



# NEW YORK SUN WORKS ANNUAL REPORT: 2019-2020





**Manuela Zamora**  
Executive Director, NY Sun Works

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of NY Sun Works:

2019 and 2020 have been years of growth and adaptation, resilience and creativity, both for NY Sun Works and for the community of educators and students we serve. Their dedication and enthusiasm - every day and ever more so as the Covid pandemic unfolded - have inspired all of us at NY Sun Works.

It's been an honor to be able to provide teachers and students with the resources for learning sustainability science throughout this unprecedented time. From our Home Hydroponic Kits to our remote curriculum and Let's Investigate videos to distributing hundreds of pounds of produce grown in our labs to students and their families, the NY Sun Works team shifted and adapted to make sure we could continue to support our schools communities. I'm very proud of every member of our team.

Even as we've created new initiatives in response to the pandemic, we've continued to grow our signature NY Sun Works program. In 2019, we expanded from 86 to 129 partner schools, revamped our K-5th curriculum to align with new science education standards, and piloted our community engagement Harvest program. In 2020, we were on track to expand to another 40 schools when the world

experienced a seismic shift. Although all construction was paused - and for a period of time funding was doubtful as well - we're pleased to share that all schools have received the green light for their labs to be installed in 2021. We also expect important developments in 2021, including bringing science and sustainability education to many more students and launching a high school CEA certification program.

The Covid pandemic has underscored the critical need for our youth - and our policymakers - to understand and value science. We believe that our hands-on science and sustainability program will help to prepare today's students so that they become farmers with technical skills to sustainably feed our growing urban population, the environmental innovators, or the doctors and scientists finding the vaccines and cures in the future.

Thank you for your continued support and for being part of the NY Sun Works community.

*Manuela*

**COVID-19 brought a host of challenges to New York Public Schools in 2020. The NY Sun Works team adapted to meet those challenges and to accomplish school goals.**



# INNOVATING IN A TIME OF CRISIS

**“Love the work that you do!!! And so do our kids. Thank you for making this year special.”**

— Elizabeth Culkin, Principal

When public schools shut down in March 2020, teachers and students alike faced formidable challenges — teachers in rapidly adapting their curricula to the new distance learning paradigm and students in contending with the loss of crucial classroom time and the stability of their school routines.

NY Sun Works pivoted early to respond to these challenges. From hydroponic STEM Kits to remote curricula and teacher training, our new initiatives have supported students and teachers in a critical moment of need and will continue beyond the pandemic to provide creative new approaches to hands-on STEM & sustainability education!



**“Since the Pandemic I have had to teach remotely like every other teacher around the world. While many teachers have scrambled to put together lessons, I have had a very easy and very successful time... I feel like I couldn’t have done this so seamlessly without [NY Sun Works].”**

— Jodi Kalb, PS 279

## REMOTE CURRICULUM

NY Sun Works partner teachers did incredible work to quickly move students to remote learning following the sudden schools closure in March 2020. To support our teachers in adjusting to this new reality and to continue the interdisciplinary and collaborative science education that takes place in the hydroponic classroom, our Education Team moved swiftly to create new, remote learning resources. Funded with the generous support of the Clarence and Anne Dillon Dunwalke Trust, our team created an extensive remote-ready curriculum, complete with weekly science lessons, teacher guides, Google slides, and nearly 50 *Let’s Investigate Science* videos for students to use from home. Please turn to page 17 for more.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR TEACHERS

Teacher professional development is an essential part of our education program, helping teachers remain current on key concepts in sustainability science — an emerging and rapidly changing field — and creating a supportive community in which teachers can build knowledge and skills. In 2020, we took our sessions online to make sure NYC teachers didn’t have to miss out on these crucial learning opportunities. Moving forward post-pandemic, we’ll offer our professional learning programs in a hybrid in-person/remote format, creating a more flexible and inclusive program that enables us to reach teachers who live farther away. Please turn to page 15 for more.



# HYDROPONIC STEM KITS:

## A SHORT-TERM RESPONSE WITH LONG-TERM POTENTIAL

NY Sun Works launched our Home Hydroponic STEM Kit initiative in September 2020 in response to educators’ concerns about students falling behind during remote learning and the difficulty of sourcing low-cost educational resources. With our team’s expertise in hydroponic systems design & curriculum development, we knew we could create a compact solution that would minimize disruptions to education during COVID and continue the hands-on approach to science by which students learn best.

The kits we created generated tremendous enthusiasm from students, teachers, and parents alike. Between September and March 2021, when the program wrapped up, our team assembled and delivered 12,500 kits to students across 79 schools, far exceeding our initial expectation of 2,000 orders!



The uniformly positive response to the kits and strong demand from our school partners for next school year demonstrate the kits’ long-term viability as a learning tool, whether in hybrid, in-person, or full remote learning. This initiative is here to stay — as a compact, efficient, and easy-to-use resource for hands-on science & sustainability education!

For more on the STEM Kit program, please turn to page 17.



“When I get a hydroponics kit and become a farmer scientist I will be feeling excited because it’s been so long since I’ve done science. I think I will learn a lot about plants and what they need to grow.”

