



MISSION

To inspire, educate and connect youth to lead a cultural transformation that optimizes health and sustains the environment.

KEC will empower youth by using technology and cross sector public and private collaborations to provide resources, imagination and expertise.

VISION

Youth empowered to transform the health of communities and the planet.

CORE BELIEFS

KEC believes youth are powerful and capable of fueling social change and transformative action.

We believe in abundance.

We believe in challenging the status quo.

We believe in thinking differently.

We believe in connecting youth to the best teachers and best content in the world so they can learn without limits.

COLLABORATIONS

KEC has a proven track record of leveraging community resources and building unprecedented collaborations with top organizations. For example, the Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation (CMBC) is a center of interdisciplinary cooperation in research, collaborating with partners and scientists from other academic institutions, government agencies, industry leaders, and conservation organizations around the world, to seek technically sophisticated, regionally appropriate strategies to prevent and reverse biodiversity collapse. Bastyr University is an accredited, globally respected institution of natural health arts and sciences, improving the planet through innovative education, research and clinical service. Natural Doctors International (NDI) promotes responsible volunteerism and holistic health services. The National Aquarium is a nonprofit aquatic education and conservation organization with the mission to inspire conservation of the world's aquatic treasures. The Smithsonian Ocean Portal supports the Smithsonian's mission to increase the public's understanding and stewardship of the Ocean.

The Hydrologic Research Center was established to bridge the large gap existing between scientific research in hydrology and applications for the solution of important societal problems that involve water and emergency preparedness. Current collaborations include, but are not limited to:



Center for
Creative
Leadership



Intellectual Capital



LOTUS LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE



LAMANAI FIELD RESEARCH CENTER



CENTER FOR MARINE
BIODIVERSITY & CONSERVATION



**Armstrong
Growers**



A Sempra Energy utilitySM

Each of these collaborations and relationships translates directly to resources for K-12 students.

If you are interesting in forming a collaboration, coalition or partnership, please contact KEC President Susan Guinn at sguinn@kidsecoclub.org or 619-507-2189 to explore the possibilities.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Regardless of the educator request, as long as it falls within KEC's mission and vision, KEC will attempt to be of service. Examples of programs and services include:

1. **TECH Connect!** Join K-12 educators/students across the city, state and nation to seamlessly communicate and work collaboratively on projects, share ideas, STEM curriculum and inspiration. By starting a club, you will automatically have access to this valuable resource tool. KEC's platform is the only student populated social media technology approved for use in San Diego K-12 schools.
2. **Oceans' Portal** – Request a visit from scientists and ocean experts to learn fascinating facts about topics such as animal adaptation, the Pacific Garbage Patch, fisheries, whales, dead zones, sea worms, nutrient runoff, wetlands, algae based fuel, and related conservation. Or, better yet, request a field trip to your local beach, wetlands, aquarium, estuary and/or lab. Transportation grants available for under resourced schools.
3. **Healthy People, Healthy Community, Healthy Planet Collaborative** –Initial collaborators include Bastyr University, KEC, the Hydrologic Research Center, Natural Doctors International and LaVita. In September of 2013, the collaborative will begin providing free services to San Diego students and their families, including integrative medical services; health fairs; cooking and nutrition classes; sustainable food and agricultural education; Common Core STEM content; plant medicine garden; and sustainability education.

Environmental Health Collaborative



- 4. San Diego Youth Leadership & Dialog Summit Series** – This program is delivered through collaboration with the University of San Diego, School of Leadership and Public Conversations West. The program integrates San Diego 8th and 9th graders from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to cultivate key life skills and share in collaborative project building, dialogue, and entrepreneurial development. Each student attends four summits including presentations by well-known leaders and entrepreneurs. After each lecture, students break into small group facilitated workshops. In these groups, students apply what they have learned from the presentations to collaborate on a large-scale project of their own inspiration and design. Students meet with the same group during each summit in order to build lasting relationships, deep understanding, and substantial projects. The program runs February through June of each year. In the time between summits, the student groups remain connected through KEC's secure social media platform. KEC provides resources to assist student with implementation of their collaborative projects, including presenting relevant findings and recommendations to community/city leaders.

