

NEVADA RECREATION & PARKS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



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*Every
accomplishment
starts with
the decision
to try.*



August 2021

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2021

NRPS CONFERENCE & EXHIBIT HALL

Las Vegas, Nevada

OCTOBER 18TH - 21ST



The 2021 annual NRPS Conference and Exhibit Hall will be held in downtown Las Vegas at Meet Las Vegas. Conference will kick-off on Monday, October 18, 2021 with our opening social. General session occurs Tuesday, October 19, 2021- Wednesday, October 20, 2021 and we will close out the week on Thursday, October 21, 2021 with our 4th Annual LEADership Institute. We have a lot of exciting things in store this year; including, top-notch education programs, a world-renowned keynote speaker, alliance building events and plenty of opportunities to explore the exhibitor space.

For more information or to register visit www.nrps.org

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

2021 NRPS Conference & Exhibit Hall



NEELEY BHATT

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Neelay's career on five continents includes Disney, The Super Bowl, The Olympics, besides several years of consulting, public speaking and training. TEDx, the global platform for ideas, describes him as a business and communications visionary, and his service on the National Recreation and Park Association's Board of Directors served to ensure that 'no child is left indoors'.

He serves as the Vice President of the Immigrant Welcome Center and aspires to make Indy the most welcoming city in America. Most recently, he was chosen by the Indianapolis Business Journal as Indy's Forty under 40 business leaders impacting the community.

He is an alumnus of the Harvard Kennedy School and #1 ranked Sports Management Program at Ohio University and his keynotes and talks on magical customer service, trends, empathetic leadership and the art of storytelling have benefited executives, professionals, startups and students from North America to China and from Europe to New Zealand.

He champions "Ideas Worth Spreading" as the curator and organizer for TEDxIndianapolis, TEDxIndianapolisWomen and TEDxCollegePark (MD) besides leading a TED Global workshop in Canada, presented multiple TEDx talks and coaching TEDx presenters as well.

As the Principal at PROS Consulting INC. (headquartered in Indianapolis), he has led 130+ strategic and master planning, sports facility development, customer service training, and marketing and branding projects. These projects have recommended facility development and infrastructure improvements totaling over \$2 billion USD and are helping shape a better vision for health and wellness, conservation and social equity in communities globally.



**2021 NRPS CONFERENCE
& EXHIBIT HALL**

ANNUAL AWARDS INFORMATION

NRPS Awards are presented to individuals and agencies to recognize their professional and personal efforts in the fields of parks and recreation. The Awards Committee receives and distributes all submissions which are then carefully reviewed by a panel of NRPS members from around the State. Their responsibility is to select the most outstanding nominations for recognition. Awards will be presented at the 2021 NRPS Conference Awards Banquet in Las Vegas, Nevada. Award submission period is July 30, 2021 - August 29, 2021 . Please visit the NRPS Annual Awards page for submission recommendations and awards criteria now.

<https://nevadarecreationandparksociety.wildapricot.org/Awards>

PARK RELATED AWARDS:

ELMER H. ANDERSON PARK EXCELLENCE AWARD

SILVER STATE LEGACY PARK AWARD

PROGRAM RELATED AWARDS:

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AWARDS

SILVER STATE LEGACY PROGRAM AWARD

PROFESSIONAL RELATED AWARDS:

FELLOWSHIP AWARD

CITATION AWARD

DUNDEE AWARD

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD

HAVE QUESTIONS

OR INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF THE AWARDS

SELECTION COMMITTEE?

EMAIL [BRITTANY MARTINEZ - BMARTINEZ@CITYOFSPARKS.US](mailto:BMARTINEZ@CITYOFSPARKS.US)

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Wow! What a year we have all experienced! We have experienced one of the most challenging years of our careers. This unprecedented health crisis pushed us into action as we proactively worked to meet the communities' needs. Parks and recreation professionals have truly exemplified what servant leadership looks like. Teams throughout the state leaped into action serving the needs of the community through meal distributions, park cleanups, COVID testing sites, vaccine deployments, community distributions, emergency sheltering, and let's not forget emergency childcare. Despite the uncertainty the pandemic brought our teams continued not only offering emergency childcare throughout the state, but for many emergency childcare included managing the educational success of our communities' youth. I have admired the countless stories of everything our teams have managed during this time.

In addition to all of the efforts to deliver resources to our communities, this year we saw such a willingness for personal and professional growth from our teams with several park professionals completing their CPSI certifications. We have highly attended virtual forums and lunch and learns. Afraid to A.S.K. went virtual with a two-part series on Supporting Communities of Color.

