramo Molitor

Mabel Law

Rosaura Pagan

The Hon. Mitchell Silver, Commissioner, NYC Dept. of Parks & Recreation,
represented by Matthew Symons

FINANCES of ALLEY POND ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER:

We are grateful to each of you, our members and friends, and to our local elected officials for your continued interest, faith and support.

The fact that Alley Pond Environmental Center continues to flourish, gives us confidence that we are indeed fulfilling our mandate to establish awareness, understanding and appreciation of the environment in the urban setting.

With your help we can continue to provide education and awareness programs for all constituents of the community, utilizing the wetlands, habitat and nature preserve of Alley Pond Park which we manage and maintain as a learning center and environmental laboratory with the assistance of NYC Parks.

With your help we can continue to build a broad constituency for the preservation and protection of park lands and open spaces like Alley Pond Park so that we may pass on an enhanced natural heritage to future generations.

And with your help we can continue to advocate for progressive environmental policies and practices that are consistent with a more sustainable urban environment and environmentally sound life style in the home, school and work place.

BUDGET: APEC'S 2015-2016 Operating Budget of \$884,350.00 is supported in part by:

NYC Department of Parks:	\$ 55,500.00	donated facilities
NYC Appropriations	\$ 175,000.00	
NYS Appropriations	\$ 62,050.00	
Donations & Private Support	\$ 91,000.00	
Earned Income	\$ 556,300.00	

-As of June 30, 2016 APEC had expended \$840,926.00 this fiscal year.

-APEC's income for 2015-2016 (as of June 27, 2016) was \$1,071,000.00 and included monies due the Center from prior fiscal year governmental grants.

-Total monies in the bank as of June 30, 2016 were \$783,160.78.

APEC's 2015 Holiday Card & 2016 Annual Campaign

Thank you for your help in getting us through the past year. Our faithful supporters allow us to continue to provide the fine environmental education programs for all. Please continue the efforts by letting all know the value of our center towards environmental education and our need for continued financial support.

2015 Holiday Card Donors:

\$1 - \$49: Robert Agnello, Joan Andors, Edith Basom, Lisa Cannon & Peter Laureano, Panzy Dehart, Timothy Derum, Denise Detilleux, Linda Eckardt, Robert Fogel, Wendy Frank, Larry & Gira Freiberg, Claire Gallagher, Nora Gamer, Michael Giancarlo, Michael & Joan Golden, Carolee Hildenbrandt, Roberta Horne, Everett Hughes, Elizabeth Kellerman, Kristen Kleinman, Naomi Klosner, Nina Lusterman, Susan & Lloyd Miller, William Nash, Marie Romano, Marcia Roth, Lucie Shannon, Roberta Sherman, Penelop Smith, Sound Ideas Company, Irene & Herb Wald

\$50 - \$99: Robert Agnello, Mary Brodsky, June Dare, Elizabeth Kellerman, Marion Klein, Anne Ronan, Rita Sherman, Bill & Vira Sisolak, Robin Spiegelman, Barret Schleicher

\$100+: American Legion Little Neck-Douglaston Post #103, Terese Cavanagh, Sandra & Louis Cuoco, Paul DeBenedittis, Ann Deinnocentiis, Delia Arellano-Doyle, Barbara Friedman, Al Koch, Sheldon Lewis DVM, Phil & Mimi Ressa, Szpylka family, Avonelle Walker, John & Penelope Wamboldt, Kenneth & Ursula Wunsch, Steamfitters Union

2016 Annual Campaign Donors:

\$1 - \$49: Lorna Bodian, Lisa Cannon, Terry Cavanagh, Rita Chiachiere, Barbara&Mickey Cohen, Michael Cote, James Emory, Roxanne Fanelli, Alan&Linda Fingerman, Robert Fogel, Robert Fox, Michael Giancarlo, Andria Grundman, Christine Haider, Elizabeth Kellerman, Charlotte Korycki, Marc Langsner, Katherine Maines, Marie Mamak, Doris Martin, Helen McDaniel, Valerie McDermott, Raymond Meaney, Sacha Moore, Helen O'Brien, Linda Pierce, C.Felicia Reciniello, Robert Romano, Carol Rothbell, John Sauter, Jack Schwartz, Bryan Serra, Roberta Sherman, Marion Silverstien, Bridget Sullivan, Nancy Taglienti, Lois Tepfer, Herb Wald, Gail Weinberg, Judith Woessner, Michael Zaug, Norine Zwiebel