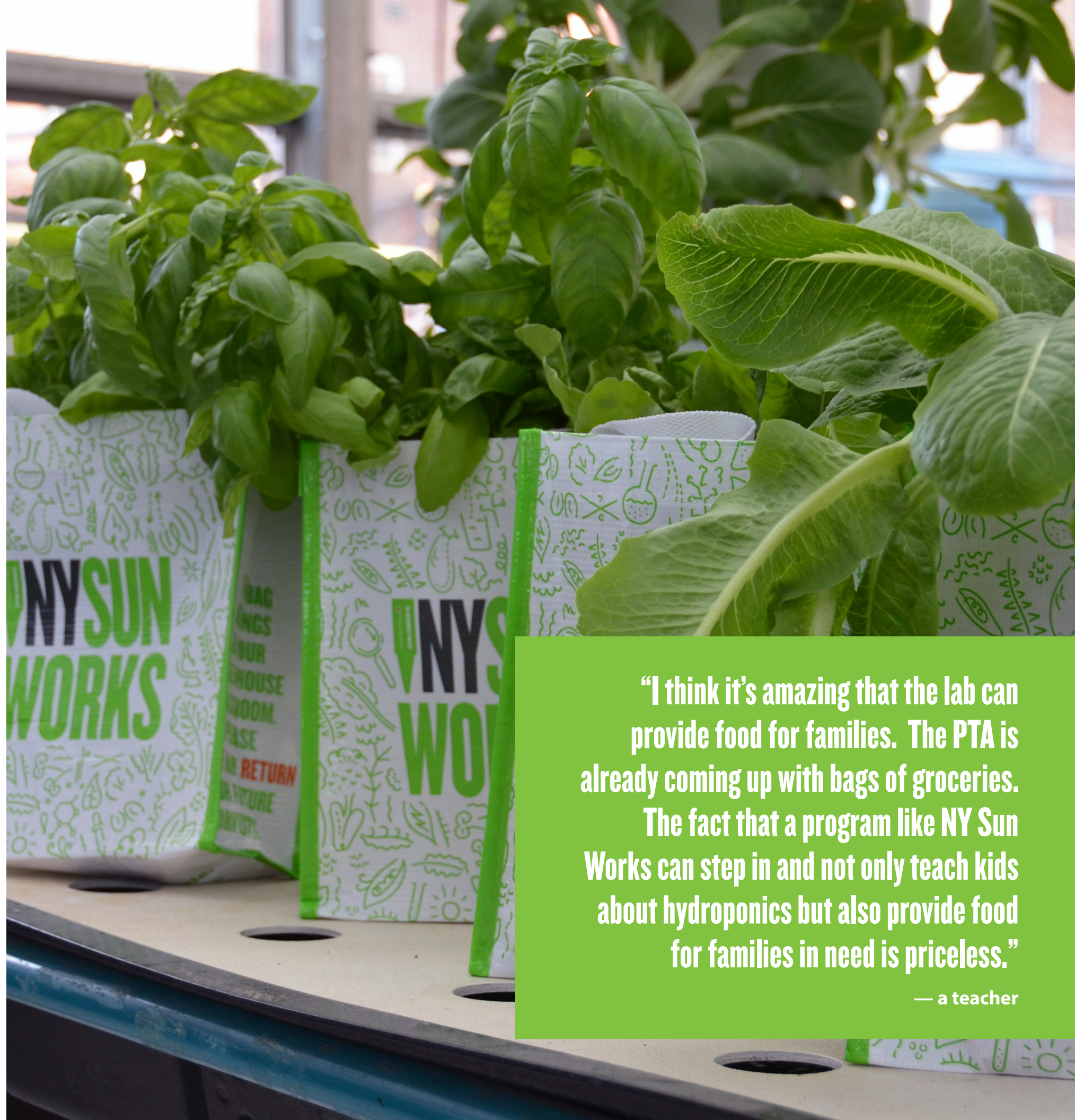
— Student



## RESPONDING TO FOOD INSECURITY: RUNNING THE GHCs AS FULL INDOOR FARMS

The COVID pandemic dramatically increased food insecurity in the city, with an estimated 1 in 4 New Yorkers — nearly double the pre-COVID number — needing food support. Making use of our extensive farming know-how and ready access to school-based hydroponic systems, we're honored to join the fight against hunger and food insecurity. Since June 2020, we've operated one of our largest GHCs, at PS 333 in Manhattan, as a full indoor farm, donating hundreds of pounds of fresh green to local community groups. More than half of our labs throughout the city are also being run as indoor farms, growing fresh vegetables for students' families, staff members, and local community organizations to support neighbors in need.

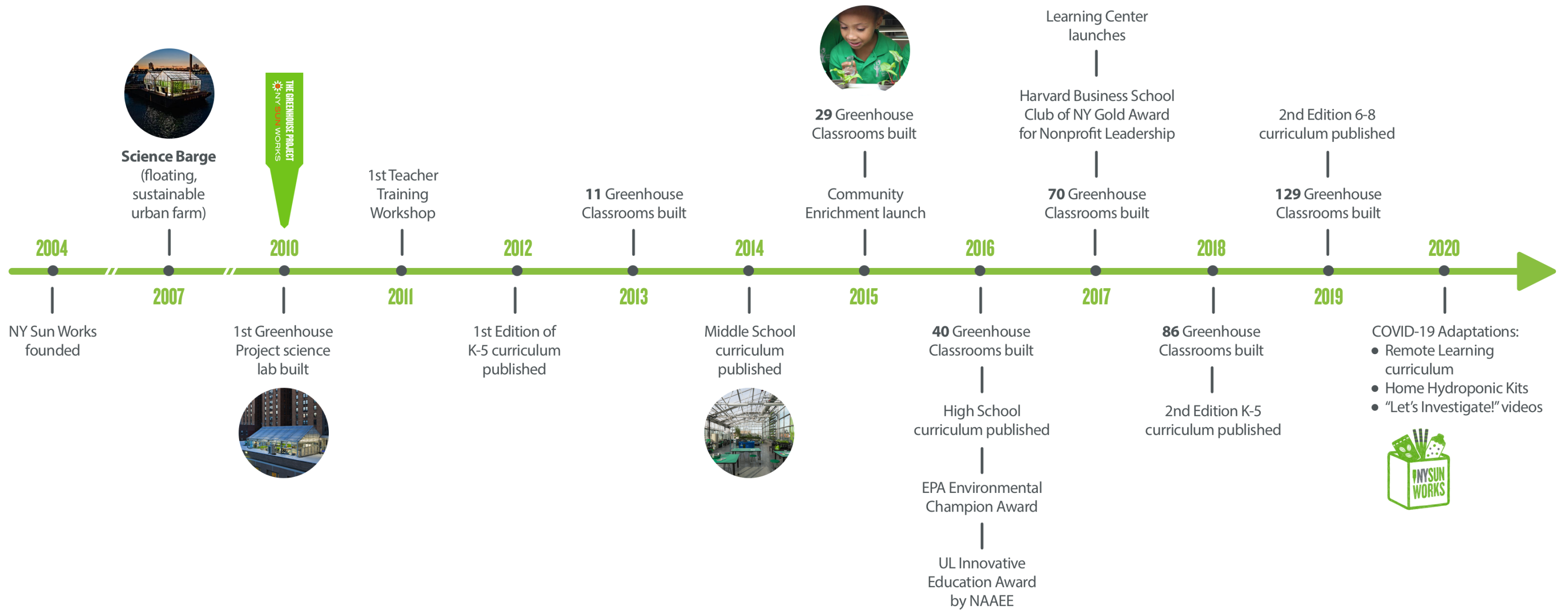
We want to extend our particular thanks to Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, whose generous support through her MCAP program enabled us to run our PS 333 greenhouse as a full indoor farm. Six additional schools in Manhattan are also operating as farms with MCAP funding to support their students, families, and school staff. Across the East River in Brooklyn, numerous schools are harvesting fresh herbs and leafy greens to share with school staff, students and their families, and local food pantries.



