

GOVERNORS ISLAND

Governors Island Climate

Climate Curriculum Writer
Pre-Proposal Meeting
October 16, 2025

Governors Island At A Glance

172 acres at the center of New York Harbor

Minutes by ferry from Lower Manhattan and Brooklyn, w/ connections via NYC Ferry

120 acres of open space including new 43-acre park

1.3M SF of Historic Buildings, plus 33 acres of development area

Free ferries for residents of NYCHA, IDNYC holders, children under 12, seniors, veterans, & community-based organizations

Open to the public year-round



Trust for Governors Island

The Trust for Governors Island (“the Trust”) is the 501(c)3 non-profit organization created by the City of New York responsible for the planning, operations, and ongoing development of Governors Island.

The Trust’s mission is to realize the full potential of Governors Island for the inspiration and enjoyment of all New Yorkers, demonstrating a bold vision for public space.



The Center for Climate Solutions on Governors Island will be a cross-sector hub of educators, researchers, innovators, and advocates that will prepare NYC and cities around the world for climate change.



**Help ready
neighborhoods for
climate change**



**Grow well-paying
green jobs**



**Create space for public
awareness and dialogue**

New York Climate Exchange: Overview (Opening in 2029)



Aerial view of The Exchange, showing the iconic forms designed to evoke the dramatic landscapes and hills of Governors Island

Mission

To confront urgent climate impacts and issues of environmental injustice, breaking down silos through an innovative, scalable, and sustainable model that will rapidly develop new urban climate solutions.

Approach

The New York Climate Exchange is a new nonprofit with a new activation model that capitalizes on a world-class partner network and New York City's global influence to drive impact where it's needed most:

- Education and training
- Cutting-edge climate research
- Convening
- The latest technology solutions

Governors Island Climate

Through its Climate Programs, the Trust advances climate action in New York City along with our community of partners in testing equitable climate solutions for cities and their diverse communities and engaging New Yorkers and visitors from around the world.



Opportunity

In 2023, the Trust announced a vision to create a **hands-on and experiential field trip program** to inspire New York City public school students with hopeful solutions to the climate crisis. Governors Island offers wide-ranging opportunities for outdoor climate education, including in climate tech, ecosystems, food systems, harbor ecology, and organic waste management.

The Trust seeks to develop a **Grade 6 program** covering climate change phenomena that are observable on Governors Island and teaching hands-on solutions for students to bring back to their classrooms and communities.

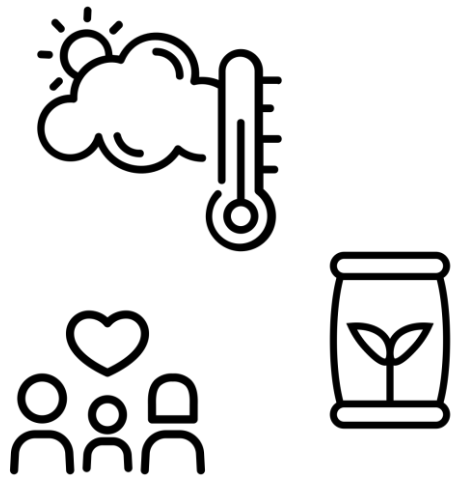
The program is envisioned to offer a taste of cross-cutting learning opportunities on Governors Island and to encourage longer term relationships with Governors Island and its onsite educational partners.



Program Priorities

Through the program, the Trust seeks to:

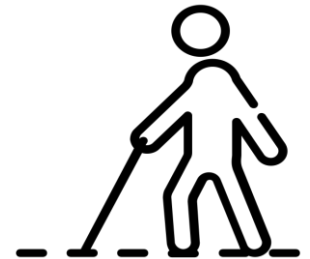
Create an unforgettable, one-of-a-kind experiential learning opportunity on Governors Island for Grade 6 students to take hands-on action on climate change that achieves cross-cutting learning objectives for climate and environmental education.



Seamlessly integrate with the Grade 6 STEM Scope & Sequence units and enhance the Scale Science at WestEd and Amplify Science lessons by identifying localized phenomena and climate solutions that can be experienced on Governors Island and taught in classrooms throughout the school year.