\$50 - \$99: Karen Anci, Carolee Fauth Brooks, Fran Cella, Marilyn Check, Edward Ciaccio, Delia Doyle, Alexandria Dunne, Andrea Franke, Victoria Gleicher, Bonnie&Ralph Gundel, Jacqueline Haberer, David Gillen, Lisa Kotliar, John Milioti, Mary O'Byrne, Romanzo family, Rita Sherman, Jack Spiegelman, Gerda Spiekermann

\$100+: Ronald Bourque, Christopher Campese, Gerri Carluccia, Edward Ciaccio, Ann Deinnocentiis, John Duane, Kurt Eggert, Margaret Hall, Ken Juran, Alice & Larry Kasten, Lisa Kotliar, Vincent Mirrione, Phil &

Mimi Ressa, Martha Robinson, Rita Sherman, Joe Sollano, Calliope Sullivan, Dorothy Szalaly, Edward Wehle, Gerlind Wuest

\$500+: Lydia & Randy Rock and Dr. Neal Vichinsky

General contributions: Patricia Bagnasco estate, Blaise Marchese, Marilyn Check, HILDEGARD Falk, Girl Scouts of Nassau County Troop 1235, Lisa Kotliar, Walter Mugdan, Stephen Murphy, RJW Brokerage, Sarah Ross, Joshua Tanzer

APEC's 2016 40th ANNIVERSARY GREEN GALA SUPPORTERS:

APEC's Green Gala is one of our major fundraisers of the year. Honorees this year included:

- ERM, Inc. who received APEC's Corporate Friend of the Environment Award
- Kevin P. Lynch who received APEC's Green Leadership Award
- Irene V. Scheid who received APEC's Environmental Education Award

Sponsors of the Green Gala included:

EARTH: Chiang Family

WOODLAND: Consolidated Edison of New York, National Grid

WETLANDS: Queens County Savings Bank –NYCB, SGS Drilling

ESTUARY: Central Veterinary Associates, Enterprise Assn. – Steamfitters Local Union 638, ERM, Inc., Richard & Susan Blum, Terry Bonavolonta, Fran Filloramo-Molitor & Steve Molitor, Terri Thomson

SALT MARSH: Astoria Federal Savings Bank, Dr. & Mrs. John Charos, Cord Meyer, Barbara Friedman, Bill & Vicki Nieter, Oriental Trophy, Scheid Family, Rita Sherman, Dimitri Tsimoyianis

2015-16 Corporate, Foundation & Government Support:

Alley Pond Environmental Center is housed in a building owned by the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation and its operation is made possible, in part, with public and private funding provided by as listed below.

Capital Monies allocated for New Green Building and other improvements:

FY 07	Councilman Avella	\$1,000,000.00
FY 08	Boro President Marshall	\$1,000,000.00
FY 08	Queens City Council Delegation	\$1,500,000.00
FY 09	Boro President Marshall	\$1,000,000.00
FY 10	Boro President Marshall	\$1,000,000.00
FY 10	Queens City Council Delegation	\$500,000.00
FY 11	Boro President Marshall	\$1,000,000.00
DEP concession for damage	Mayoral	\$1,000,000.00
	Queens City Council Delegation	\$1,673,000.00
TOTAL	As per NYC OMB	\$9,673,000.00

Major Funders of APEC's General Operating Expenses:

\$50,000+: NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Councilman Donovan Richards funding through A Greener NYC Fund

\$45,535: NYS NHT Zoos, Botanical Gardens & Aquariums

\$40,000: Council Funding through former NYC Councilman Mark Weprin

\$34,000: NYC Councilman Paul Vallone

\$25,000: ARCADIS

\$20,000: Assemblywoman Vivian Cook, Queens City Council Delegation, NYC Councilwoman Karen Koslowitz

\$16,500: Consolidated Edison of New York

\$10,000+ each: Elaine Alberts, Chiang Family of Mizumi Restaurant, The JPB Foundation

