



[naturenexusinstitute.org](http://naturenexusinstitute.org)

## Mission

Nature Nexus Institute (NNI) is founded on the belief that reciprocity between communities and nature is essential to the survival of both. We seek to provide equitable and intergenerational entry points to cultivating healthy community-nature relationships. To that end, we strive to be a nexus for science, culture, art, and research endeavors that result in a new generation of change-makers and storytellers.

## Vision

We envision a future where the nexus of nature and community is recognized, cultivated, and celebrated.

## Community Leadership

The leadership team behind the NNI reflects the diverse communities that we serve and has decade-long connections to Los Angeles County schools and local neighborhoods.

- Four of our seven permanent staff members are alumni from our program.
- We hire 10-20 program alumni annually for seasonal positions.
- We provide 30-40 paid internships each year for high school and college students.



## Experiential, Place-Based

We seek to foster positive nature experiences in order to dispel fears and stigmas related to nature by encouraging engagement with the natural world through experiential practices that include both science and art.

- We offer guided walks, workshops, and field trips at multiple sites throughout the Ballona Creek Watershed.
- 3000-5000 people participate each year, mainly Title I students



## Collaboration

NNI is dedicated to making nature accessible for all. That starts with understanding the obstacles that prevent marginalized communities from accessing nature.

It also means learning how communities may already be connecting to nature.

- We collaborate with local businesses, non-profits, local library branches, and state and county agencies to maximize diversity of programming and public reach.
- We are a member of the STEM Partnership, collaborating with over 25 organizations to provide online science programming to thousands of Los Angeles Unified School District students during the covid crisis.



To learn more, please contact Carol Babeli, Development Director ([cbabeli@naturenexusinstitute.org](mailto:cbabeli@naturenexusinstitute.org))