



## Teton Science Schools AmeriCorps Service Members Fall 2020



**Hannah Anderson**, she/her  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Hannah is from Wilmot, New Hampshire where she is currently living with her two sisters and two dogs. She attended Boston College and graduated with a B.S in Environmental Geoscience and a minor in Education in 2019. At Boston College, she was an active member of the Real Food Group, which focused on providing and supporting local, green, humane food sources to the college community. Hannah is also passionate about working with children and has spent the last year nannying. Hannah is excited to combine her love for the outdoors and early education through serving with the AmeriCorps team. In her free time she enjoys going on hikes with her dogs, swimming and spending time at the lake.



**Leah Fietsam**, she/her  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Leah is a teacher, mom and life-long student. She received her B.S. in Communications from Purdue University and M.Ed. in Curriculum Instruction/Design from DePaul University. Leah has worked with students from Pre-K through High School in both traditional classrooms, informal learning environments and volunteer settings, including the Chicago Public Schools, First Presbyterian Preschool and Reading Power for Literacy. She is a Yoga RYT and currently works as a visiting teacher for Grow Through Mindfulness, a K-3 mindfulness program in the Chicago suburbs. In addition to yoga, her hobbies include running, golf, travel and reading. She can be found kayaking on Lake Michigan or wandering through the Open Lands Prairie any chance she gets. She is excited to participate in Americorps in order to continue learning, growing, and marrying her interests in education, health and wellness, and the great outdoors.



**Jessi Friedman**, she/her, they/them  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Born in Los Angeles, CA, Jessi quickly fell in love with the mountains to her east and the coastline to her west, which took her all the way to the Maine coastline to attend Bowdoin College. Academically, Bowdoin opened her up to the worlds of oceanography and environmental science and conservation. In her past couple summers, she pursued her interest in outdoor education in New England and the Pacific Northwest leading for Overland Summers. Through her AmeriCorps service term, Jessi is excited to hone her skills as an outdoor educator, learning how to best share her knowledge and passion for the natural world with people from all backgrounds. In her free time, Jessi loves to get outside and hike, ski or splash around in the ocean, as well as do puzzles and riddles.



**Hanna Holcomb**, she/her  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Hanna grew up in rural Connecticut and graduated from Wesleyan University with a B.A. in biology and English. While in college she worked as a field assistant in an ecology lab and spent summers building hiking trails with the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps. In 2017 she began writing for Connecticut Woodlands Magazine and fell in love with the challenge of communicating science to a broad audience. As an AmeriCorps member she is eager to learn about the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and develop skills to engage and inspire students. In her free time, she enjoys trail running, skiing, and journaling.



**Kyra Kliman**, she/her  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Raised in Northern California, Kyra spent a lot of time in the mountains of Lake Tahoe, where she found her passion for being in the outdoors. In her major, going to college in Lake Tahoe, she focused on outdoor expeditions while learning how to be a guide and an outdoor educator. Also, in college, Kyra was a backpacking guide and a volunteer teacher aid for a special education teacher. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and split boarding. Kyra enjoys teaching kids while spreading her knowledge about the natural world and supporting students to achieve academic success. From all of Kyra's experiences working in the outdoors and as well as working with children in the classroom, she chose AmeriCorps to help her transition into her professional life.



**Nina Moore**, she/her  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Nina Moore originally hails from Freeport, Maine, but has been living and learning in the West for most of her adult life. This spring, she graduated from Whitman College in Washington state, where she earned a degree in Environmental Studies and Biology and completed a senior thesis that examined the management implications of quaking aspen conservation strategies. More broadly, Nina is interested in the interface between rural and urban communities in the West, public lands management and advocacy, and ornithology. Serving for AmeriCorps and TSS is an incredible opportunity to ground those interests in experience, specifically through forging relationships with non-profit organizations and colleagues that are likewise motivated to conserve Western ecosystems and communities. Nina lives in Bozeman, Montana, and spends most of her free time climbing, hiking, fishing, cooking and watering her house plants.