\$5,000+ each: NYS Assemblyman David Weprin, NYC Councilman Peter Koo, Capital One Bank, The Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc., ERM, Friedman Family, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Grid, New York Hiking Club, TD Charitable Foundation,

\$1,000+ each: NY Assemblyman Ed Braunstein, NY Assemblyman Michael Simanowitz, American Legion Auxiliary of Post 301, The Barker Welfare Foundation, Richard & Susan Blum, Eileen Bremner, Central Veterinary Associates, Arthur Cheliotis, Communications Workers of America, Local 1180, John Charos & Patricia Costello, Fran Filloramo-Molitor, Flushing Bank, Marian Kirchner, Liberty Sales, William & Vicki Nieter, Queens County Savings Bank (a division of New York Community Bank), Denise Rosenberg, Mr. & Mrs. A. Scuderi, Rita Sherman, Steamfitters Union Local 638, Joseph & Bernice Tanenbaum Foundation, Terri Thomson, Tully Environmental, Inc. Dr. & Mrs. Neal Vichinsky, Walter Wientge, Jr.

\$500+ each: Hon. Tony Avella, Alley Pond Striders, Alma Bank, Frank J. Antun Foundation, Eneas Arkawy, Astoria Federal Savings Bank, Joan & Norman Bluestone Foundation, Briguglio Consulting Corp., City University of New York, Community Church of Douglaston, Cord Meyer Development LLC, Ecolab, Ann DeInnocentiis, Lorraine Engenito, Barbara Friedman, HANAC Inc., IBEW Local Union # 3 CWA, Ink-It Printing, Keil Family, Marcia Kaplan Mann, One Point of Light Foundation, Plumbers Union Local #1, Quebec-Labrador Foundation, Inc., Lydia & Randy Rock, Robin Spiegelman, Teamsters Local 210, Teamsters Local 808, Dimitri Tsimoyianis, Twin Deer Group, United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 157

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are working hard to gain new members and reach out to current active members, pointing out the need and benefits of renewing their commitment to APEC.

We encourage our members to make donations in honor of special events happening to their family members and friends. We also receive gifts in memory of loved ones.

In the past year we lost several lifelong supporters and would like to acknowledge them here.

Madeline Braisted, Linda Vardy Kendenburg, Elaine & Kenneth Kowald,
Leon Lusterman, Richard McDermott, Ann Mott

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family..... \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior with Child \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (adult only) \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (one adult only, age over 60).. \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College Student (18+) \$30 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fellow \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$1,000 |

Method of payment: Check Money Order Master Card Visa Amex

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Auth. Signature _____ 3-digit Code _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

E-mail _____

Please Print Clearly and make all checks payable to APEC

This gift/tribute is:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

On the occasion of _____

In celebration of _____

Other _____

Please send notice of my gift/tribute to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In the past year we have lost several lifelong supporters and would like to acknowledge them here.

APEC Founder's Circle Members:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Abularrage | Hon. Gary L. Ackerman | Elaine Alberts |
| Carole Ann & Leonard Antonucci | Eneas Sloman Arkawy | Hon. Tony Avella |
| Ernestine Bender | Hyman B. Birnbaum | Bloch Family |
| Joan Bluestone | Richard Blum | Gloria Kemper Bodie |

