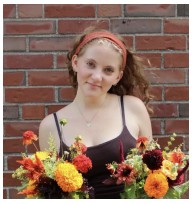
2026 CAMPUS FARMER SUMMIT - UMass Amherst
CONTRIBUTORS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2026

Presenters

 Laura Sayre Keynote	Laura is Managing Director of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment and an adjunct lecturer at UMass Amherst. Her book Fields of Learning: The Student Farm Movement in North America, co-edited with Sean Clark (University Press of Kentucky, 2011), was based on her previous reporting on student farms for NewFarm.org, a publication of The Rodale Institute. She has worked previously as an organic farmworker, an organic inspector, a freelance writer and translator, and an agricultural researcher. She holds a PhD in English from Princeton University and a MA in French from UMass Amherst.
 Julia Kline	Julia is a Senior studying Environmental Science and Applied Plant and Soil Science at UMass Amherst. She is a part of the 2026 UMass Student Farming Enterprise, acting as the Planting Manager over the summer. After graduation she hopes to get her masters in Applied Plant and Soil Sciences and work with more sustainable farms.
 Echo Muñoz	Echo is a Senior in Sustainable Food and Farming at UMass Amherst. He is part of the 2026 UMass Student Farming Enterprise. They were the Integrated Pest Management manager during their summer internship, and aspires to continue similar work in orchards after graduation.
 Lucy Stevens	Lucy is a Junior studying Sustainable Food and Farming and has been a part of the 2026 UMass (Amherst) Student Farming Enterprise crew, serving as the farm's social media manager and delivery driver. She has had an amazing time doing community outreach and sharing the farm's story this year. In the future, she hopes to continue to work with inspiring farmers and work to ensure everyone's access to fresh and local food.
 Christopher Corrado	Christopher is a Senior Environmental Science major at UMass Amherst. He is a part of the 2026 crew for the UMass Student Farming Enterprise; over the summer he was the wash/pack manager for the farm. They are in their last semester at UMass and hope to work on organic farms after graduation.
 Allie Comet	Allie is the Manager of Farm Operations and Education at Book & Plow Farm at Amherst College. She has worked on and managed diversified farms of many different scales throughout the Northeast, and has also worked as an outdoor educator and classroom teacher. She first became interested in farming as an Environmental Studies major at Pomona College, where she spent most of her time at the campus farm.

 Kaylee Brow	Kaylee is the Assistant Farm Manager of Book & Plow Farm at Amherst College. They are an alum of the Umass Student Farm and have worked at Book & Plow since 2016.
 Ella Moskovitz	Ella is a senior Sustainable Food & Farming major with a Business minor. She has loved working with Stockbridge Floral Design as a student leader and is interested in urban growing and public programming.
 Aidan Charland	Aidan is a student leader with Stockbridge Floral Design majoring in Horticultural Science with a secondary major in Plant and Soil Science. During the summer, he is the garden manager for a colonial homestead garden. (UMass Amherst)
 Bri Caponigro	Bri is a junior studying Sustainable Food and Farming and a student leader for floral design this year. They spent this past summer working on the plot at the farm growing the flowers. This year they have a particular interest in seed saving but also working with our dried flowers! (UMass Amherst)
 Sarah Berquist	Sarah is faculty founder and Director of Stockbridge Floral Design. While she cannot be physically present during this year's Summit she is excited for her wonderful team of student leaders to represent and share the program with the broader campus farming community! (UMass Amherst)
 Celia Harnish	Celia is a senior studying Sustainable Food and Farming. She has been a student leader and TA with Stockbridge Floral Design for the past two years, and is particularly interested in instruction and field production. A couple of her favorite flowers to grow are dahlias and tulips. (UMass Amherst)
 Katherine Aske	Katherine leads an agroecological new farmer training program at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. She has been farming organic vegetables for a decade and continues to write and organize in opposition to the financialization of farmland.

