

MODERATOR HARRIET SHUGARMAN



Selected as a [2020 New York City Climate Hero](#) and a 2019 featured speaker at the [Global Engagement Summit](#) at United Nations Headquarters, Harriet Shugarman is a sought-after speaker, recognized nationally as an *influencer and connector* in the climate movement. Harriet is the Executive Director of *ClimateMama*, an on-line community that reaches individuals in over 110 countries and all 50 states. As a leader and mentor with *The Climate Reality Project*, Harriet chairs the Climate Reality NYC Metro Chapter and was the recipient of the Climate Reality 2017 Green Ring Award. Harriet is also profiled in Mr. Gore's 2017 book: *An Inconvenient Sequel, Truth to Power*. Her writing and thought pieces on climate solutions appear in national and regional publications on-line and

in print. Harriet's book: ["Talking to Your Kids About Climate Change, Turning Angst to Action"](#) is scheduled for release by New Society Publishers this month. Harriet has worked for more than 25 years in Canada and in the United States with governments, international organizations, and educational institutions on climate and sustainability issues - 13 with the International Monetary Fund - as an economist, policy analyst, informal educator and an adjunct professor. Harriet teaches World Sustainability and Climate Change and Society at Ramapo College of New Jersey, and is a past chair of her New Jersey town's Environmental Commission and Green Team.

Alexa Fantacone, MS, MA

Alexa Fantacone joined Teaneck Creek as the Executive Director in June 2015. She is responsible for volunteer management, recruitment and outreach, physical oversight of the 46 acres, program and event development, the organizations fundraising and finances, and the Conservancy's communication and social media. Her accomplishments at Teaneck Creek include the Rain Barrel Water Harvest System, community and capacity building which has led to partnerships with national companies, and development of unique environmental education programs like Bats and Brews.

Prior to working at Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Alexa worked at Tenafly Nature Center as an environmental educator and Greater Newark Conservancy as the Newark Youth Leadership Project and Farm Stand Coordinator.

Alexa has an MA in Environmental Studies: Environmental Management and an MS in Sustainability Science as well as a graduate certificate in Water Resource Management from Montclair State University. At MSU, Alexa worked as a TA teaching classes in Earth and Environmental Science and completed an internship with Biohabitats drafting a park management plan for Area 1 of Overpeck County Park.

She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Ramapo College of New Jersey in 2014 with a BA in Environmental Studies, with minors in Environmental Science and Public Policy. During her time at Ramapo Alexa worked as an environmental educator at the Meadowlands Environment Center, was Vice President of 1STEP (Students Together for Environmental Progress), was the chair of Sustainable Living Facilities, was co-project manager of her senior capstone class on environmental justice, and completed an internship detailing the first bird species list at Paterson Great Falls National Historic Park.

In her spare time, Alexa chairs the Nature Program Cooperative, is secretary of her local UNICO chapter's Ladies Auxiliary, and has been a part of several national demonstrations for a healthy planet including the March on Climate, DC, March on Climate, NYC, and Keystone XL, DC.

David Robinson

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

NJ STATE CLIMATOLOGIST

I am an earth scientist, more specifically a physical geographer and climatologist. My research interests run the spatial gamut from global to local, with an underlying theme being the development of a better understanding of the climate system. The majority of my published research has focused on hemispheric and regional snow cover dynamics and interactions of snow cover with other climate elements. This includes maintaining an internationally-recognized database of Northern Hemisphere snow extent throughout the satellite era <http://snowcover.org>. This information is used in our Global Snow Lab's research endeavors, efforts of others, and in our contributions to national and international climate assessments.

As the New Jersey State Climatologist, I conduct research of an applied nature that focuses on the diverse weather and climate of the Garden State. This includes topics such as climate change, drought, flooding, and issues involving agriculture, transportation, public safety and commerce <http://njclimate.org>. The Office of the NJ State Climatologist also operates one of the most spatially dense observing networks in the nation. The NJ Weather and Climate Network <http://njwx.org> provides timely information to decision makers, the research community, and the general public. Finally, I have served on a number of national committees and occasionally publish on issues related to my interest in the collection and archiving of accurate climatic data.

Education:

Ph.D. 1984 Columbia University

M.S. 1981 Columbia University

B.S. 1977 Dickinson College



Paula Rogovin, a graduate of the University of Chicago and Bank Street College of Education, taught in the New York City public elementary schools for 44 years until she retired in 2018. She has lived in Teaneck for 37 years and is the mother of 3 adult sons and grandmother of 2. Paula has been an activist all her life. She co-founded *Educators Against Racism and Apartheid*, the *Teaneck Peace Vigil* (with consecutive weekly vigils since 2005), the *Coalition to Ban Unsafe Oil Trains*, and the *Don't Gas the Meadowlands Coalition* (working to stop proposed fracked gas power plants). Paula has written several books, which she wrote to assist educators in developing social justice curriculum: *Apartheid is Wrong, A Curriculum for Young People* (United Nations Center Against Apartheid), and 3 Heinemann books: *Classroom Interviews*, *a World of Learning*, *The*

Research Workshop, Bringing the World into Your Classroom, *Why Can't You Behave*, *a Teachers' Guide to Creative Classroom Management*). In 2015, City Council members introduced a bill on behalf of her kindergarten students. The bill, reintroduced in 2019, would ban the use of Round-up and other toxic pesticides in New York City parks and public spaces. A final vote on the bill has been delayed because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