Walter J. Bodie	Dr. & Mrs. C Campese	John Charos, DVM
Marilyn Check	Community School Board #26	Martin Dehler
Paul DiBenedetto	Eric Edelman	AnneMarie & Delvis Estrada
The Euler Family	Jeffrey Fearon	Marjorie Dycke Ferrigno
Fran Filloramo Molitor	Madeline Filloramo	Mrs William Finck
Dolores Frank	Wendy Frank & Donna Tuerlings	Barbara Friedman
The Gallo Family	Joan Garippa	Gretchen Gaudelli
Arlene Gilbert	Pamela & William Gillespie	Richard Giordano
Hon. Al Gore	Ruth Gloger	Jeanette Graf
Avram Gropper	Dr. Melissa Haidary	Frank Hark
Theresa Harris	Maureen Healy	Mr & Mrs Higgins
Karen Hutson	Alice & Larry Kasten	Yasuko Kawamoto
Elizabeth Kellerman	Dr. Leo Kellerman	Teresa Kiernan
Gloria Kuhn	Sheldon Lewis, DVM	William Malloy
Katherine Maines	Jason D. Mark & Ying Chan	David M. Morris
Anne B. Morse	William Nieter	Sinibaldo Nisco
Rod O'Connell	Hon. Frank Padavan	Beverly & Jim Pion
Ed Pressman	Dorothy Reid	Reiter Family
Ian Resnick	Joe Rhoades	Liz Rhoades
Brian Rock & Jessie Rochford	Randy & Lydia Rock	Seth H. Rogovin
Gary E. Rosenberg	Denise & Gary Rosenberg	Michael Saladino
Susan Saladino	Nancy Salerno	Irene F. Scheid
Florence M. Schneider	Jacqueline Shannon	Charles Shapiro, MD
Philip R. Sillman	Cynthia Strauss	Jill Tulchin
Matt Van Den Hengle	The Vardy Family	Joseph M. Varon
Shari Lewis Veltre	Donald Wade & Eileen Pentel	Christine & Edward Wehle
Hon. Mark S. Weprin	Walter Wientge Jr.	Bea Zamist

Join us and introduce your neighbors and friends to the satisfaction of contributing to the environmental education of the young people of Queens, Nassau and beyond.

Buy One Membership Get One Free This Holiday Season!

These make great gifts!
From now through December 31, 2015,
buy one full priced membership, receive
a second membership to give as a gift!
May purchase multiple memberships;
buy one for everyone in your family!
Cannot be combined with any other offer.

APEC Staff as of June 30, 2016 – Who Might You See When You Visit APEC:

Full-Time Staff:

Irene V. Scheid, Executive Director

Rosemarie Favuzza-Papachristou Head of Education & Outreach Coordinator
 Venus Hall, Educator
 Karen Pierro, Educator
 Liz Whalen, Front Office Coordinator
 Carlos Martinez, Maintenance/Grounds/Animal Care

Part-Time & Per Diem Staff ADMINISTRATION:

Geraldine Carlucci, Weekend Registrar
 Erifili Giannatos, Bookkeeper
 Linda Gochna, Membership/Development Associate

Part-Time EDUCATION:

Bonnie Bromberg Katherine Bryson

Per Diem EDUCATION

Evangelia Blake	Victoria Cheung	Theodora Efthimiades
Sarah Ellis	Vicki Gleicher	Joan Golden
Amy Kirchner	Winnie Manatrizio	Annakarina Marinos
Michelle Mordukhaev	Marie Nardi	Ariana Nikolis
Kylie Oradesky	Ricky Ortiz	Woo Sung Park
Justin Sackel	Rosemarie Whyte	Kasey Wilding

MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS/ANIMAL ASSISTANTS:

Brian Pavel Jack Rong

WE THANK THEM ALL FOR ALL THEY DO TO ALLOW APEC TO KEEP CONDUCTING OUR FINE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS!

EDUCATION AT ALLEY POND ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

The education staff consists of 2 full time educators and 22 part time/per diem instructors led by a full time Director of Education Director. The programs developed and implemented by the staff meet state standards and are focused on inquiry based learning in the life sciences and ecology of the ecosystems of Alley Pond Park. There has been a steady growth in the development of the Education Department both in staff and financial resources generated by the department.



<i>Year</i>	<i>Participants</i>	<i>Income</i>
<i>84/85</i>	<i>15,746</i>	<i>\$22,347</i>
<i>89/90</i>	<i>18,268</i>	<i>\$62,442</i>
<i>94/95</i>	<i>22,774</i>	<i>\$148,246</i>
<i>99/00</i>	<i>30,717</i>	<i>\$239,332</i>
<i>00/01</i>	<i>39,616</i>	<i>\$262,449</i>
<i>01/02</i>	<i>46,750</i>	<i>\$311,603</i>
<i>02/03</i>	<i>45,442</i>	<i>\$312,280</i>
<i>03/04</i>	<i>46,865</i>	<i>\$312,541</i>