 Ryan Maher Steering Committee	Ryan works for the Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station where he supports organic research and outreach across AES farms and is the staff manager for the Dilmun Hill Student Farm, a small, diversified farm on the Ithaca campus. Prior to joining AES in 2023, he spent 10 years as a research and extension specialist in the Cornell Small Farms Program focused on soil health in vegetables.
 Terence Bradshaw	Terence is Associate Professor at and Chair of University of Vermont Department of Agriculture, Landscape, and Environment. He has been a farmer all of his life, starting with growing up on a Vermont dairy farm before moving into perennial fruit crops production in and after college. Terry has been director of the UVM Horticulture Research and Education Center since 2005, and started Catamount Educational Farm there in 2014. 'Cat Farm' is a ten-acre fruit and vegetable farm operated by students that hosts research, teaching, and extension projects while providing food to the UVM community through a CSA, farm stands, and sales to campus dining.
 Amanda Brown Steering Committee	Amanda is a Senior Lecturer II at the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Early in her professional career, she focused on sustainable farming practices for vegetable and specialty crops as a researcher and educator with UMass Extension's Agriculture & Landscape Program. During that time, she co-founded the UMass Student Farming Enterprise. For almost two decades, Amanda has focused solely on the Student Farming Enterprise and has developed a year-long educational experience for students which touches on all aspects of managing a small organic vegetable farm. In addition to teaching and farming, Amanda also serves as administrative director for the school's Agricultural Learning Center.
 Fiona Flynnmoore	Fiona was raised in the suburban town of Palo Alto, CA, and when she went to college in rural Iowa, she saw first hand the environmental and social impacts of agriculture, which ignited her passion for food systems research. She has researched both Community Supported Agriculture projects and Campus Farms as food system incubators and innovation spaces. She works at the University of Virginia managing their interdisciplinary campus farm, the Morven Kitchen Garden at Morven Sustainability Lab.
 Todd McLane Steering Committee Campus Farmer Network Host	Todd is a dedicated farmer, educator, food systems specialist, and food justice advocate. For the past 20-plus years, his life has revolved around food and farming in the greater Ithaca, NY area. He has experience in curriculum development, farm-based education in traditional and non-traditional settings, farm management, CSA management, and nonprofit board work. He was recently awarded the 2026 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching at Tompkins Cortland Community College.

 Anthony Reiber Steering Committee	Tony is the Academic Coordinator for Natural Resources Programs at Greenfield Community College which includes the Farm and Food Systems and Plant and Soil Science degrees. He has also developed curricula and teaches for several courses offered at GCC such as: Soil Science, Introduction to Horticulture, Organic Gardening and Greenhouse Production and Management. He is the co-creator and manager of the Outdoor Learning Lab on the GCC campus. This site provides applied, hands-on resources for students in the natural sciences. Students are able to utilize a native plant botanical garden, wildflower meadow, permaculture garden, a fruit tree orchard and flower and vegetable raised beds
 Ned Lincoln Steering Committee	Ned is the Farm Manager of Home Winds Farm and an Educator at Gill St Bernard's School in Gladstone, New Jersey. Pulling together diverse experience in Engineering, Restaurant Operations, and Agriculture, he endeavors to understand the systems that keep us alive yet are easy to take for granted, and to illuminate these complex and interconnected systems for others.
 Nicole Burton	Nikki is a Lecturer of Sustainable Food and Farming and brings over twenty years of farming experience to UMass. Nikki's teaching and research interests are in sustainable livestock production and business management. Since joining the faculty of the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, Nikki has focused solely on the development of the Stockbridge Livestock Program. This unique program provides innovative, hands-on, science-based, sustainable animal husbandry programming to UMass. Her experiential learning programming includes hands on training in raising, poultry, pigs, sheep and training in on farm slaughter. Nicole serves on several faculty committees and is an active member of the local farming community.
 Allegra Brogard	Allegra's work spans nature conservation, environmental program development, and diversified vegetable farming. She coordinates "La Ferme de la Taillerie," a new educational farm in Normandy, France launched by École des Roches and École Jeannine Manuel.
 Sarah Griggs Steering Committee	Sarah is an Associate Director of the Alvord Center for Global and Environmental Studies at the Loomis Chaffee School, where her focus is on place- and land-based programs as well as sustainability initiatives. Passionate about food systems and local, sustainable food access, she believes that meaningful, hands-on experiences help students better understand their relationship to food, the environment, and the communities around them. She spends her summers volunteering at Holcomb Farm in Granby, CT, an historic CSA working farm, and teaches environmental science.

 Bridget Lawrence-Meigs Steering Committee Campus Farmer Network Host	Bridget is the Farm Manager and Programs Director at Fairfield Farm at The Hotchkiss School. Before coming to Hotchkiss, she helped to start and direct The Farm at Stonehill from 2011-2021 at Stonehill College, Easton, MA, where she taught courses in sustainable agriculture and food politics. Bridget is passionate about growing nutritious vegetables using sustainable methods, working with our students and community to develop a strong sense of place and stewardship to the natural world. After attending a F2I Summit at UMass Amherst in 2015, she joined forces with FINE and fellow campus farmers to offer Campus Farmer Summits at Stonehill College in 2018 and 2020. She and Todd McLane host regular zoom calls for the Campus Farmer Community. We hope you will join the Campus Farmer Network. Please reach out to Bridget or Todd for more information.
 Becca Nelson	Becca is the Sustainable Food Systems Program Manager at Santa Clara University, CA running the half acre campus organic garden. A Bay Area native, she's worked in sustainable agriculture and education across Santa Clara, San Mateo, and Santa Cruz counties since 2017. Her current role is rooted in facilitating community building around food justice and resilience and is a member of local coalitions such as the Urban Growers Network and South Bay Food Justice Collaborative.
 Brenna Bizley	Brenna Bizley is the Partnership Manager at The Barrett Centre of Innovation in Sustainable Urban Agriculture at Durham College, working with public and community partners to implement urban farms, address food insecurity, and share knowledge with the next generation of urban growers. Brenna oversees the Barrett Centre's partnership management, community engagement, sustainability, and operational priorities, as well as forward-looking strategic growth opportunities.
 Rose Forrest	Rose is Sodexo's Sustainability Coordinator for Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, specializing in the university segment. With 14 years of dedicated service to Sodexo, Rose is a passionate advocate for sustainability and culinary excellence. Through her leadership and innovative initiatives, Rose is driving meaningful change and paving the way for a greener, more sustainable future for gene