**“I think it’s amazing that the lab can provide food for families. The PTA is already coming up with bags of groceries. The fact that a program like NY Sun Works can step in and not only teach kids about hydroponics but also provide food for families in need is priceless.”**

**— a teacher**





## MISSION

NY Sun Works is a non-profit organization that builds innovative science labs in urban schools. Through our Greenhouse Project Initiative we use hydroponic farming technology to educate students and teachers about the science of sustainability.

## VISION

We envision a generation of environmental innovators, empowered to create solutions to global resource challenges.





# BUILD, TEACH, CONNECT

GREENHOUSE CLASSROOMS BUILT BY YEAR



**141** GREENHOUSE  
CLASSROOMS BUILT

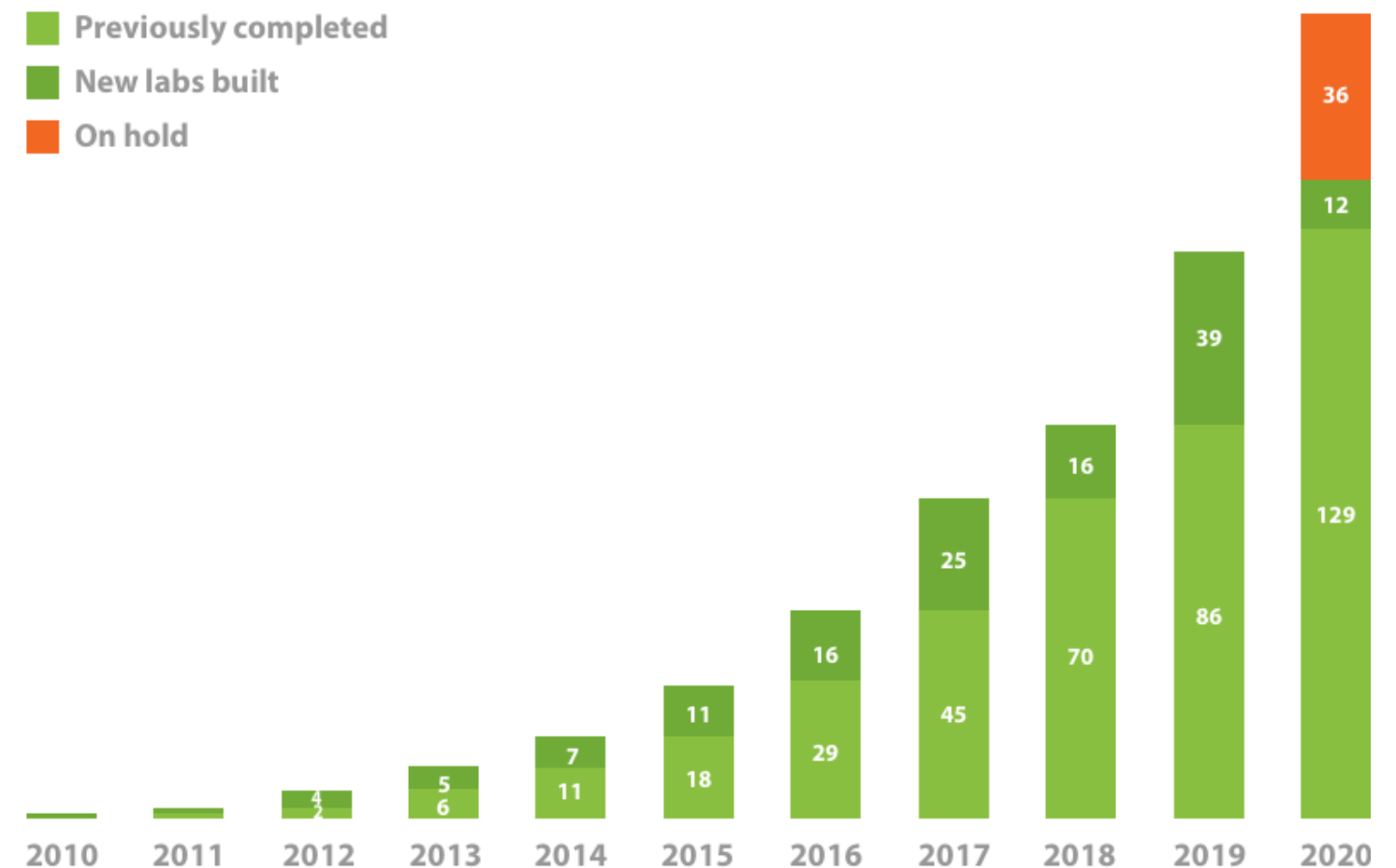


**494** SYSTEMS  
INSTALLED



**598** TEACHERS  
TRAINED

- Previously completed
- New labs built
- On hold





# TEACHER TRAINING



## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERIES

2019

The 2019 November Professional Development Workshop introduced our 6-8 grade Greenhouse Classroom teachers to the newly launched “GHC Connect” lessons. First year and returning Greenhouse Classroom teachers worked in small groups to brainstorm ways to implement the new lessons, discussed and worked through potential challenges they might face when trying out these lessons for the first time, and drew strong and clear connections to student activities and learning already taking place in their hydroponic classrooms.

2020

In addition to the introductory workshop that takes place every June for new partner teachers, the Education Team offered a virtual professional learning workshop for partner teachers in November. In the Fall of 2020, as the DOE’s transition to full-remote learning loomed and eventually touched down, NY Sun Works took the November Professional

Learning workshop to a virtual platform. Partner teachers gathered across four boroughs to share, explore and discuss “The Power of Observation.” Teachers explored together the potential of cultivating joy, focusing on observation and its particular uses in the complicated remote learning landscape. We shared virtual tools to record data and present findings, as well as re-discovered the natural curiosity that is found in growing plants through the hydroponic process using our Home Hydroponic STEM Kits. Teachers brainstormed ideas and shared best practices, while exploring the new curricular offerings (including NEW lessons focused on the process of germination!) and virtual tools found in the NY Sun Works Learning Center. We particularly enjoyed talking through the challenges of our not-so-simple task of fostering confidence in our Farmer Scientist students in a remote setting.