Equip educators with post-trip resources from Governors Island's year-round community of educational partners that inspire students to continue developing leadership skills for climate action.



Project Team and Anticipated Timeline

The project team includes:

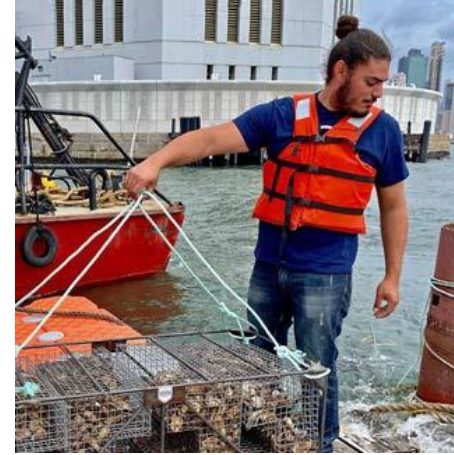
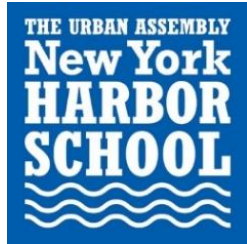
- **The Trust for Governors Island (“Project Lead”),**
- **A Curriculum Writer (“Consultant”), and**
- **An Outreach & Operations Lead (to be procured separately).**

Additionally, the Consultant will have the opportunity to create lessons in consultation with NYC Public Schools and other Advisors who comprise a community of interested partners that currently run year-round educational programs on Governors Island, including but not limited to:

- Billion Oyster Project’s [STEM Education](#) program,
- Earth Matter’s [Compost Learning Center](#),
- GrowNYC’s [Teaching Garden](#),
- NYC Bird Alliance’s [Governors Island](#) programs,
- [The New York Climate Exchange](#), and
- [The Urban Assembly New York Harbor School](#).

The Project Lead will work with the Consultant to identify sites appropriate for the program, focusing on its 43-acre climate resilient park, historic district, 2-mile waterfront esplanade, 7 miles of car-free streets, and other public spaces.

Advisors: Illustrative Examples



Project Timeline

An anticipated project schedule is shown in the Project Timeline below.

Timeline	Curriculum Writing & Evaluation
September to November 2025	• Call for Proposals
December to February 2026	• Project Kickoff: Curriculum Writer • Pilot curriculum writing
March to April 2026	• Handoff and coordination with Operations & Outreach Lead
May to June 2026	• Spring pilot evaluation and finalizing spring lessons
July to August 2026	• Marketing strategy update
September to November 2026	• Fall pilot evaluation and finalizing curriculum package

Responsibilities

The Consultant's responsibilities will include:

1. Develop a project plan and detailed timeline that identifies key milestones.
2. Write a cohesive field trip curriculum for a full-day Spring or Fall school trip at Governors Island on climate change topics suitable for Grade 6 outdoor STEM education that aligns with NYC STEM Scope & Sequence, Scale/Amplify, and NYS standards. Lessons should focus on unique sites and learning opportunities on Governors Island with seasonal adaptations and should include pre- and post-trip resources for teachers. Resources from the 2023-2025 pilot phase will be provided to the selected Consultant.
3. Develop an evaluation tool for an outdoor educator's use to assess learning outcomes and impact.
4. Participate in meetings with the Outreach and Operations Lead, as needed.
5. Synthesize findings and recommendations based on the evaluation tool at the conclusion of the Spring and Fall pilot periods.
6. Make updates after the Spring and Fall pilot periods and deliver a final curriculum for continued implementation in 2027

RFP Timeline

Questions and Interviews

Any questions regarding this Call for Proposals should be sent to climate@govisland.org with “Climate Curriculum Writer – Questions” in the subject line no later than October 22, 2025.

In the Trust’s discretion, one or more Proposers may be invited for an interview for the purpose of clarifying their Proposal.

Selection Timeline

- Issue Date: September 17, 2025
- Pre-Proposal Meeting/Tour: October 16, 2025
- Questions Due: October 22, 2025
- Proposals Due: October 31, 2025 at 3:00 PM
- Project Kickoff: December 1, 2025



Governors Island Climate programs are made possible with the generous support of our funders



**Donald A. Pels
Charitable Trust**

GOVERNORS ISLAND

Thank You

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