Network of Alliances for Geographic Education

Advancing Geo-literacy

NatGeoEd.org/alliances

Mission

The National Geographic Network of Alliances for Geographic Education is dedicated to building a geographically literate society by leading systemic reform and supporting the continuous improvement of geographic education.

Core Values

The National Geographic Alliance Programs have a profound respect for educators and support this honorable profession.

Geographic literacy is a necessity and right of all citizens.

Goals

1. Support educators who are well-prepared in geographic concepts, knowledge and skills.
2. Foster collaboration and partnership building between institutions.
3. Provide high quality resources.
4. Create consumer demand regarding geo-literacy.
5. Support systems of continuous improvement throughout the Network.

2012 Activities

- Strategic Planning Reviews
- Support for messaging, communication and fund raising
- Network professional development opportunities and webinars
- On-going Network support

The Network of Alliances is a grassroots organization dedicated to supporting geographic education. Alliances are partnerships between university faculty and K-12 educators. These state-based organizations connect educators, provide world-class professional development and promote educational innovation at the state and local levels. Since 1986, National Geographic and the Alliances have worked to catalyze “geo-education” reform across the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.
I. Professional Development

281 Professional Development opportunities were held nationally for educators, an increase of 66 events from 2010

56% In-service Educators

33% Pre-service Educators

4% Informal Educators

7% Other (librarians, homeschoolers, etc.)

II. Instructional Materials

34 Alliances produced and/or distributed instructional materials

Lesson plans and maps were the most numerous, but large projects such as the California Atlas were also completed

III. Funding

15 Alliances received over $100K:
12 received between $100-300K;
3 received more than $300K

IV. Policy

27 Alliances have state educational assessments that include geography, up from 22 in last reporting.

V. Communication

E-mail list-serves are the most common form of communication; 27 Alliances also have social networking sites

VI. Strategic Planning

334 Steering committee members are educators: 40 state/district staff; 24 non-profit staff members, 17 business persons; 13 technology specialists; 5 graduate students; and 4 state or local government officials

National Geographic Education Foundation

The National Geographic Education Foundation (NGEF) oversees the Society’s endowed funds for geographic education. In 2011, the Foundation’s endowment was worth over $151.8 million. The Foundation gave 76 Alliance grants totaling $2,880,348 to support the creation and dissemination of educational resources, professional development for educators, public awareness activities, policy reform initiatives, research and other programs that enhance geographic education. All 50 states, plus Canada, Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C. receive basic funding from the NGEF. In addition, 23 states have full endowments of a million dollars or more and 9 have partial endowments that were created in partnerships between the Society and the state.