## 2019-2020 ASPDP COURSE

Every year, NY Sun Works offers our 45-hour ASPDP (After School Professional Development Program) course, “Energy, Water and Waste: Integrating Themes of Sustainability Into Your Classroom”. The course is approved for teacher continuing education credits by the NYC Department of Education (DOE) and focuses on incorporating sustainability content into the K-12th grade classroom. In 2019, we held the course in-person in one of our hydroponic Greenhouse Classrooms, so that teachers could see hydroponic systems in action. In 2020, we translated the program to a virtual setting and we were able to welcome 47 teachers over three sessions.





# CURRICULUM

NYC SCOPE & SEQUENCE: GRADES 6-8												
THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT												

## 2019

NY Sun Works released the GHC Connects curriculum for grades 6-8. The NY Sun Works Discovering Sustainability Science curriculum offers two distinct avenues for student learning: the GHC Connect and our Sustainability Extensions. The GHC Connect units are designed in lesson sets, typically trios, and augment the science units of study as they reinforce the standards being taught within that unit.

## 2020

NY Sun Works partner teachers did incredible work to quickly move students to remote learning following the sudden schools closure in March 2020. To support our teachers in adjusting to this new reality and to continue the science and sustainability education that takes place in the hydroponic classroom, NY Sun Works updated the online Learning Center to

include a new section, Lessons for Remote Learning. We pulled from the entire curriculum, lessons for grades K-12 that do not require direct interaction with the hydroponic systems, but connect with them through concepts, images, NY Sun Works reports, and videos. Next, we adapted these lessons into student-facing Google Slides for easy integration into Google Classroom. We also developed and release a series of short *Let's Investigate* videos. Starring NY Sun Works staff, these videos were designed to introduce and demonstrate how to set up investigations exploring topics like thigmotropism and what plants need to grow and thrive, at home. NY Sun Works was thrilled to partner with the NY Power Authority in developing four of these *Let's Investigate* videos.

**Home Hydroponic STEM Kits.** To make hands-on learning possible for our students and teachers learning from home, NY Sun

Works also developed and launched the Home Hydroponic Kits. These STEM Kits enable students, with teacher guidance, to grow, study, and run investigations with plants from home or in the classroom. The kits are designed to engage students with topics they would otherwise be learning about in their Greenhouse Classrooms and create opportunities to practice observation and data collection skills. In addition to the kits, the Education Team developed an accompanying curriculum comprised of 3 Units:

- **Unit 1**, designed to be implemented before kit use, ensured that teachers would have lessons to pull from while they waited for their kits to be delivered. These lessons establish scientific content, build scientific observation skills/methodology, and lay a foundation of sustainability science and urban agriculture.
- **Unit 2** is taught using the Kits and is designed to optimize experiential learning opportunities by using hands-on observations about the kit, and the plants that students' grow, to bolster science content and drive sustainability concepts.
- **Unit 3** is designed to be investigation-based. Students use the remaining Kit materials in setting up their own investigations.

In addition to adapting and developing materials to support remote learning, NYSW developed and launched four new modules for high school:

**Farming Foundations** provides the intellectual and practical infrastructure for students and teachers as they embark on

their mission to maintain a fully operational hydroponic farm within the context of a science lab. This foundational module speaks directly to the unique systems and practices found within the Greenhouse Classroom and helps students keep their farm running throughout the school year, while introducing them to hands-on investigations that can be designed and implemented in the hydroponic systems.

**Farming For A Sustainable Future** is a module that takes a deep dive into hydroponic and aquaponic farming and sustainability. The lessons complement the Land and Water Use Unit of the AP Environmental Science curriculum with a focus on the impacts of agricultural practices including irrigation and pest control methods and impacts of overfishing. Students also engage with sustainability topics (e.g. the impacts of urbanization) and examine their own ecological footprints on the path to discussing and determining what sustainable agriculture looks like in practice.

**The Hydroponic Games: A Hydroponic Design Challenge** and **The Aquaponic Games: An Aquaponic Design Challenge** engage students in engineering design challenges to design and build functioning hydroponic or aquaponic systems. Students use the iterative design process to revise their system designs and provide constructive feedback to each other throughout these modules. Students also have the opportunity to apply what they have learned about water chemistry and how hydroponic systems work to ensure their systems function and support the growth and development of multiple crops.





# NY SUN WORKS' HARVEST PROGRAM

Our Harvest Program events are an exciting part of the school year, giving students a chance to show their families what they're learning in the hydroponic classrooms and share the delicious, healthy produce they've worked so hard to grow.

The program began in 2019, with the goals of:

- **Connecting the learning** that takes place in the classroom with students' families by encouraging conversations at home about the relationship between food and sustainability;
- **Expanding students' technical skills** in operating hydroponic systems and **promoting equitable access** to the produce grown in the GHC, while also reinforcing the importance of the harvest process as part of the Discovering Sustainability Science curriculum;
- **Sharing the harvests and the science learning** taking place in the classrooms with the larger school community, including teachers, administrators, custodial, and security staff, to support healthy eating and increase awareness about **the role of hydroponics in urban farming.**

From student-run farm stands to cooking demos with chefs to school fairs, 2019 offered many wonderful opportunities for students to demonstrate their hard work.

In early 2020, before COVID brought a pause to all in-person

activities, we were fortunate to be able to execute several outreach events, including a Ribbon Cutting at PS 85 in Queens, STEAM fair at PS 14 in Queens, and a fundraiser & video project with PS 81 Thaddeus Stevens, Artist Hugo McCloud, and Polaroid.



We're excited to resume the program as soon as possible and will be introducing new initiatives, including monthly distribution of fresh produce to students and their families and the design of discussion cards and other take-home activities to encourage students and their families to talk at home about healthy eating and sustainability.