Your NRPS board has been hard at work. In January we held a virtual retreat and focused on goal setting for the upcoming year in order to better align with the National Recreation and Park Association's Pillars. We focused on creating a pathway towards unifying the Parks and Recreation Directors across the various agencies in our state. This proved to be highly beneficial as we worked through numerous state mandates that seemed to change constantly.

Now as elections are in full swing, the NRPS board is busy at work in conjunction with the Conference Planning Committee to coordinate the 2021 Conference at MEET Las Vegas on October 19 and 20, 2021. This is certainly a busy yet exciting time. We will be releasing information soon regarding socials and other conference activities. We look forward to engaging and learning with you all once again soon.

Needless to say that mandated closures seem to provide even more opportunities for our teams to provide for the community. I am proud to stand beside all of our parks and recreation professionals who continue to give it all they've got. See you all in October.

The best is yet to come!

PRISCILLA SCOTT - NRPS PRESIDENT

LEAD INSTITUTE

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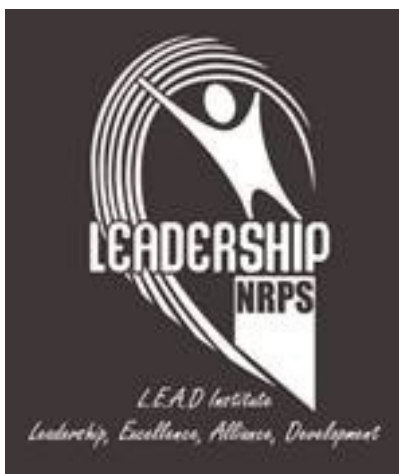
The Nevada Recreation & Park Society's LEAD Institute is a new annual leadership development program for early, mid-career and seasoned professionals. Leadership development is critical to both public and parks and recreation employees. It provides participants and agencies with skill sets, competencies, and a growing expertise that improves leadership ability and fosters individual and organizational success.

This three-year program will enhance individual organizational leadership skills, specifically addressing leadership styles, philosophies, and competencies. In addition, the program explores and introduces emerging approaches of integrating leadership development and personal growth.

The course is designed to provide participatory and collaborative leadership and allows participants to learn from instructors and their fellow classmates. The intent is to prepare leaders with essential skills that will better prepare them for future challenges that require strategic thinking, collaboration, systems thinking, and leading change.

Why should I attend the NRPS LEAD Institute?

- To prepare for current and future organizational leadership roles.
- To strengthen your personal knowledge base about leadership and its relationship to organizational success.
- To strengthen your knowledge base about leadership principles and activities.
- To reflect a personal commitment to the parks and recreation profession.
- To demonstrate an awareness and commitment o personal and professional growth.
- To be a part of succession planning for yourself and your organization.



CERTIFICATION GUIDE



Certified Parks & Recreation Professional (CPRP) Certification

The Certified Park and Recreation Professional certification is the national standard for all parks and recreation professionals who want to be at the forefront of their profession. Attaining the CPRP designation shows that you have met education and experience qualifications, and illustrates your commitment to the profession as well as your knowledge and understanding of key concepts within parks and recreation.



Certified Park & Recreation Executive (CPRE) Certification

The Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE) establishes a national standard for managerial, administrative and executive parks and recreation professionals. This mastery-level credential focuses on the practical knowledge and current real-world skills necessary in today's changing park and recreation environment.



Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) Certification

The National Recreation and Park Association offers the industry leading certification program in playground safety, the Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) Certification program. The CPSI certification program provides the most comprehensive and up-to-date training on playground safety issues including hazard identification, equipment specifications, surfacing requirements and risk management methods



Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) Certification

Our citizens depend on aquatic facilities to improve quality of life, promote community and encourage wellness. National certification is a mark of distinction and signifies to the public that you are a serious professional in the field of aquatics and committed to providing the community with the highest level of service and professional excellence.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT NRPA.ORG/CERTIFICATION



YOUR NRPS EXECUTIVE BOARD

PAST PRESIDENT: KATHY KELLY-BALLINGER

PRESIDENT: PRISCILLA SCOTT

PRESIDENT ELECT: SCOTT MORGAN

VICE PRESIDENT (NORTH): DAN MASSEY

VICE PRESIDENT (SOUTH): ANGELA SUMMERS

SECRETARY: KATHY BURKHARDT

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