

# 2021 RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER SUMMIT

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Stacy Levy**

*Environmental Artist, Sere, Ltd.*

Stacy Levy's projects show the presence of urban nature, clarifying the patterns of natural processes existing on the site. Stacy collaborates directly with the natural forces: tidal rivers, urban streams rainwater. Her work registers the changes in nature over the course of a day, a season or a several years. Her projects allow people to witness the fluctuations of the natural world, and to bring a sense of wonder and connectedness.

Stacy has created urban tidal projects for the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia and the Hudson River in New York. She has created water cleaning projects in Arkansas and Southwest Pennsylvania in the coal mining region, and rain capturing projects at several sites in the Delaware River Watershed and in Pittsburgh PA. Her work ranges from permanent to temporary. She often collaborates with engineers and landscape architects and ecologist to find artful solutions to

site issues. Presently, Stacy is the artist- in -residence for the Department of Stormwater in the City of Lancaster, PA. She is also working with the designers of the East Midtown Greenway in New York, creating a permanent project about the micro-algae inhabiting the East River. Past projects have been located in Seattle, Phoenix, Scottsdale, Fayetteville, AR., Charlotte, NC., Niigata, Japan and Edinburgh, Scotland. Her work was included in Documenta11.

Stacy graduated from Yale University with a BA in Art and a minor in forestry. She earned her MFA from Tyler School of Art, Temple University. She is a recipient of the Pew Fellowship in the Arts and a recent award for Arts in Conservation given by Penn Futures in 2019, and the Henry Meigs Environmental Leadership Award<sup>SEP</sup> in 2018.

Stacy grew up within the Wissahickon Watershed in Philadelphia, at the edge of Fairmount Park and played in storm water runoff when she was little, which informed her work. She now lives in Central Pennsylvania in the Penn's Creek Watershed.



### **Dr. Thomas R. Easley**

*Assistant Dean, Yale School of Environment*

Dr. Thomas R. Easley has spent most of his career as a diversity professional and a forester. As a diversity professional he has focused on the recruitment, retention, and diverse talent in natural resource disciplines. As a forester he has worked with landowners and citizens on land management and stewardship.

#### **Education:**

- Easley earned his undergraduate degree in Forest Science from Alabama A&M University
- His master's degree in Forest Genetics from Iowa State University
- And his doctorate in Adult Education from NC State University.

Easley served as the Diversity Director of the College of Natural Resources at NC State University where he taught courses, advised students, and supported faculty and staff on programming ensuring they are inclusive to all populations. Now as the Assistant Dean of Community and Inclusion at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, he combines his professions along with his passions of art and ministry to lead the diversity efforts in the school.

In addition to all of Easley's academic experience, he is also an Eagle Scout (Boy Scouts of America) and he is a forester. Lastly, Dr. Easley is also a musician and is known by RaShad Eas in the world of music. His art is called "Save Your Life Music" because he puts a message of love, embracing self and helping others in his music.