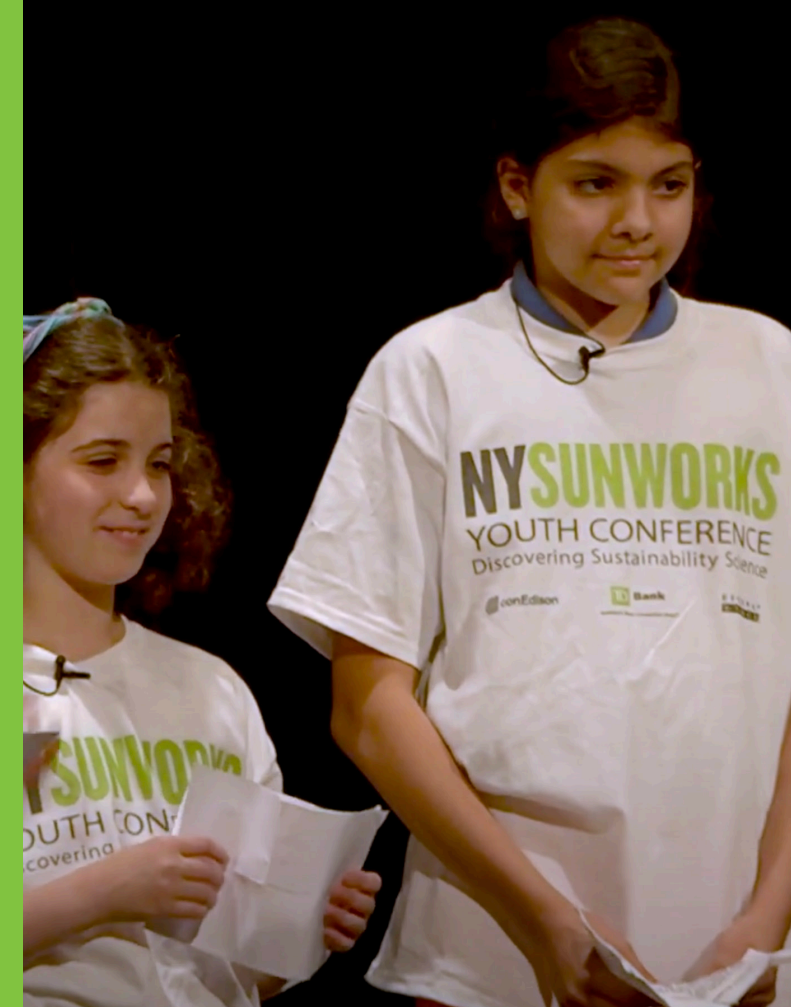


# YOUTH CONFERENCE: DISCOVERING SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE



“I learned about all of the jobs involving how we work with plant life including growing plants in space that are edible. WOW! And I saw that we have so much science that we have not learned yet.”

— Fifth Grade Student



## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

On Monday, May 20, 2019, 72 students from 16 NYC public schools presented their research on Sustainability Science to a sold-out auditorium of 750 students and teachers during the 8th annual NY Sun Works Youth Conference.

Hosted by actress Stephanie Hsu, students were joined by CEO of the New York Power Authority Gil C. Quiniones, and Founding + CEO of Re-nuble Tinia Pina who spoke about their work in the field of science. There was a special performance by Kenji Williams of the NASA-powered earth-from-space show Bella Gaia.

Sponsored by Broadway Stages, Cofra Foundation, ConEdison, New York Power Authority and TD Bank, the NY Sun Works Youth Conference offers a platform to 5th to 12th grade students to share their classroom work and research, but most importantly it represents an opportunity to discover Sustainability Science as we reflect on the connections between human behavior, the use of technology, and our impact on the environment. It is an event that empowers students to follow the path of innovation as we look for solutions to the environmental challenges of our time. The conference, hosted by Actress Stephanie Hsu featured students from 16 NY Sun Works partner schools from Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and New Jersey.







## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

On May 18th, 2020, students from public schools around NYC came together virtually to share their research and celebrate their scientific accomplishments at NY Sun Works' 9th Annual Discovering Sustainability Science Youth Conference. The Conference, typically hosted at Symphony Space to accommodate the large audience, pivoted to an online format this year due to COVID-19.

The 25 student speakers, who ranged from 5th to 12th grade, presented on an array of science and sustainability topics, including designing at-home hydroponic systems, the environmental hazards of microplastics, and the role of the Doomsday Vault in seed preservation.



Students examined the impact of environmental factors like temperature changes, flooding, and music on plant growth and how plants could be used in environmental and medical applications, such as for bioremediation of Brooklyn's Gowanus Canal and the use of *Mimosa pudica* as a spinal cord stimulator. The students were joined remotely by special guests Dr. Gioia Massa, a plant space scientist at NASA's Kennedy Space Center; Jenn Frymark, plant biologist and Chief Greenhouse Officer at Gotham Greens; and Phil Vos and Kyle Jeremiah, biogas experts at Energy Vision.

**"This is a tough time in New York's history. But today I'm feeling hope for our city after watching the incredible student scientists share their hard work [and] innovative research projects that will help New York be greener and healthier in the long term."**

— Eric Adams,  
Brooklyn Borough President



# IMPACT AND ASSESSMENT

NY Sun Works measures its progress internally using a set of 16 key performance indicators, which include metrics such as the number of hours spent training and mentoring partner school teachers, school participation in the annual youth conference, students attending Greenhouse Project hydroponics labs on a regular basis, how much and how often teachers use the curriculum.

NY Sun Works has partnered with Knology, a social science research organization, to develop evaluation instruments using both quantitative and qualitative strategies to help us understand the impact of the NY Sun Works curriculum, as well as how the Greenhouse Classroom program and physical space may support students' education outcomes. These ongoing evaluation activities will measure students' interest in science and sustainability topics, mastery of science concepts and knowledge, and environmental consciousness.

An independent quantitative assessment of the NY Sun Works program indicates that it may not only meet core science requirements, but also integrates climate change and sustainability education in a

way that improves students' understanding of science as a whole. As many states have adopted the Next Generation Science Standards as core curriculum and may be looking to integrate climate change and sustainability content into their courses, the NY Sun Works program could serve as an ideal model that meets their needs.

