

Panel Discussion: Creative Climate Pedagogy

Moderator:

Grace Nosek, University of Toronto
g.nosek@utoronto.ca

Panelists:

Kshamta Hunter, University of British Columbia, kshamta.hunter@ubc.ca
Rae Landriau, Carleton University and Create Change Collective, rae.landriau@gmail.com
Abhirami Senthilkumaran, British Columbia Institute of Technology, abhirami_s@bcit.ca
Paul Shore, Planet Hero Kids, pshore26@telus.net

Keywords: pedagogy, climate emotions, multimodal learning, climate literacy, justice-based approaches, arts-based education

Regardless of the classroom context and student age range, climate change education poses unique challenges due to its combination of complex subject material with themes which can resonate with or challenge the student's personal values and social, cultural, and political ideologies. Educators and parents alike are faced with the task of simultaneously promoting climate literacy and guiding their students through navigating the emotional and affective experiences that accompany climate education.

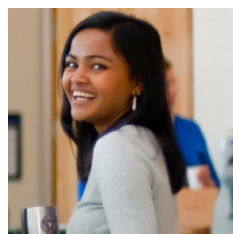
In this panel, you will hear from educators and authors whose work aims to instill hope and resiliency through creative approaches to climate pedagogy, from graphic novels for elementary grades to young adult fantasy fiction and cooperative board games. The panelists represent a variety of perspectives in education, including parents, instructors, students, and curriculum developers.

Questions and topics to be discussed may include:

1. What motivates a hope-oriented approach to climate education?
2. How are these pedagogical tools implemented in and beyond the classroom?
3. What are the outcomes of these approaches?
4. How can educators and parents implement these practices?

The panel will be of interest to a range of audiences, including educators working with students of all age ranges (including teacher educators), parents, students, and anyone else who talks with the young people in their lives about the climate emergency. Audience members will learn how they can take a values, justice-based approach to climate education that honours the perspectives and lived experiences of students and their families, with joy, hope, and *fun*.

About the Panelists



Kshamta Hunter is an instructor in the Faculty of Education and the manager of Transformative Learning & Student Engagement at the University of British Columbia. Her research aims to design responsive and relevant integrative curriculum and pedagogical approaches for the 21st century, through a values-based and justice-informed lens. She is the Project Lead for Climate Kind Pedagogy, which cultivates climate and justice informed approaches and promotes the practice of kindness within educational settings.



Rae Landriau is a graduate student at Carleton University pursuing an MSc. in physical geography. Their research is on legacy drilling waste sites in the western Canadian Arctic, in partnerships with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Inuvialuit Land Administration and NSERC PermafrostNet. Rae is a nature enthusiast and founded Create Change Collective, a community-based organization dedicated to making environmental education more accessible through the use of art.

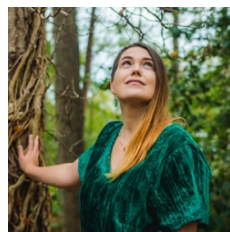


Abhirami Senthilkumaran learns and unlearns on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples. She grew up in Tamil Nadu, and has lived on Ho Chunk land, Kumeyaay land, and Ohlone land. She teaches Electrical Engineering & Technology at BCIT's School of Energy and hosts game-based learning workshops for climate change education in partnership with the Vancouver Public Library. As a BCcampus Research Fellow at UBC, she is studying the learning outcomes from the use of a cooperative board game in an introductory climate change course.



Paul Shore is an award-winning author and accomplished business professional and engineer who has always embraced adventure and exploring nature with children. Born and raised in Ottawa, Paul moved to the west coast after graduating from Queen's University in 1990 and has since worked around the globe in high technology, sport, and healthcare. Paul currently is focused on a climate action writing project that strives to help alleviate childhood climate anxiety, while cultivating a sense of hope and opportunity among young children, parents, and educators.

About the Moderator



Grace Nosek is a legal scholar, youth climate justice organizer, and author identifying and pushing back against the toxic narratives the fossil fuel industry has seeded deep in our public imagination and political reality by centering justice, joyful community, hope, agency, and systems change in her work and scholarship. She is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Toronto, working on co-creating the city of Toronto's Youth Climate Engagement Strategy and researching how to inoculate youth against climate despair. She holds a BA from Rice University, a law degree from Harvard Law School, and a Master of Laws and PhD in law from UBC, and she founded the Climate Hub at UBC. Grace is turning her PhD thesis into a queer young adult romance novel about magical youth climate strikers—ROOTBOUND (think Greta Thunberg meets the Hunger Games)—and she's never met a dance party she didn't want to join.