The program objectives are to prepare students for the next level of leadership by building communication skills in speaking, listening and inquiry for information-gathering, relationship-building, and effective collaboration. In addition, students are provided with a platform for integrated, experiential and project-based learning, with opportunities for peer instruction and learning through the grouping of diverse sets of students for joint analysis of community issues. By the end of the program, students will have an increased capacity to communicate across and beyond differences and mutual stereotypes by practicing the use of effective dialogue.

Contact info@kidsecoclub.org to recommend a student or school for participation and/or to start a similar program in your area.



5.

Clean-Up Events– Contact KEC to learn about projects in your area and/or to assist your Club with creating a new event. Under-resourced schools are encouraged to apply for transportation assistance.



6.

Wild Wonders – Bring science alive with interactive wildlife programs! KEC through collaboration with Wild Wonders Zoafari and others will send a biologist and furry, feathered and or scaly teachers to your class for a unique educational experience that will keep your students enthralled and eager to learn more. Each program is tailored to Common Core Standards and is age appropriate.



7.

Trash Art –Use art to engage students in the 3Rs and ocean conservation. Contact KEC for supplies, volunteers, ideas and assistance of any kind.



- 8.** **Composting/Worms Bins** – Interested in creating a zero waste program at your school or teaching your club about composting? Contact us, we would love to help.



- 9.** **Gardens** – Edible? Plant medicine? Water wise? Habitat? Contact KEC for expertise, design, resources, curriculum and speakers.



- 10.** **Youth Leadership** – Contact KEC to brainstorm or share your vision. Our programs are as varied as your needs. Examples of past programs include:

Leadership workshops.



Filmmaking workshops to learn how to story-board, interview, film, speak on camera and edit video.



Public speaking workshops and ropes course experiences.



11.

- Field Trips** – Let us know where you want to go or what your needs are and we will work with you to make it happen. Transportation grants may be available for under resourced schools.





12.

Volunteers – Contact KEC for access to talented STEM professionals, artists, master gardeners and other experts.



13.

National Green Youth Council – Recommend a K4-12 student today! Council members provide governance to KEC. Each GYC member is provided with training and a mentor to support their passion. Highlights of their achievements include: speaking before City Councils on the single use plastic bag ban; serving on the San Diego Public Transportation Board (FACT Board); presenting to City Councils to obtain support for clean-ups, habitat restoration and park beautification; educating students about barn owls and the negative impact of pesticides; writing books and articles; educating peers on ocean conservation; and, organizing events



14.

STEM Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) – KEC is bringing quality MOOC courses, which meet Common Core Standards, to K-12 students! If you are interested in collaborating, please contact KEC President Susan Guinn at sguinn@kidsecoclub.org or call 619-507-2189.

MOOC's are transforming higher education. But soon, MOOCs will change the way high school courses are taught. Clayton Christensen predicted in his book, Disrupting Class, that by 2019, 50 percent of all high school courses will be online.

In September 2010, the Department of Education conducted a meta-analysis of 45 published studies that compared online and face-to-face learning. The analysis found convincingly that online learning methods are, on average, at least as effective as face-to-face learning. Further, hybrid methods, which involve both on-line instruction and traditional instruction are considerably more effective than either method alone.

MOOCs are ten through fifteen minutes in length, with built-in “retrieval” feedback every five minutes. . This means after every five minutes students are asked to complete a short quiz to determine whether or not they understand the concepts presented. If they don’t pass the quiz, they cannot move forward and are required to review the material. Tools available through MOOCs include the ability for an educator to write out a question, or set of questions, through the video and then have the video turn those hand-written questions into an interactive online quiz, then provide students, and the educator, with instant feedback. Deadlines still exist for tests and homework. On-line student study groups and peer created projects are popular.

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