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IslandWood Selects Dr. Déana Scipio ('08) as Director of its Graduate Program in Education for Environment and Community

Scipio's Expertise in Broadening Participation of Non-Dominant Communities in Science to Shape the Future of the Bainbridge Island-Based Graduate Program

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA (May 17, 2018) – IslandWood announced today the appointment of Déana Scipio, Ph.D., as Director of its on-campus Graduate Program in Education for Environment and Community (EEC). Scipio is herself an alumna of the EEC program, an experiential 10-month graduate certificate in education offered in partnership with the University of Washington's College of Education. Scipio will start her new role on June 4, 2018.

"We couldn't be more pleased to have found the ideal candidate from within our own alumni community," remarked John Haskin, PhD, Senior Vice President for Education for IslandWood. "Dr. Scipio's work in educational design and research, her commitment to developing pathways for people of color in the education, environment, and science fields, and her personal experience in the program make her the right person to shape the future of IslandWood's graduate program."

After graduating from IslandWood in 2008, Scipio earned her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction (2009) and her Ph.D. in Learning Sciences and Human Development (2015) from the University of Washington's College of Education. Throughout her masters and doctoral research, her postdoctoral fellowship at the Chèche Konnen Center at TERC, and in her current position as a senior researcher at the University of California Davis School of Education, Scipio has been dedicated to educational design and research to broaden participation for youth and adult participants from non-dominant communities who have historically been underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Her work has focused both on increasing the number of people from non-dominant communities who participate in STEM classes, degree programs, and careers; as well as, on broadening what it means to participate by working to create learning spaces that honor different ways of being, understanding, and participating.

"IslandWood's graduate program helped me connect educational theory to my experiences as an informal educator and was where I started weaving together my educational interests in broadening participation, STEM, and environmental justice...it was also where I made lifelong friends and learned to love nature in the Pacific Northwest," said Scipio. "I'm excited about the

opportunity to return to IslandWood to help the EEC program continue to grow and serve the needs of an increasingly diverse population of students who each bring wonderful ideas, new ways of being, new questions, new approaches, and new sense-making practices with them to solving environmental issues.”

Scipio will be moving to Bainbridge Island from California and is looking forward to spending the Pacific Northwest summer outdoors with her dog Wacky and reconnecting with good friends in Seattle. Read more about Scipio in this Q&A on the [IslandWood blog](#).

About IslandWood

Since its founding in 2000, IslandWood has been advancing innovative and inclusive education that inspires understanding and stewardship of our planet. Its place-based, experiential learning programs offered for Puget Sound area schools serve more than 10,000 students every year on its Bainbridge Island campus, at the Brightwater wastewater treatment plant in Woodinville, and in Seattle schools and communities. IslandWood also offers two Master’s level graduate programs in education, has developed community-connected science curriculum in partnership with Seattle Public Schools, provides teacher training, and leads statewide and national advocacy initiatives. Learn more: islandwood.org.

About IslandWood’s Graduate Certificate in Education for Environment and Community

Our foundational graduate program, offered in partnership with the University of Washington College of Education, is an innovative 10-month teaching residency preparing extraordinary educators capable of catalyzing community and environmental stewardship. Through coursework and teaching practice, graduate students are immersed in anti-bias, experiential education. This program attracts both current and future classroom teachers as well as students pursuing careers in informal education or nonprofit leadership. More information: islandwood.org/eec.