<i>04/05</i>	<i>44,109</i>	<i>\$302,752</i>
<i>05/06</i>	<i>50,943</i>	<i>\$334,747</i>
<i>06/07</i>	<i>55,541</i>	<i>\$353,926</i>
<i>07/08</i>	<i>56,848</i>	<i>\$394,330</i>
<i>08/09</i>	<i>57,180</i>	<i>\$390,426</i>
<i>09/10</i>	<i>62,000</i>	<i>\$385,421</i>
<i>10/11</i>	<i>63,880</i>	<i>\$382,743</i>
<i>11/12</i>	<i>66,168</i>	<i>\$420,844</i>
<i>12/13</i>	<i>63,703</i>	<i>\$430,030</i>
<i>13/14</i>	<i>66,586</i>	<i>\$430,412</i>
<i>14/15</i>	<i>62,809</i>	<i>\$465,129</i>
<i>15/16</i>	<i>73,683</i>	<i>\$504,112</i>

CHILDREN’S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

Alley Pond Environmental Center visits and receives classes from **public and private schools** in Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, the Bronx and Nassau County. A total of 25,559 school children attended programs at APEC in the 2015-2016 school year. Another 17,947 children were serviced through our ever-growing **Outreach programs**. Unfortunately over 5,000 children remained on the waiting list unable to get into our popular school visitation programs.

We service children in all boroughs of NYC and Nassau County. The schoolchildren from NYC served came from the following school districts:

City Council District	Schoolchildren
District 19	3,481
District 20	2,382
District 21	1,723
District 22	2,137
District 23	3,719
District 24	1,836
District 25	2,514
District 26	1,723
District 27	914
District 28	1,881
District 29	3,269
District 30	1,014
District 31	530
District 32	854
District 34	137



214 **special education students** attended a class visit at APEC through grants from the Sunday School of the Community Church of Douglaston and The Castle Family.

APEC also serves as an **occupational training** worksite for children and adults with special needs. Program participants at the Lexington School for the Deaf and others have been helping several days per week to maintain and care for APEC’s live animal collection, do program preparation and improve our grounds.

The education department is assisted by college interns from Queens College, St. John's University and Queensborough Community College. During the 2015-2016 year APEC's corps of **youth volunteers** averaged between 30 and 40 students per season. These volunteers assisted staff with program preparation, animal care, grounds care and special events.

The **Middle-High School Program & College Program** teaches ecology, biology, and environmental sustainability and resiliency workshops to various high schools and middle schools. APEC also conducts workshops and programs for several environmental science classes from neighboring St. John's University, Queens College and Queensborough Community College. These programs utilize our outdoor classroom area; an appropriate setting for young adults to experience field science first hand.

This year we continued the popular **High School Field Biology Internship**. Students from around New York City and Long Island were invited to partake in this free program. Classes took place on Saturday or Wednesday mornings over the course of 18 weeks over three semesters: Spring, Summer & Fall. Topics ranged from wildlife conservation to environmental chemistry to plant and animal identification and everything in between. Support from the NYC Councilman Donovan Richards allocation to Greener NYC Initiative allowed APEC to offer this program free to participants.

Pre-School individuals and schools, play groups and day care centers attended fun-filled programs that combine nature education with basic early childhood concepts and provide extra enrichment in the sciences. 4,475 children from ages 18 months to 5 years old in a total of 469 programs were served by this program.

Weekend programs serve children ages 2 through 15. These programs use games, crafts, stories, songs, cooking, live animals and nature hikes to foster an understanding of and appreciation for environmental concepts. A total of 1,192 children enrolled in 136 programs including a variety of topics, such as APEC Adventure Time, Toddler Tales, Animal Care Trainee, Young Chefs, Vet Tech 101 and Science Fair 101.

This past year we provided services for boys and girls in the **Scouting program**. Thirteen programs include hands-on activities to align with specific badge requirements. We oversee several Eagle Scout Projects each year.

Birthdays are a popular celebration here at APEC with 237 parties held at APEC this year. 3,762 youngsters attending these parties found them to be fun and educational at the same time. Participants are given the opportunity to appreciate nature first-hand through live animals, nature crafts and trail walks. An additional option added this year is Party Animals on Wheels "P.A.W Parties". Youngsters are given an animal party experience in the comforts of their home or party location.

A total of 55,175 children were served this year.