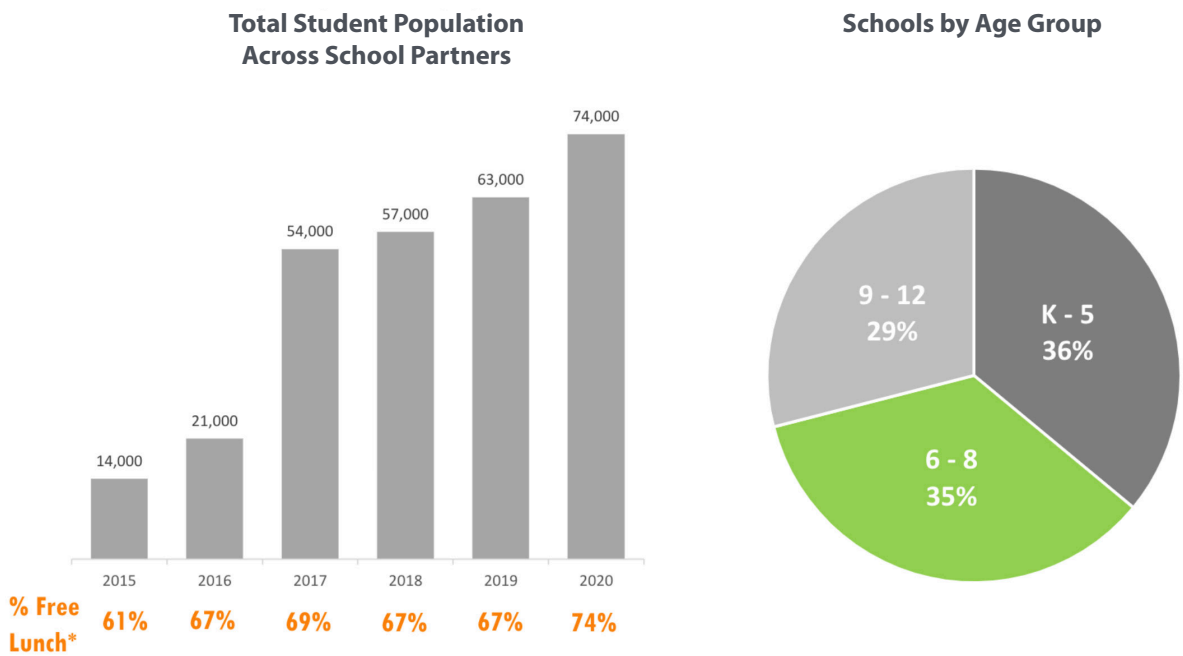
The NY Sun Works Curriculum and Science Achievement Report concludes that students who receive the NY Sun Works curriculum are more likely to score higher on the 4th grade science achievement test than students who do not receive the NY Sun Works curriculum.





# POPULATIONS WE SERVE

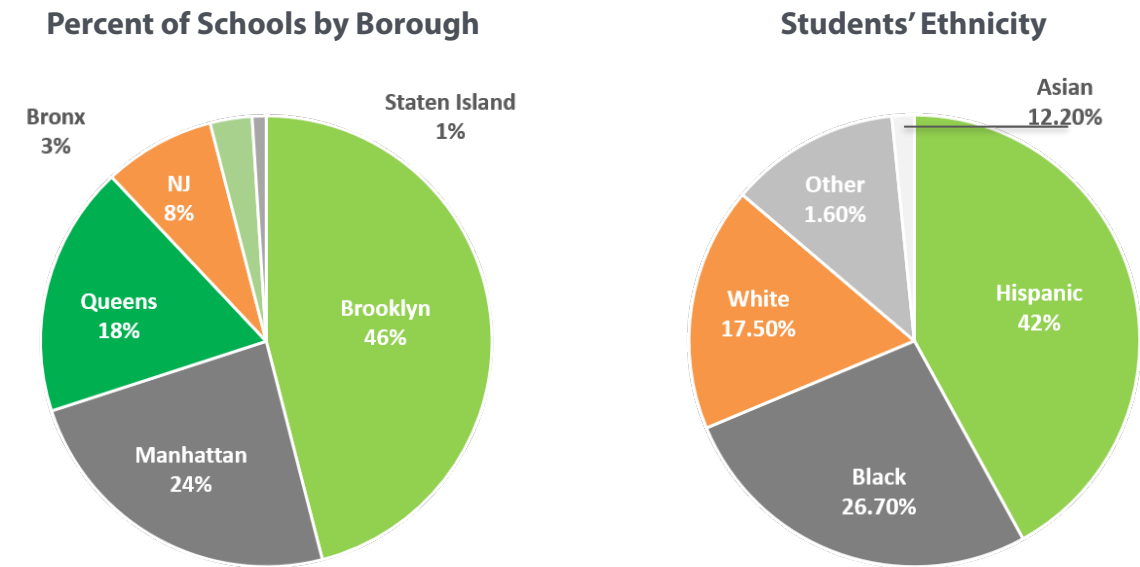
## NY SUN WORKS PARTNER SCHOOLS PROFILES



\*The percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FRPL) under the National School Lunch Program provides a proxy measure for the concentration of low-income students within a school. This means they are children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the Federal poverty level. Source: Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Inside Schools, insideschools.org

## WHO WE ARE AND WHO WE SERVE

NY Sun Works serves a diverse population of students across the five boroughs of New York. We strive to make our program accessible to all types of learners, from special needs to accelerated students, including English Language Learners and recent immigrants.



Sources: Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture Inside Schools, insideschools.org

# INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS

NY Sun Works is incredibly fortunate to have passionate and engaging interns and volunteers working with us on all aspects of our programming. Some assist with maintaining our science laboratories and supporting our partner school teachers, while others work behind the scenes, helping with graphic design for our curriculum and event materials. Our volunteer responsibilities include:

- basic hydroponic systems operation (pH + EC monitoring, plant pest management on hydroponic systems)
- basic aquaponics operation (water quality tracking, system cleaning, fish health assessment and feeding)
- growing space upkeep (sweeping, cleaning and sterilizing equipment, picking up spills and water leak puddles)
- teacher assistance (working with young students to help seed, harvest, and perform their greenhouse tasks—helping support the teacher in whichever way is needed).



