

NRPA Announces Fifteenth Directors School Graduating Class

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Directors School provides exclusive two-year leadership program for park and recreation professionals nationwide

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the nation's leading advocate for parks and recreation, is proud to announce the completion of its 2021 Directors School with 41 graduates from across the country.

The [NRPA Directors School](#) is a premier, exclusive two-year professional development opportunity that prepares new and potential park and recreation directors to be effective leaders. From leadership development and strategy building to budget management and learning to be responsive to changing communities, the Directors School offers park and recreation professionals the opportunity to expand their skills and leave prepared to face new and unforeseen challenges and have maximum impact in their communities.

Over 20 key subject areas were covered in the Directors School this year including leadership for diversity and cultural awareness, environmental sustainability and climate and creating a high-performance agency.

"We are incredibly proud of the 41 graduates of this year's Directors School. For the second consecutive year, students at the Directors School have completed the program entirely virtually, demonstrating the continuing need to empower parks and recreation professionals at a time when local parks and recreation facilities are more important than ever," said Philip Silva, Director of Learning at NRPA.

"What is most encouraging is that students will take the knowledge they learned at the Directors School back to their local communities," continued Silva. "With their newfound expertise, they will be powerful advocates for services, facilities and public spaces that lead to healthier, more equitable communities."

NRPA congratulates the 41 graduates of this year's Directors School: Tyrone Allen, CPSI; Meagan Arvidson, CPRP; Angela Barstad, CPRP; Jenny Bechtold, CPRP; Alyssa Benway, CPRP; Jeffrey Bransford, CPRP; Nikki Caldwell, CPRP; Jill Coffman, CPRP; Mary Colton, CPRP; Richard Compton, Jr.; Andrew Dallner, CPRP; Lisa Davol, CPRE; Shirley Deibler, CPRP; Katie Gamroth, CPRP; Cesar Garcia, CPRP, AFO; Wendy Hartnett, CPRE, AFO; Corey Holmes, Sr.; Matthew Johnson, CPRP; Meredith Lawrence, CPRP, CPSI; James Lillibridge, Jr., CPRP; Elisabeth Lingo; Jarod Logsdon, CPRP; Jason McCray; Brett McCubbin, CPRE, CPSI; Sandra Montgomery, CPRE;

Derek Muller, CPRP; Carmen Powlen-Stogsdill; Darris Sawyer, CPRP; Ronald Schneider, CPRE; Jeanne Sprague, CPRP; Chris Treat, CPRP; Brad Tullberg; Cory Vander Veen, CPRP; Jennifer Waller; Alicia Walters, CPRP, CTRS; David Wells; Bob Williams, CPRP; Katrina Williams, CPRP; Kyle Wintermute, CPRP; Debbie Woodbury, CPRP; and Jay Worley, CPRP.

The next NRPA Directors School will be held August 14 – 18, 2022.

For more information about the NRPA Directors School, click [here](#).

To learn more about NRPA, visit www.nrpa.org.

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About the National Recreation and Park Association

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. With more than 60,000 members, NRPA advances this mission by investing in and championing the work of park and recreation professionals and advocates — the catalysts for positive change in service of equity, climate-readiness, and overall health and well-being. For more information, visit www.nrpa.org. For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, Parks & Recreation, visit www.parksandrecreation.org.