ADULT AND FAMILY EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

APEC conducts education courses on ecological topics, as well as, personal enhancement topics for adult students at various times throughout the year. 19,700 adults attended programs at APEC. Mark Freilich conducts his popular monthly astronomy programs complete with outdoor viewing with telescopes. New cultural cooking classes were introduced including Sushi Rolling, Italian, Vegan and Dominican cuisines. Tween yoga led by former APEC educator, Ms. Grace Magee was introduced and is being held year round – in our Log Cabin and outdoors (weather permitting). We hosted an Art After Dark @ APEC for adults and an afternoon tween Paint Party during winter recess. Families also participated in our Spring Bird walk led by Nancy Tognan of the Queens County Bird Club and a family friendly Composting workshop. APEC also host a twice a year Blood Drive. In addition APEC Hiking Club & Trail Crew meet monthly at our Center.

APEC also conducts workshops for **professional staff development** for the New York City Department of Education on request.

APEC thanks our many wonderful **adult volunteers** who contribute their time and talents to help us fulfill our mission of environmental education. We are grateful for the enthusiasm, skills, expertise and community spirit of our volunteers. Our Adult Volunteer Corps assist with office work, program assistance, animal care and grounds maintenance.

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS PAST YEAR AT APEC INCLUDED:

On Sunday, October 4, 2015 APEC held its **Annual Membership Day** where we had a Live Bird Presentation by Volunteers for Wildlife.

On Friday, October 30, 2015 we held our **Haunted Halloween Hike**. High school and college volunteers hid along the trail spooking the children ages 8 to 12 who attended the event.

On Friday, October 30, 2015 APEC held its annual **Teeny Tiny Trick O'Treaters** event for children ages 18 months to 4 years old. Participants created not-so-scary crafts, played Halloween games, and ate a haunted snack.

On Friday November 6, 2015 APEC hosted a **Family Pajama Party with Virgil the Turkey**. Participants enjoyed an evening with fun crafts, a live turkey presentation, snacks, and listened to bedtime stories from a professional interactive storyteller.

On Friday, February 19, 2016 APEC held its first ever **Environmental Science Fair** entitled "**The Eco-Expo**". Middle School student participants entered their environmentally themed projects and presented them to a special team of judges and attending guests. Participants received cash awards and valuable prizes.

On Friday, April 22, 2016 APEC held an Earth Day Celebration – The Lorax Family Movie Night.

APEC's headquarters provide a meeting place for the **Queens County Bird Club**. More than fifteen bird lovers meet here for monthly meetings from September through June. In addition, the **Big Apple Guppy Club** and **East Coast Guppy Club** now also use APEC as their monthly meeting sites. Over the past year the **Udalls Cove Preservation Committee**, as well as other community groups, have held meetings at APEC. The NYC Sierra Club has begun monthly programs for both their members and APEC members.

APEC was host to a **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)** group where 120 people weekly pick up fresh vegetables (and fruit) from a Long Island farmer at APEC.

Annual Campaign 2015 – Help APEC Grow
A donation at this time is greatly appreciated and will make a significant difference in the number of people we will serve.

Enclosed please find my tax-deductible contribution to help APEC provide educational programs for children and adults and to care for the animals in APEC's mini-zoo/aquarium.

\$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50
 Other(_____)

I understand that this contribution is separate from annual membership dues.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

E-mail _____

Please Print Clearly and make all checks payable to APEC
Why should I support Alley Pond Environmental Center?

- *Because you believe all children should have exposure to environmental education in a fun setting...*
- *Because you believe in preserving Alley Pond Park*
- *Because you and your children love our programs...*
- *Because APEC needs your support now! and..*
- *Because, if you don't do it now, who will?*

With your continued help we can continue to provide education and awareness programs for all constituents of the community, utilizing the wetlands, habitat and nature preserve of Alley Pond Park which we manage and maintain as a learning center and environmental laboratory with the assistance of NYC Parks.

With your continued help we can continue to build a broad constituency for the preservation and protection of park lands and open spaces like Alley Pond Park so that we may pass on an enhanced natural heritage to future generations.

And with your continued help we can continue to advocate for progressive environmental policies and practices that are consistent with a more sustainable urban environment and environmentally sound life style in the home, school and work place.

Please feel free to visit APEC often, participate in a program and watch us as we grow!