2027 MAEOE Challenge!!!

Share Your Shed-Story:

How are you connected to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed?

"Imagine a day filled with brilliant speakers, thought-provoking video, and mind-blowing conversation. By organizing a 'Shed-Story event, based on a TEDx event', you can create a unique gathering in your community that will unleash new ideas, inspire and inform." (From the TED Talk website.)
https://www.ted.com/talks

What is a Watershed or Shed-Story?

A story about your program's connection to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Or, it could be the story of your Staff's connection and concern, passion, interest in, or history with the Bay.

MAEOE WATERSHED FESTIVAL CATEGORIES:

Also known as the MAEOE Paddle Challenge

1. **Environmental Documentary** – That tells the watershed story of your Environmental Education Program. You may focus on your staff's story or their individual Watershed Stories. Or, share the story of how your program started, what you are doing now, or any part of your program that highlights your connection to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

2. **Short Films**– **Music Videos, PSAs, animations, slide shows…** that tell your Watershed story.

3. ***Photography or Visual Art*,** may include graphic design, drawing, painting, sculpture, or digital photography.
   - **Shed art** is art that can be publicly displayed and viewed before and after the films.

Culminating Project Options:

A. Prepare a Slide Show or Display Board that describes your Program's Watershed Story
B. Produce an informative and entertaining short **film** that shows your Shed-Story.
   Maximum length: 5 minutes.
C. Produce a Music video about your Program's Watershed story: 1-5 minutes in length.
D. Create an Artistic display that shows your Program's Watershed Story.

Just have FUN with it! No Judgement! Well, actually there will be judging, but it won't be judgy; not much anyway.

Time Line:

1. November- December - Email Brian Schilling ***brian_s_shilling@mcpsmd.org*** to let him know your organization is participating
2. January 21st -Due date for films to be turned in, pictures of artwork - send to Brian! Pre-viewing begins!
3. February 6th -Shed-Story viewing and judging - MAEOE Conference.

Some Guidance for this MAEOE Paddle Competition:

A starter list of questions: When thinking about your watershed,
What motivates you?
What or who has inspired you?
What do you care most about? Like to do most? Want to know more about? Want others to know? *(In relation to our Watershed story)*
What are you involved with and why?
How do you feel most connected to the local watershed? When did you first realize this?
What do you think is the most important issue in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed? What are you doing about this issue?

Other Advice: When preparing your Shed-Story:

a. Use your voice to show emotion and significance. Emphasize words to show importance. Pause to show a break in thought or to underscore a central point.
b. Ask questions, add humor, and support your message with details that matter to the audience. Maybe discuss other perspectives related to your message.
c. Think of your message like a sandwich. The top layer is the introduction. Make it enticing. Add visuals if you are presenting this live or putting it on video.
d. Paint pictures with your words as you are recording your message. Maybe add visuals that match what you are talking about. Or, just paint pictures.

SHED-Story support: In case you ever want to host or promote a Shed-Story, Shed-Show, or Shed-Talk Watershed Festival, these links could help with preparation.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/simon-young/7-essential-tips-to-prepa_b_7537228.html - advice on how to prepare.

http://ed.ted.com/on/75xFPQ2q - a nice 3-minute video on writing a persuasive speech.

https://www.ted.com/participate/organize-a-local-tedx-event/tedx-organizer-guide/speakers-program/prepare-your-speaker - a guide for the whole TED Talk process, outline, script, slides, rehearsals, day of event.

Every Program or group that participates has an opportunity to win 1-year ownership of the coveted MAEOE Paddle.

There will be an opportunity to view all submissions during the MAEOE Conference.

Please email Brian Shillling (brian_s_shilling@mcpsmd.org) for any questions!