Program

AT A GLANCE

A transformational train-the-trainer program that equips educators, guides, and community leaders to build resilient communities through outdoor learning and environmental stewardship.

Full Course:

- 5 days (10 hours) Online – foundational learning (June 22 – 26)
- 10 day immersive, in-person intensive hands-on outdoor training while camping onsite. (July 10 – 20)

MODULES

1. **June 22 - 26| Module 1:Online Foundations – Administrative, Program & Leadership Skills- 5 LIVE- 2 hour classes ONLINE- (Recorded for self-paced learning)**
2. **July 10 – July 12 |Module 2: Naturalist 101 & Bushcraft Skills (3 days, 2 nights)**
3. **July 13 – July 16 | Module 3: Part Two: The Leader's Journey (4 days, 3 nights)**
4. **July 17 – July 19 | Module 4: Stewardship & Permaculture in Action (3 days, 2 nights)**

www.awicommunity.org

Transform Through Service

A land-based approach to community building and leadership.

Art & Wilderness Institute

+

SageStewardFarm

Sage Steward Farm
Pescadero, CA

Outdoor Leadership Course

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN MODULES

1 Online Foundations – Administrative, Program & Leadership Skills

Program Design & Planning

- Design and plan a program
- Preparing tools, materials, and mindset for immersive learning
- Nuts and bolts of putting on a program
- Systems matter: protocols and handbooks
- Everything can be better: program/staff assessments

Financial & Funding Management

- Financials & accounting
- Funding sources and grants
- Writing grants
- Insurance, paperwork

Community & Partnership Development

- Community partnerships and collective stewardship models
- Building alliances/partnerships
- Hiring stars and why the "why" matters

Systems, Workflow & Assessment

- Backend systems and workflow organization
- Management systems/platforms
- Surveys, reporting, and impact assessment

Culture, Educational Resources & Creative Engagement

- Building a strong organizational culture rooted in stewardship values
- Developing graphics, visual guides, and educational materials for outdoor programs
- Designing field guides, lesson templates, and experiential learning resources
- Storytelling, signage, and visual cues to enhance learning and engagement
- Supporting staff and volunteers in hands-on, creative teaching methods

2 NATURALIST 101 & BUSHCRAFT

Land Literacy & Ecological Observation

- Landscape reading and environmental awareness
- Plant and animal identification
- Ecosystem relationships and interdependence
- Understanding seasonal and natural cycles
- Leave No Trace ethics
- Field Journaling

Outdoor Field Skills & Logistics

- Pack preparation and field logistics
- Risk assessment and situational awareness
- Basic first aid considerations
- Navigation using natural cues

Bushcraft & Self-Reliance

- Shelter-building using natural materials
- Knife safety and practical tool use
- Foraging basics and plant-based teas
- Working with what the land provides
- Plant Medicine
- Building a campfire

Modules

What You'll Learn

3 The Leader's Journey

Outdoor Leadership & Safety

- A-Z of leading hikes and programs
- Trail safety and group management
- Route selection and pacing
- Safety planning and outdoor risk awareness

Public Speaking & Facilitation

- Confident public speaking in outdoor settings
- Storytelling and voice projection
- Leading engaging, interactive programs
- Building presence and clarity as a guide

Group Dynamics & Community Building

- Reading group "ecosystems"
- Inclusive facilitation practices
- Conflict navigation and relational leadership
- Working effectively with children, teens, and adults
- Adapting leadership styles across ages and abilities
- Inspiring responsibility, confidence, and belonging

Emotional & Intuitive Leadership

- Grounding and sensory awareness practices
- Emotional regulation strategies
- Reflective and intuitive facilitation
- Modeling values-based environmental leadership

Engagement, Wonder & MAGIC

- Storytelling, play, and interactive learning
- Teaching through curiosity and wonder
- Building "MAGIC" into outdoor programs
- Mastery of 4 magic tricks for focus and engagement

4 Stewardship & Permaculture

Regenerative Land Practices

- Basic farming and permaculture principles
- Closed-loop systems in action
- Stewardship projects rooted in care and responsibility
- Applying regenerative thinking in community settings

Stewardship & Habitat Restoration

- Ecosystem Studies
- Natives vs. Invasives
- Field guide creation
- Field-proof journals and plant pressing
- Integration & Apprenticeship Preparation
- Designing a community stewardship initiative
- Preparing to lead real-world programs
- Integrating land, leadership, and curriculum skills

Pricing & Registration

FULL COURSE PACKAGE

*Includes lodging, modules 1 – 4 + an additional graduation & Reflection Day

June 22 – 26 + July 10 – 20

- 10 hrs Online Program Launches
- Recordings available if you miss the live sessions

- $2,500 (Early-bird)
- $3,000 (After April 15)
- Scholarships Available
- Lodging included
- An extra graduation ceremony day on July 20!

- Access to Thinkific Modules
- Eligibility to apply for $500 Farm Fellowship Grant (In-Service opportunties following graduation)
- Co-hort support post graduation
- Access to field giudes and resources
- 10 days, 9 nights of Intensive training
- 10 Farm-to-table meals
- Lodging in glamping tents

*Scholarships Available

Financial assistance is available to ensure access for committed leaders. To apply, fill out the scholarship Application.

