

Climate Action Lab: Welcome Packet

July 20, 2020 - August 4, 2020



Welcome to the Climate Action Lab!

The Climate Action Lab is a 10-day online summer training program held by The CLEO Institute. It looks to educate high school students on climate science and empower them to take action on their own through exposing them to experts and professionals in the field. Through the Climate Action Lab, students will effectively transform into catalysts of change.

Throughout the 10-day program, you will learn about the role that both individual and collective climate action plays in tackling this global climate crisis. This includes:

- Learning about the science, impacts and solutions of climate change in your own community and around the world
- Becoming a certified Climate Speaker
- Acquiring the resources and knowledge needed to mobilize online and create a movement
- Creatively expressing your climate story

You will hear from experts across the fields of climate science, resilience, design, communication, and research who will provide baseline knowledge of climate science, seriousness, and solutions.

Week 1: Monday July 20, Tuesday July 21, Wednesday July 22, Thursday July 23

Week 2: Monday July 27, Tuesday July 28, Wednesday July 29, Thursday July 30

Week 3: Monday August 3, Tuesday August 4

Graduation: Wednesday August 5

Program Organizers:



Nicole Gazo,
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Julieta Rodrigo, Associate
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Gabriela Rodriguez,
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PHASE 1: EDUCATION

Monday July 20 | Climate Change 101

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Welcome, introduction to Zoom platform, group rules and policies, pre-test

10:45 AM - 10:55 AM

Break

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Our House is on Fire: Climate Change 101 by Caroline Lewis, Founder and Senior Climate Adviser, The CLEO Institute

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Kah-limate Challenge through Kahoot!

Homework: [Calculate Your Carbon Footprint](#)

Tuesday July 21 | Climate Impacts in the Real World

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

Weather You Like It or Not, Climate Change Is Happening by John Morales, NBC6 Chief Meteorologist and CLEO Board Member

11:00 AM - 11:10 AM

Break

11:15 AM - 11:45 AM

This Blows: Crash Course in Hurricane Preparedness by David Merrick, Director of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program and the Center for Disaster Risk Policy, Florida State University

11:50 AM - 12:30 PM

Pass the Salt: Freshwater Issues by Irela Bagué, President & CEO, Bagué Group

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

River of Grass: Current Threats to the Everglades by Reverend Houston R. Cypress, Founder, Love the Everglades Movement

Homework: [Drawdown Ecochallenge](#)

Wednesday July 22 | Living with the Land

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM

The Grass is Greener: Sustainable Infrastructure in a Modern World by Curtis + Rogers Design Studio: Aurora Alcaide, Landscape Designer; Mariana Boldu, Director of Resilience Design and Landscape Architect; Aida Curtis, Founding Principal and Landscape Architect; and Robert Curtis, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

11:45 AM - 11:55 AM

Break

12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

Hungry for Change by Lisa Merkle, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Box Greens Hydroponic Farms

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Working with Worms: Composting 101 by Sanna O'Sullivan, Head Gardener, Miami Beach Botanical Garden

Thursday July 23 | People Power in the Climate Crisis

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

Let's Get Technical by Natalia Ortiz, Director of Development, The CLEO Institute

11:15 AM - 11:45 AM

Protecting People and Planet: Environmental Injustice by Reverend Neddy Astudillo, Eco-theologian and Florida Organizer, GreenFaith

11:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Turning the Tide on Climate Gentrification by Valencia Gunder, Campaign Director, The New Florida Majority

12:15 PM - 12:25 PM

Break

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

The Seas Are Rising and So Are We by Delaney Reynolds, Founder & Activist, The Sink or Swim Project and CLEO Board Member

Homework: [DIY Solar Oven](#)

PHASE 2: COMMUNICATION

Monday July 27 | Exploring Our Past, Present, and Future

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Imagining our Future: Design Thinking Methods by The CLEO Institute: Nicole Gazo, Program Intern; Julieta Rodrigo, Associate Program Manager; Gabriela Rodriguez, Coordinator Intern

11:15 AM - 11:25 AM

Break

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Telling Your Climate Story: Storytelling Workshop by Salome Garcia, Policy and Campaigns Manager, The CLEO Institute, and GenCLEO Youth Leaders: Sabrina Hu, Lisandra Morales, Nia Ogletree, Charlotte Stuart-Tilley

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Climate Change and You: Photovoice Project by Gina Maranto, Director, Ecosystem Science and Policy, University of Miami

Homework: Begin Taking Photovoice Pictures

Tuesday July 28 | Using Our Superpowers

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

To Whom It May Concern: Letter to the Editor & Op-Ed Training by Kate Stein, Former Environmental Reporter with WLRN

11:00 AM - 11:10 AM

Break

11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

Changing the Climate on Climate: Civics 101 by Dwight Bullard, Political Director, New Florida Majority

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM

Raise Your Voice: Speaking with Elected Officials by Salome Garcia, Policy and Campaigns Manager, The CLEO Institute

12:35 PM - 1:00 PM

Letters to the Future by Adam Roberti, Director, Cortada Projects

Wednesday July 29 | Starting Climate Conversations

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

Planting Your Roots in Government by Kathy Castor, United States Representative and Anna Eskamani, Florida State Representative

11:00 AM - 11:10 AM

Break

11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

Environmental Changemakers in Florida: Lina Castaneda, Sustainability Activist and Creative; Linda Cheung, Creative Director, Before It's Too Late (BITL); Sofia Mesa, Sustainability Director, UThrift, University of Miami; Jackson Oberlink, Coalition Coordinator, ReThink Energy Florida