**Maggie Murphy, she/her**  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Hailing from Durham, North Carolina Maggie developed a love of the outdoors through her family vacations out west. In college she studied biology with interests in both health care and environmental advocacy. Unsure which path she wanted to delve into, Maggie decided to move to South East Asia after graduation where she worked as both an English teacher in Thailand and a leadership resident of a non-profit promoting women's education and empowerment in Cambodia. Eventually hoping to work with marginalized populations affected by climate change, Maggie hopes to learn from TSS place-based education how to instill in others (and herself!) ways to critically think about and engage with a given environment as well as develop the tools needed to tackle various issues of sustainability and community health. For good times and good vibes you can usually find her on a mountain hiking or snowboarding with friends. Otherwise she dabbles in cooking, yoga, running, and dreaming of the next country she wants to explore.



**Kevin Patterson, he/him**  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Kevin is originally from Saint Paul, Minnesota. He spent the last few years in Colorado, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in geology from Colorado College. He chose to be an AmeriCorps member at TSS because he was drawn to outdoor education and community engagement. He recently moved to Jackson, Wyoming, and loves to spend time getting outside in any way shape or form, but especially can't wait for ski season.



**Jack Polk, he/him**  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Jack Polk is from St. Louis, Missouri. This May, he graduated from the University of Virginia with a degree in Foreign Affairs. Jack is interested in contributing to the world of global development, specifically in the fields of peacebuilding, democracy, and human rights. Previous meaningful experiences that have driven him towards this path include interning with a consulting start-up in Cape Town, South Africa, studying conservation finance in Kenya, and leading coming-of-age students on outdoor adventures aimed at self-discovery and growth in Colorado and Costa Rica. Through these experiences, he has come to understand the critical role virtue, community, and stewardship play in creating and sustaining healthy working environments. It is these lessons and values that attracted him to TSS, a place where students can better understand the world and their place in it. In his free time, he loves to camp, fly fish, hike, explore music, play guitar, play and watch hockey, and spend time exploring and trying new things with friends and family.



**Mary Sellars, she/her**  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Mary completed her undergraduate degree in Wildlife Biology and Geographic Information Systems from Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin on the shores of Lake Superior. While studying in Wisconsin's Northwoods she managed a research project examining the breeding habitat of the American Kestrel and prescribed fires as a source of ecological restoration for wildlife. She also spent a semester living in the bush and working on a wildlife field crew in the Okavango Delta of Botswana. Mary has been living in Phoenix, Arizona working on projects related to veterinary medicine and is currently in Bozeman, Montana enjoying the wilderness of the Northern Rockies. These experiences led her to pursue an AmeriCorps position with TSS to serve at the intersections of wildlife science and community organization in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem. In her free time Mary likes to hula hoop, trail run, paint with watercolors and bird.



**Hannah Sherman, she/her**  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Hannah graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.S. in Earth and Environmental Science. Until March, Hannah worked for World Wildlife Fund, focusing on work with companies to reduce plastic pollution. Hannah left WWF for a position with the National Park Service in Environmental Education, which was cancelled due to COVID. Hannah is passionate about place-based education and is excited to work with TSS as an AmeriCorps service member. Hannah is currently living in Cape Cod, MA, and spends most of her free time swimming in the Bay, hiking in the Cape Cod National Seashore, or at her pottery studio.



**Kendall Stevens, she/her**  
*Field Education AmeriCorps Member*

Kendall is coming from Anchorage, Alaska where she grew up running, skiing and playing in the mountains and rivers. She recently graduated from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington where she studied biological sciences and learned the importance of environmental education. Kendall has spent the last three summers guiding and educating at the face of a quickly-disappearing glacier in remote Alaska, learning how to communicate complex systems to a broad variety of people. This fall, Kendall is excited to expand her knowledge of the people and ecosystems of the Greater Yellowstone area.