Register at
www.awicommunity.org

SELECT MODULES

*Scholarships available for modules

1 June 22 – 26 — 5 days

10 hrs Online-
Online Foundations – Administrative, Program & Leadership Skills

- $250 (Early-bird)
- $350 (after April 15)

2 July 10 – 12 — 3 days

Naturalist 101 & Bushcraft

- $650 (Early-bird)
- $800 (after April 15)
- Add-on $300 for lodging or bring your own tent

3 July 13 – 16 — 4 days

The Leader's Journey

- $900 (Early-bird)
- $1100 (after April 15)
- Add-on $300 for lodging or bring your own tent

4 July 17 – 19 — 3 days

Stewardship, Farming & Permaculture in Action

- $650 (Early-bird)
- $800 (after April 15)
- Add-on $300 for lodging

Meet Sage Steward Farm

Seated on 770 acres of beachfront farm, ranch and woodland in Northern California, Sage Steward Farm serves as a campus for regenerative land, learning and community.

RETREAT IN COMFORT

Retreat in Comfort with Our Glamping Experience

Our glamping setup is thoughtfully designed to provide you with a serene and comfortable retreat experience. Each tent is equipped with a memory foam mattress, topped with organic cotton sheets, pillows, and blankets to ensure restful sleep. You'll also find a nightst and and soft ambient lighting to create a peaceful atmosphere.

While this is still camping, every detail has been curated to make your nights with us as comfortable as possible. Immerse yourself in the beauty of nature without sacrificing the essentials that allow you to recharge and reconnect.

WHAT TO BRING

- Camping Stoves + pots, Personal food for meals not provided
- Mess Kits (Reusable servingware)
- A folding knife
- 3 empty jars
- Sketchbook and art supplies
- Towel, clothing and toiletries
- Ingredients for shared meals (instructions to follow)
- Camping gear (For those who are signing up without lodging)

MEALS

- One Farm-To-Table meal is included each day
- Breakfasts are put on by your house team
- One meal each day is where you get to practice your own outdoor cooking skills with ingredients you bring.

Led By

Sama Wareh

Executive Director & Co-Founder
Art & Wilderness Institute

Sama is an ecologist, artist, author, and environmental educator with over 20 years of experience. She holds a Master's in Environmental Studies from CSUF, a Bachelor's in Filmmaking, and a minor in Art. Sama has taught a wide range of subjects from TK to university level, led over a thousand hikes, designed and built programs for nature centers and schools, and has conducted workshops for arboretums, nature centers, and museums across California and the U.S.

In addition to her work as an educator, Sama is the author of How to Draw 60 Native CA Plants and Animals: A Field Guide and The Legend of Redwood Raven (2023). She has spoken at the UN, delivered a TED-X talk, and facilitated training sessions for OCParks, State Parks, and Interpretive Centers. Sama has earned certifications in tracking from The Tracker School and is a certified facilitator for both Project WILD and Project WET. She also teaches as an adjunct faculty member at the Teachers College of San Joaquin.

Sama's work has been recognized with several awards, including the OC Register's 40 Under 40, OC Weekly's People of the Year, Access California's Humanitarian Heart Award, the Rachel Corrie award, the Top Southern California Educator Award from the Association for Environmental Outdoor Education, and most recently, the Shura Council's Rising in Unity Community Builder Award.

With a deep love for the outdoors and a commitment to fostering meaningful connections to the environment, Sama, alongside her amazing co-founders Syma and Khadeeja, co-founded the Art and Wilderness Institute (AWI), a non-profit organization, which is now growing into its 7th year of serving more than 500 students per semester and over 4000 community members annually.

Featuring

ONLINE MODULES PRESENTORS

Syma Aslam

Co-Founder/ Administrative Director
Art & Wilderness Institute

Dr.Khadeeja Abdullah

Co-Founder/ Programming Director
Art & Wilderness Institute

Carla Taylor

Grant Manager
Art & Wilderness Institute

Noreen Rahman

Expansion & Outreach Director
Art & Wilderness Institute

IN-PERSON MODULES PRESENTORS

STEWARDSHIP/FARMING MODULE

Zion Davidson

Food as Medicine Chef/ Farmer
Sage Steward Farm

THE LEADER'S JOURNEY MODULE

Dr.Omar Ezzeldine

Executive Director
Foundation for Muslim Camps

Testimonial

“Attending the intensive was a rewarding and enriching experience. The organizers’ passion, expertise, and strong work ethic are evident throughout the program. I especially valued that they don't just discuss theories—they demonstrate, simulate, and immerse you in practical techniques that put you in the driver‘s seat. They show you the how, the inner workings, and the behind-the-scenes without holding back. Their goal is for you to truly finish the camp feeling confident, prepared, and ready to apply your new skills. And that's exactly how I felt!”

-Rania Khater, OCIF Youth Lead

Rania Khater
April 2025 Cohort

More info or to Register
www.awicommunity.org