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Finding Common Ground by The Yale Program on Climate Change Communication: Lisa Fernandez, Associate Director, and Ruthie Gold, Independent Contractor

Homework: Climate Conversation with Loved One (Conversation Deck)

PHASE 3: MOBILIZATION

Thursday July 30 | The Climate Movement

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

Get Up, Stand Up: Movement Building 101 by GenCLEO Youth Leaders: Samantha Gazda and John Paul Mejia

11:10 AM - 11:20 AM

Break

11:25 AM - 12:15 PM

This is a Crisis: Climate Emergency Declarations by Rebecca Harris, Organizing Director, The Climate Mobilization

12:15 PM - 1:00 PM

The Youth Climate Movement Roundtable: Tokatawin Iron Eyes, Indigenous Climate Youth Activist; Jamie Margolin, Founder and Co-Executive Director, Zero Hour; John Paul Mejia, GenCLEO Youth Leader and Hub Coordinator, Sunrise Movement Miami; Kevin J. Patel, Executive Director, One Up Action International

Monday August 3 | Onwards! Taking Action

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Welcome, check in

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM

Let's Get Loud: Writing to Elected Officials by Julieta Rodrigo, Associate Program Manager, The CLEO Institute

10:45 AM - 11:15 AM

Rising Above the Noise by Alex Harris, Climate Change Reporter, Miami Herald

11:20 AM - 11:50 AM

Nature Is Not the Only Thing that Tweets by Gina Maranto, Director, Ecosystem Science and Policy, University of Miami, and Gabriela Rodriguez, Coordinator Intern, The CLEO Institute

11:50 AM - 12:00 PM

Break, get supplies

12:00 PM - 12:20 PM

It's the Sign of the Times: Sign-Making Relaxation Sesh by Nicole Gazo, Program Intern

12:20 PM - 1:00 PM

Post-test, Certification and Graduation instructions, Wrap Up

Tuesday August 4 | Speaker Certification Day

Becoming a certified Climate Speaker and presentation to a family or friend

Wednesday August 5 | Graduation

Details to be shared with the group

KEY TERMS FOR STUDENTS TO LEARN

Adaptation

Initiatives and measures to reduce the vulnerability of natural and human systems against actual or expected climate change effects.

Carbon Cycle

Circulation of carbon atoms through the Earth systems as a result of photosynthetic conversion of carbon dioxide into complex organic compounds by plants, which are consumed by other organisms, and return of the carbon to the atmosphere as carbon dioxide as a result of respiration, decay of organisms, and combustion of fossil fuels.

Circular Economy

A circular economy is based on the principles of designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems.

Climate Change

A significant and persistent change in the mean state of the climate or its variability.

Climate Forecast

A prediction about average or extreme climate conditions for a region in the long-term future (seasons to decades).

Climate Gentrification

When the response to climate impacts directly increases disparities in communities and displaces less affluent residents.

Climate System

The matter, energy, and processes involved in interactions among Earth's atmosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, lithosphere, biosphere, and Earth-Sun interactions.

Climate

The long-term average of conditions in the atmosphere, ocean, and ice sheets and sea ice described by statistics, such as means and extremes.

Climate variability

Natural changes in climate that fall within the normal range of extremes for a particular region, as measured by temperature, precipitation, and frequency of events. Drivers of climate variability include the El Niño Southern Oscillation and other phenomena.

Compost

A mixture of various decaying organic substances, as dead leaves, vegetables, or manure, used for fertilizing soil.

Environment

These include regular changes in Earth's orbit about the sun, re-arrangement of continents through plate tectonic motions, or anthropogenic modification of the atmosphere.

Feedback

The process through which a system is controlled, changed, or modulated in response to its own output. Positive feedback results in amplification of the system output; negative feedback reduces the output of a system.

Fossil fuels

Energy sources such as petroleum, coal, or natural gas, which are derived from living matter that existed during a previous geologic time period.

Global Warming

The observed increase in average temperature near the Earth's surface and in the lowest layer of the atmosphere. In common usage, "global warming" often refers to the warming that has occurred as a result of increased emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities. Global warming is a type of climate change; it can also lead to other changes in climate conditions, such as changes in precipitation patterns.

Green Infrastructure

The range of measures that use plant or soil systems, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest and reuse, or landscaping to store, infiltrate, or evapotranspire stormwater and reduce flows to sewer systems or to surface waters.

Mitigation

Human interventions to reduce the sources of greenhouse gases or enhance the sinks that remove them from the atmosphere.

Plant-Based

Consisting or entirely made from plants and vegetables.

Resilience

The capability of a strained body to recover or adjust easily to misfortune or change especially by compressive stress.

Sea level rise (SLR)

An increase in global mean sea level as a result of an increase in the volume of water in the world's oceans. Sea level rise is usually attributed to global climate change by thermal expansion of the water in the oceans and by melting of ice sheets and glaciers on land.

Stakeholder

An individual or group potentially affected by the activities of a company or organization.

Storm surge

A rising of the sea as a result of atmospheric pressure changes and wind associated with a storm.

Vulnerability

The degree to which physical, biological, and socio-economic systems are susceptible to and unable to cope with adverse impacts of climate change.

Weather forecast

A prediction about the specific atmospheric conditions expected for a location in the short-term future (hours to days).

Weather

The specific conditions of the atmosphere at a particular place and time, measured in terms of variables that include temperature, precipitation, cloudiness, humidity, air pressure, and wind.