



# PHOEBE WHISTLE BARKAN

Engage with the natural world.  
Inspire fascination through exploration and play.  
Promote problem solving and communication.  
Foster resilient communities.

· Keene, New Hampshire · 217.649.3497 · barkan.phoebe@gmail.com ·

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## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

### **Master of Science, Environmental Studies**

*Antioch University New England*

2020

New Hampshire Life Science Certification (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

### **Certificate in Environmental & Sustainability Education**

*Antioch University New England & Wolf Ridge ELC*

2018

### **Bachelor of Science, Biology**

Concentration: Integrative Biology Honors

Minors: Arabic Language, Chemistry

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

2012

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Nature Play Educator**

2018-2019

*Westmoreland Elementary School, Westmoreland, NH*

- Develop nature skills, support and mediate interpersonal conflict, act as an experienced resource for a group of 18 K-6th graders in three-hour after school program.

### **Wildlife Naturalist**

*Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, Finland, MN*

2017 – 2018

- Facilitated 6-7 three-hour classes each week on natural history and human ecology.
- Engaged 12-20 students in each group: 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> graders and adult learners in every class.
- Provided animal care and training for program animals (raptors, reptiles, amphibians, bats, porcupine).
- Acted as on-site liaison for visiting schools (communicated with teachers, solved problems, formed relationships).
- Contributed to management of social media feeds (instagram, facebook, twitter)

### **Artisan Skills Instructor**

*Trackers Earth, Portland OR*

2017

- Taught primitive skills and ecology lessons to groups of 5<sup>th</sup>- 11<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Created and led skills-based fantasy quests through the forests and streams of the Pacific Northwest.
- Responsible for round-the-clock village supervision, improvising often to engage and grow with learners.
- Stayed in character as a large, talking rabbit.

### **Science Educator**

*Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland, OR*

2017

- Presented programming and interpretation to museum guests.
- Developed and delivered promotional materials, curriculum and interactive tours.
- Managed 70+ volunteers' duties and shifts.
- Managed website contributions and social media feeds.

### **Sustainability Teaching Fellow**

*Conserve School, Land O'Lakes, WI*

2015-2016

- Independently developed and implemented semester-long curricula for 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade stewardship core class.
- Co-taught pre-calculus mathematics classes.
- Planned and facilitated 3-5 afterschool workshops, seminars, hikes, community service programs per week.
- Co-led week-long and weekend wilderness backpacking and paddling trips with 8-15 students.
- Event planning and hosting, mentorship and student support, residential and recreational supervision.

### **Natural History Instructor**

*Chewonki Foundation, Wiscasset, ME*

2013 – 2014

- Taught 6-12 natural history classes per week across the state of Maine in libraries, classrooms, and E.E. centers using live program animals, including lessons on ecology, conservation and waste management.
- Class sizes ranged from 10-100 participants, aged pre-K through adult.
- Responsible for animal care for non-releasable raptors, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods.
- Collaborated with team on curriculum development and animal care plans.

### **Vector Disease Research Assistant**

*University of Illinois, Allan Lab, Urbana, IL*

2012 – 2013

- Supervised field assistants, set up field studies, collected and analyzed data sets, identified birds.
- Identified insect specimens in a study pertaining to endemic West Nile Virus prevalence in Central Illinois.

### **Parasitoid Phylogeny Researcher**

*University of Illinois, Whitfield/Cameron Lab, Urbana, IL*

2010 – 2012

- Created and described a phylogeny of a genus of tropical parasitic wasps using physical and genetic traits.
- Used electron microscopy and microscope photography.

### **Botany Researcher and Field Assistant**

*Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Dalling Lab, Fortuna, Panama & Urbana, IL*

2008 – 2010

- Mapped large rainforest plots, designed experimental procedures, collected samples.
- Organized and prepared leaf samples for a study of tree community structure.
- Created digital maps of research specimens (i.e. trees) based on GPS data.
- Translated (Spanish-English), organized, and consolidated disparate specimen databases and maps

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### INTERESTS

- Web & graphic design · Creative and non-fiction writing · Science communication ·
- Mapmaking · Long-distance backpacking · Sustainable playscape design · Food preservation ·
- Juggling · Choral singing · Farming · Wordplay · Storytelling

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### REFERENCES

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