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TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND LAUNCHES FREE CLIMATE FIELD TRIP PROGRAM FOR NYC 6th GRADE STUDENTS

"Climate Action Quest" will connect New York City Public School classrooms with hands-on, real-world lessons using climate work happening on Governors Island

NEW YORK, NY (October 28, 2026) – The Trust for Governors Island today announced the launch of a new, free climate field trip program for New York City public school sixth graders, presented in partnership with Beam Center and Turnstile Tours. The program, dubbed "Climate Action Quest," invites students to explore climate and environmental solutions in action on Governors Island through hands-on activities that demonstrate practical climate solutions they can apply in their classrooms and communities.

"Since opening to the public in 2005, Governors Island has grown into an incredible resource for New Yorkers of all ages," **said Clare Newman, President and CEO of the Trust for Governors Island.** "We are so excited to offer this extraordinary opportunity for both hands-on climate learning and early career exploration through our work with Beam Center and Turnstile Tours, allowing students and educators alike to come out to the Island for both hands-on climate learning and early career exploration."

"Through this program, students will have the unprecedented opportunity to witness climate solutions in action while imagining the role that they can play in making a difference in their own communities," **said Lauren Wang, Director of Climate Programs at the Trust for Governors Island.** "By connecting learning with real-world innovation, we're excited to empower young people with a sense of possibility and hope in the face of the climate crisis together with our partners at Beam Center and Turnstile Tours."

"Beam Center's collaboration on the Trust for Governors Island's Climate Field Trip initiative was an ideal way for us to bridge our long-term tenancy and commitment to the Island community with our decades of partnership with NYC public schools and educators. For us, Governors Island is an important and unique place alongside the other authentic creative and technical environments in which we collaborate with NYC youth on tangible, real world learning," **said Brian Cohen, Beam Center's Executive Director.**

"Turnstile has been sharing stories of industry, innovation, and resilience along New York City's waterfront for more than 15 years," **said Cindy VandenBosch, president and founder of Turnstile Tours & Studio.** "Governors Island is such a unique historic landscape, and we are so honored to have the opportunity to explore the island's present and future as a hub of climate innovation through these immersive, hands-on field trips."

The immersive, multi-stop outdoor experience is designed to strengthen climate literacy by helping students analyze local climate challenges, build scientific vocabulary, and identify actionable solutions while introducing them to the wide range of careers available in climate and sustainability. Students will be able to engage with topics including climate science, greenhouse gas emissions, electrified transportation, living shorelines, waste-to-resource systems, and sustainable materials. The program also encourages continued learning with on-Island organizations including Billion Oyster Project, GrowNYC, and other Island partners.

Field trips are free and open to New York City public school Grade 6 classrooms, with bookings available for select dates during the 2026-27 school year. Educators can request bookings online at www.govisland.org/climate-quest.

Governors Island is at the forefront of researching and demonstrating urban climate solutions that can be scaled globally. Its unique waterfront environment complements an award-winning park engineered for climate change; nearly one million annual visitors; opportunities for education, research, and piloting; public artworks engaging with climate issues; and a growing community of educational, nonprofit, and commercial tenants focused on climate solutions.

The Trust and the New York City Mayor's Office have developed a vision to create the Center for Climate Solutions, an initiative on Governors Island to accelerate climate solutions for cities. In April 2023, The New York Climate Exchange, led by Stony Brook University and a consortium of partners, was selected as the initiative's anchor institution following a two-year competitive process. The Exchange will develop a $700-million campus on the Island focused on advancing climate solutions and preparing New Yorkers for green jobs.

The Trust for Governors Island's Climate programs are supported by Amazon, Con Edison, New York Community Trust, and Anonymous.

The Governors Island 2026 season is generously supported by the Blackstone Charitable Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, and Rivian Foundation.

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About the Trust for Governors Island

The Trust for Governors Island is the nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York that is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres 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. For more information, visit www.govisland.org.