## 2019-2020 INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS

Rodrigo Sanchez de Lozada  
Ebba Nordgren  
Ana Sanchez de Lozada  
La-Rissa Espinoza  
Maria Korolkova  
John Feighner  
Tara Pagano Taub  
Nick Wendell  
Megan Rogers  
Elisa Barón  
Fiona Carswell







**Ted Caplow**  
Chairman of the Board

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Dear Friends of NY Sun Works,

2020 marked two milestones for NY Sun Works: 10 years since the opening of our first greenhouse classroom, at the Manhattan School for Children, and partnerships with 10% of all NYC schools - the largest school system in the country. I'm proud of how the organization has grown in reputation and reach over the years, now bringing cutting-edge science & sustainability education to nearly 50,000 students a year across NYC and metropolitan NJ.

Also with 2020 came the Covid pandemic and its many ramifications. As schools closed and students faced the loss of crucial classroom time, NY Sun Works adapted with ingenuity and creativity to minimize science learning loss and support the communities we serve. From creating a comprehensive remote curriculum to assembling and delivering 12,500 Home Hydroponic STEM Kits, to distributing the produce grown in the labs to students and the local community, the agility of their response is a testament to the strength, professionalism, and dedication of the NY Sun Works team.

NY Sun Works ended 2020 in a solid financial position despite the year's extensive challenges. Though Service to School revenues were down significantly due to the pandemic, support from the city's elected officials, the Paycheck Protection Program, and an increase in grant revenue enabled us to finish the year with an overall increase in net assets, greater than budgeted and better than the prior year.

Moving forward, NY Sun Works will continue to grow its capacity at all levels. We look forward to welcoming additional members to our Board of Directors who will complement the expertise and experience of our current board members.

As we begin this new decade, the need for higher-quality science and sustainability education has only been magnified by the scope of the health and environmental challenges we are now contending with. NY Sun Works will continue to meet this need, helping to prepare today's students to be the scientists, innovators, and decision-makers of tomorrow.

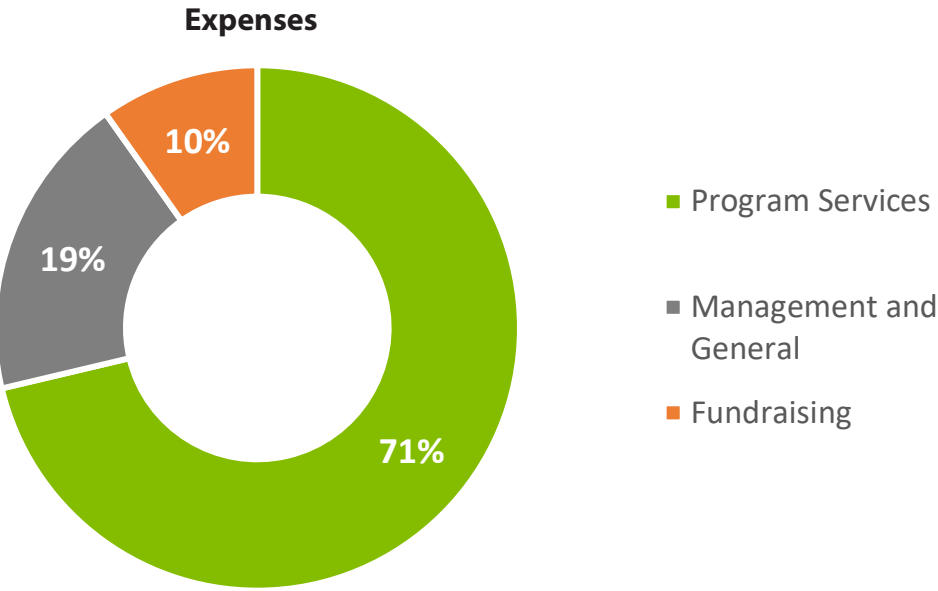
Thank you for your support.





# FINANCIALS

	2018	2019	2020
<b>Revenue</b>			
Contract Revenue	1,019,115	1,457,024	1,178,340
Grants and Contributions	311,452	215,248	497,810
Special Events	70,357	25,599	-1,200
Investment	24	4	57
Other Income			114,825
Total Revenue	1,400,948	1,697,875	1,789,832
<b>Expenses</b>			
Program Services	861,224	1,494,464	1,070,645
Management and General	97,903	131,543	284,321
Fundraising	33,493	48,864	147,540**
Total Expenses	992,620	1,674,871	1,502,506
<b>Net</b>	<b>408,328*</b>	<b>23,004</b>	<b>287,326</b>



2018 and 2019 (Audited Numbers)  
2020 (Draft from auditors)  
\* In 2018, the net income includes \$100,000 restricted for special projects  
\*\*Starting in 2020 fundraising expenses include a percentage of salaries (100% of Senior Development manager, 30% Eecutive Director, 30% Associate Director of Education and Assesment, 50% Graphic Designer, 5% of occuppacy costs)





# 2019-2020 DONORS LIST

## \$100,000+

New York Power Authority  
US Department of Agriculture

## \$75,000+

Allen Family Foundation  
Bregal Investments/COFRA Foundation  
Clarence and Anne Dillon Dunwalke Trust

## \$50,000+

Spindrift Family Foundation

## \$25,000+

Karin Bain and John Kukral Foundation  
ConEdison

## \$10,000+

Broadway Stages

## \$5,000+

Goldman Sachs and Co. Matching  
Gift Program  
Joshua Desai

## \$2,500+

A+ STEM Carts  
Jeff and Nancy Bergman  
Sarah Horowitz and David Venarde  
Carine Joannou  
Sidsel and Sam Robards  
Ximena and Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada  
Laurel Skarbinski  
TD Bank

## \$1,000+

Scott Adams and Samantha Garbers-Adams  
Ted Caplow  
Ian Ginsberg  
BeeBee Horowitz  
Pedro Sanchez de Lozada  
Monica Machado  
Anne Montana  
Laura Sametz  
Target Circle Giving Program  
Jodi Walker and Jeff Crisan  
Whole Kids Foundation  
Wirth-Myers Family Fund

## \$500+

Kory Apton  
Manuela Arnal and Luis Paz-Galindo  
Marisa Brasor  
Sandra Buzali  
Hannah Cavallo  
Helena and Eliot Choy  
Rhoda Farber  
Beverly Israely  
Annabelle Mariaca  
Johanna Markson and Scott Freeman  
Daina Nadler  
Megan and Sebastian Nordgren  
James Pagano and Gina Florescu  
Jennifer Prescott and Brian D'Arcy James  
Charlene Reid  
Barry Rothstein  
Cynthia Russo  
Valeska Stupak  
Margaret Sullivan  
Cynthia Vance-Abrams  
Rose and Scott Young

