

## On Outreach

With help from the [National Science Foundation](#), through their grant to the [Center for Advanced Study in Education](#) for the [GK-12 Fellows program](#), I have been able to dedicate time and effort into producing materials that closely match my dream of using global science research to enrich the high school curriculum. In addition to funding, the program provides workshops, time in the classroom, and the opportunity to produce an Authentic Research Module in Science (ARM).

I am also thankful the [American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing](#) for giving me the forum to share my progress at their national convention in San Diego on April 29, 2010. Professional societies are a great way to perform outreach, and make friends with common interests. The [National Marine Educators Association](#) hosted their [2006 annual conference](#) at CUNY's Kingsborough Community College and Long Island University's Brooklyn campus where I presented an early version of the "[The Coastal Ecology Language and Learning System \(CELLS\)](#)". In it, I talked about creating support materials for the classroom, but had no idea at the time how to make that vision come true. I must say that it is my friends and mentors from all over that have brought me forward. An early advance came after my friends at the [Long Island Geographic Information Society](#) asked me to present on my idea, when it was only an idea. Student interest in that talk, "Global Science for Teens," at Brookhaven National Laboratory, on November 16, 2005 laid a path on which I am still walking.

Over the years, I have volunteered for the [Riverhead Foundation](#), serving various roles in educational outreach. On Seal Cruises, I answered questions about the ecosystem, the seals, and the role of the foundation in the community. Similarly, at regional fairs and the aquarium, I served the role of front-line outreach presenter. During these times, I wished that I had access to the tools that I use professionally to show the range of environmental science in the community. It is my goal for this project to get the interactive tools of mapping up and running, with the goal of answering the questions of geography as they pertain to the Riverhead Foundation's mission. Most recently, through my participation, I was able to place an advertisement to promote the NSF link between the CUNY Graduate Center and Astor Collegiate Academy (See Below).

However, the bays of New York City do not exist in isolation from land use. I work with the [South Shore Audubon Society](#) to clean Brookside Preserve, through which a tributary flows on its way to the seal habitat. Further upstream, I have worked with the conservators of the [Hempstead Plains](#), which is at the top of a tributary to Hempstead Bay. Protecting seal habitat is important as part of an integrated approach to preserving healthy ecology throughout our environment.

Most recently, in New York City, I worked with the [Bronx River Association](#) to introduce students to field research. While the interactive technology of the in-class assignments, using videos, online mapping, and GPS was interesting, there is nothing like the excitement for science that comes from scooping into the mud, sieving a stream, or taking a measurement and seeing what you found.



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