Summit Website & Campus Farmer Network Supporters

Many thanks to Farm to Institution New England (FINE) for hosting our event on their website and Sarah Lyman for all of the time and care she takes updating the site for us! https://farmtoinstitution.org/

 Sarah Lyman	Sarah (she / her) is the Director of Communications and Operations at Farm to Institution New England, where she helps tell stories of how institutions are transforming our regional food system. Sarah has 20 years of experience in communications, web, and graphic design.
 Tania Taranovski	Tania (she / her) took the reins as FINE's Co-Executive Director in 2025. Prior to that, she was Director of Strategic Initiatives & Partnerships where she led FINE's farm and sea to campus and foodservice programs, in addition to playing a senior role in operations, strategy, and management. Tania came to FINE with extensive experience in nonprofit program leadership, environmental conservation, and food system strategies through her work at the New England Aquarium. Earthwatch Institute, and as a consultant. She and her family live in Weymouth, Massachusetts, where she volunteers for community organizations, tends her backyard garden, and spends as much time as possible on, in, or near the water.

Steering Committee Members

 Toby Harmon	Toby is the Educational Farm Manager at North Country School and Camp Treetops in Lake Placid, NY. After a childhood of farming, he pursued a masters in Environmental Engineering from Clarkson University. He stumbled head first into environmental education, working at Mt. Rainier teaching sustainable forestry for the University of Washington and with the famed Wild Center in Tupper Lake, NY supporting their Youth Climate Summits. He's now found his calling managing an educational farm, growing and raising most of the food the students at the 100 year old boarding school consume each day. When he's not pulling lambs, teaching kids how to repair a tractor, testing soil for pasture health, or giving horse riding lessons, you can find him off playing an instrument to his dog or seated round a table playing Dungeons and Dragons. His top joy though is meeting similarly passionate folks in the sphere of farm based educators.
 Lena Nicolai	Lena lives and works at the Kohler Environmental Center at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, CT. She manages the research and teaching greenhouse, tends multiple school gardens for food production and biodiversity, teaches biology within an environmental immersion program, and supports Kinderwoods, an outdoor experiential learning program for students from a local elementary school.
	Jade is the Campus Farmer and Curricular Experiences Coordinator at Northcote Farm at Lakefield College School. She draws on years of farming experience throughout Peterborough and the Kawarthas in rural Ontario, Canada. She approaches agriculture through a rehabilitative lens, viewing the land and stewardship as a gateway to belonging, identity, joy, and well-being. Jade believes that by teaching youth to restore our soil, we simultaneously restore ourselves. At Northcote, she leads daily, hands-on

Jade O'Keeffe	land-based learning for students, alumni, parents, and cherished community partners.
 Vera Simons-Nobes	Vera is a mom, gardener, and farm-based educator who comes from a family of teachers. She became the Farm-Based Education Network Coordinator in 2013, and observed the Network's potential to connect peers through shared values of experiential learning, joy, equity and inclusion, and a humble desire to grow. Vera believes farms are the best places for relationship building, learning through doing, and connecting with oneself and the ecological communities that support us, and that everyone has the right to these opportunities. Vera's job brings her across Vermont for agritourism collaborations, and throughout the Shelburne Farms campus to eradicate invasive species, harvest crops, teach camp, welcome visitors to the farm, and plan professional learning workshops that nourish the whole person, all alongside a wonderful Shelburne Farms team.
 Kim Smart	Kim has spent over a decade working in education. She worked at NCS during the 2013-14 school year as the Riding Program Director and has dedicated over 15 years to working at Camp Treetops. Kim has a Master of Science in Agricultural Education, and degrees in Communications and Anthropology from Tulane University. As the Educational Farm Director, Kim works with the NCS-CTT community to build connections between the farm and the Camp and School programs. She oversees all farm programming and operations from crop planning and cultivation, to horseback riding lessons, lambing, maple sugaring, and mentorship of seasonal Farm Fellows. When she is not working, Kim enjoys spending time outdoors or cooking with her partner, Jay, son Landon, and their dog, Kea.
 Steve Wall	Steve leads a strategic initiative at Charlotte Country Day School that unites the school's farm campus, wellness, food literacy work, and experiential education into a single, connected approach to how students learn from the land. Through Our Farm, he is developing ways to weave farm-based, experiential learning into four areas: food literacy, environmental stewardship, nutrition, and wellbeing. His work centers on a simple belief: students learn best with their hands in the soil, discovering where their food comes from, how ecosystems sustain us, and how caring for the land and caring for ourselves are deeply linked. For Steve, food is medicine, and time in nature is prescriptive.