

Women's Environmental Leadership

At the Intersection of Gardens, Culture, and Style Abra Lee, Public Horticulturalist



6/10/ 2020
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST

For the past eleven years, *Urban Waterways*—a collaborative Smithsonian project led by the Anacostia Community Museum—has explored the relationship between urban waterways and their surrounding communities. The project has examined urban development, diverse populations' relationships with their waterways, community activism, and river ecology. One of the project's main goals is to provide opportunities for community members to lead discussions and explorations of issues of greatest concern to them, as they work to ensure equitable restoration of—and access to—natural resources to support healthy, sustainable communities.

The *Women's Environmental Leadership* (WEL) seeks to build the capacity for future women environmental leaders. WEL was successfully launched in 2018 through a summit and community forum which brought together a national network of well-established and aspiring environmental leaders to take part in discussions exploring the importance of mentorship, the various educational and career opportunities available to them, and the multitude of ways that leadership can be enacted.

Today's lecture, **At the Intersection of Gardens, Culture, and Style** highlights the initiative's commitment to providing a platform for environmental leaders to share their personal journeys and expertise through the lenses of the communities they serve. This breadth of knowledge and experience highlights the holistic nature of the work necessary to the success of efforts to addressing the world's most challenging issues.

ACM is pleased to have the support of PEPCO as a Contributing Sponsor of WEL for the 2021 fiscal year. We look forward to working with them and our network of steadfast supporters to continue to strengthen and move the program forward.

Event Schedule

1:00 p.m. – 1:10 p.m. **Welcoming Remarks & Introduction of Abra**

Katrina Lashley, Program Coordinator, Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum

1:10 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. **Abra Lee, Public Horticulturalist**

2:35 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Audience Q & A**

3:00p.m- Closing

Speaker

Abra Lee is a national speaker, writer, and owner of *Conquer the Soil* a platform that combines Black garden history and current events to raise awareness of horticulture. She has spent a whole lotta time in the dirt as a municipal arborist, extension agent, airport landscape manager, and more. Lee is a graduate of Auburn University and alumna of the Longwood Gardens Society of Fellows, a global network of public horticulture professionals.