

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to a new school year. I am honored to be the President of ESSA for this year and next, while ESSA goes through some exciting changes. Our mission will stay the same: to assist classroom teachers, supervisors and science specialists in the implementation of hands-on problem solving, and process oriented science instruction.

During the science training weeks at Stuyvesant and PS 89 this summer, many teachers expressed interest in expanding the opportunities for quality professional development. ESSA's Saturday Science Conference on November 17th is one such opportunity. All-day Workshops will address K to 8th grade topics, can be adapted for older students, provide materials to take home, and all workshops will provide lesson plans, model best practices of science teaching and are aligned with the State Science Standards. Various exhibitors will provide attendees with information about informal science education throughout the city, many of which have excellent programs available to teachers and their classes.

In the coming year, Program Vice-President Gail David will be organizing trips for ESSA members, and will be informing members of activities and events that other organizations plan. Last spring, our Hudson River Sloop Clearwater trip was a great success for the 60 participating educators. Gail is up to date and informed of Project Wild workshops, Alley Pond Environmental Center activities, and many others. She would like to pass on the information to you. Email GiDavid@aol.com for more information.

Our web site should be up and running by the end of the year! It will be a valuable resource for teaching science by providing lessons, web sites, book reviews etc.

ESSA is committed to help teachers teach science. If you want to learn more about getting involved you can email me at mbombal@optonline.com. With your help we will serve you better.

Sincerely,
Mary Bomba