## \$250+

Justin Avellar  
Elisa B Baron Rodriguez  
Isabelle Choy  
Patricia Del Cioppio  
Eric Farber  
Sharon Griffith  
Chris Haun  
Stephanie Hsu  
Karene Katz and Drew Schaefer  
Jason and Suzanne Lindbergh  
Susan Madden  
Nathalie Manzano-Smith  
Sarah Nehmeh  
Erica Phillips  
Catherine Quiroz  
Paola Rivero  
Ignacio Sanchez de Lozada  
and Manuela Zamora  
Megan Sullivan  
TD Bank Employee Giving Program  
Susan Tenner  
Ani Udovicki

## \$100+

Elizabeth Abbott  
Jorge Aseff and Fabiola Salek Aseff  
Melissa Ash  
Mauricio Balcazar and Alexandra Sanchez  
de Lozada  
Carla Bogart  
Cara Brasor  
Molly Braverman  
Barbara Carswell  
Monica Christensen  
Melissa Clark  
Elizabeth Couch  
Caplan Family Foundation  
Joel R Freedman  
Karen and Paul Freitas  
Danielle Gould

Bridget Hazan  
Unsoo Kim  
Jennine Meyer  
Hunter Moreland  
Moses Ojeda  
Mauricio Rincon  
Anna Rittenburg  
Dennis Scurletis  
Zoe Scurletis  
Deborah Shapiro  
Sourav Sinha  
Jason Tam  
Janelia Tse  
Michelle Tseng  
Ramie Waxman  
Jane Wells  
Abigail and Lewis Wendell  
Amy Wong

## \$25+

Steven Ahlf  
Jordan Berger  
Leslie Bogart  
Jabari Brisport  
Bonnie P Chipala  
Oakley and Louisa Coburn  
Dina R. D'Alessandro  
Alaina DiSalvo Fagan  
Doria Fan  
Cara Gizzi  
Tony Hillery  
Lone Jørgensen  
Anne-Margrethe Jørgensen  
Vicky Kahn  
Daniella Kirfeld  
Brian Kwei  
June Lordi  
Austin Malloy  
Elana Mass  
Noah Mass  
Eduard Mazzi  
Sandra McKean



## \$25+ CONTINUED

Cecily Morales  
Lynda Petito  
Erin Phillips  
Jesse Podell  
Ashley Rafalow  
Stefanie Reponen  
Jennifer Ryder  
Roselyn T Scheidlinger  
Justin Schwarz  
Chester Van Wert  
Atheline Wagner  
Laura Woods

## IN-KIND DONORS

Audible  
Beetle Juice on Broadway  
Brooklyn Botanical Garden  
C.O. Bigelow  
Carte Blanche Wine  
Chefs For Impact  
Clinton Street Baking Co  
Elite Island Resorts  
Equinox  
Eric and Sandra Ripert  
Goldfaden MD  
Hudson Restaurant in Nyack  
Jamis Bikes  
Janet Dailey  
Jeffrey Kallenberg  
Jenny Green Jeans  
John Robshaw  
Laura Calhoun Massage  
LettuceGrow  
Mario Carbone  
Melissa Clark  
MSNBC  
Peter Mensch  
Print Restaurant  
Sandra Bark  
Tribeca Film Festival  
Zadig & Voltaire





# MEET OUR TEAM + BOARD

## MEET THE TEAM

- Manuela Zamora:** Executive Director
- Megan Nordgren:** Director of Program Development
- Margarita Rosas:** Director of Finance & Operations
- Dave Hazan:** Director of CEA Operations
- Hannah Jaris:** Director of Education Programs
- Nathaniel Coburn:** Associate Director of Human Resources, Education, and Development
- Elana Mass:** Senior Development Manager
- Eva Chertow:** Executive Assistant
- Elaine Blanck:** Curriculum Specialist/Teacher Trainer
- Nicole Grossberg:** School Community Events Coordinator
- Melissa Arias:** Purchasing Officer
- Fiona Carswell:** Digital Design
- Asaph Charles:** Finance Assistant
- Caroline McKean:** Senior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Barry Rothstein:** Senior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Wyatt Boone:** Senior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Kristen Rodriguez-Salas:** Senior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Ariel Duran:** Senior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- John Feighner:** Senior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Karolina Sawicka:** Junior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Jasmin Wilson:** Junior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Amanda Low:** Junior Hydroponic Classroom Operations Specialist
- Shakira Provasoli:** ASPDP Teacher Training Instructor

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ted Caplow:** Founder and Chair
- Rebecca Edwardson:** Treasurer
- Sidsel Robards**
- Joshua Desai**
- Marisa Brasor**
- Laura Sametz:** Secretary

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF WHO MOVED ON IN 2019-2020

- Jonathan Betancourt**
- Alexandra Pisano**
- Jennifer Prescott**
- Eamon Callahan**
- Nick Strellov**
- Amber Carlin-Mishkin**

## A HUGE THANK YOU TO SIDSEL!



“I am humbled by Sidsel’s enormous contributions to the development of NY Sun Works and to the schools we serve, taking this project from the Science Barge classroom in 2008 to over 130 science lab classrooms by 2020. New York Sun Works’ active presence today in NYC public and private schools is a testament to the hard work, durable focus, and spirit of intense cooperation that Sidsel and Manuela have created together.”

— Dr. Ted Caplow,  
founder of NY Sun Works and  
current Chair of the Board

In 2020, Sidsel Robards moved out of daily operations and into a strategic role with the Board of Directors. Since 2008, Sidsel has been at the heart of New York Sun Works’ campaign to build greenhouse science classrooms in New York City public schools. As a co-founder of the Greenhouse Project and Director of Development & Events from 2010 to 2019, Sidsel worked with education authorities, teachers, and administrators to secure the multitude of individual school partnerships that have proven critical to the organization’s mission. She also established many successful public-private partnerships, including with the DOE’s School Construction Authority and local elected officials, that resulted in lasting collaborations and secured crucial capital allocations for the greenhouse classrooms.





WE ARE PROUD TO BE  
A NY SUN WORKS  
GREENHOUSE PROJECT  
PARTNER SCHOOL  
WWW.NYSUNWORKS.ORG

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