



YP Connections

YP Connections - WEFTEC Issue

September 2017

A Special Message from Michelle Hatcher, SYPC Chair

I wanted to send a small message as one of my last official "Chair" duties, to thank each of you for helping me along this path of being the Vice-Chair and then Chair. It has been a great ride, I've met some amazing and talented people who I have no doubt will become the next generation of future leaders within WEF.

As we approach WEFTEC this year, it's a time a lot of us get excited about to see fellow colleagues from around the globe, network with peers and current water-industry leaders and increase our knowledge base. I want to let you know that it's so much more than that, all our efforts to engage in WEF lead to the growth of the water sector in the global environment. We are enacting and forcing change, showing that we choose health, sustainability, and knowledge as our tools, and when we come together great things can happen. I look forward to sharing this passion with each of you as we grow to become the next generation of leaders within WEF and our industry, let's cheers to a glass of clean and safe tap water!

What's Happening at WEFTEC 2017 for Students and YPs

WEFTEC is the premier water quality event for students and young professionals interested in pursuing or developing a career in the water sector. Be sure to explore all the events for students and young professionals at WEFTEC this year.

Friday, 9/29: Engage the next generation of water stewards at Water Palooza



Saturday, 9/30: Build a bioswale at the 10th Annual WEF Community Service Project

Sunday, 10/1: Cheer on your alma mater at the Student Design Competition

Monday, 10/2: Participate in the Annual Student Chapter and SYPC Meetings. Meet with top environmental firms at the Students and Young Professionals Career Fair. Network with other young professionals at the WEF YP Reception.

Don't forget to share your WEFTEC experience on social media using the hashtags #wefsymp, #wefservice and #WEFTEC17.

Transforming Chicago - One WEFTEC at a Time

WEFTEC Events:

9/29:
Water Palooza, Manierre Elementary*

9/30:
WEF Community Service Project,
Manierre Elementary*

Jammin'4Water, Park West

10/1:
Student Design Competition,
McCormick Place

10/2:
Student Chapter Meeting and SYPC
Meeting, McCormick Place

Student & YP Career Fair, McCormick
Place

Black & Veatch Student Reception

YP Reception, Cuvee Chicago

*Contact cpakenham@wef.org for
more details about how to volunteer at
these events

[See all events](#)

YP Connections is brought to you by
the WEF Students and Young
Professionals Committee. To join us or
learn more, visit us online at
www.wef.org/syp

Submissions:

Have news to share? Please contact
us at ypconnections@wef.org

On Sept. 30, WEF's Students and Young Professionals Committee will host their 10th Annual WEF Community Service Project at Manierre Elementary School in Chicago. Volunteers will spend the day building a green classroom and bioswales that surround a playground area.



The project helps transform a paved playground with poor drainage that makes it susceptible to flooding into a permeable gathering space for students that helps capture and filter stormwater, alleviate flooding, and improve local water quality. After excavation has been conducted, volunteers will help fill the area with gravel and soil needed for drainage and then plant native vegetation.

[Learn more](#) about how you can volunteer and support this year's service project!

[A Tribute to the Outgoing Chair of the WEF SYPC](#)

Michelle Hatcher has fearlessly led of our WEF Students and Young Professionals Committee (SYPC) as Chair since 2015. As she receives the Outstanding Young Professional award at WEFTEC 2017 in Chicago, IL, while also moving into the Past-Chair role, Michelle leaves a legacy of empowering the emerging leaders of our water environment industry to reach their career potential, and make a lasting impact on the future of our industry.



Michelle has been a role model, not only for myself, but also for countless others on our Committee and the industry as a whole. Thank you, Michelle, for all you have done, and will continue to do in Water! I am excited to follow your legacy, and pay it forward to our growing number of SYPC members. -*Alvin Pilobello, Incoming Chair, WEF SYPC 2017-2019*

[Preview the 2017 Student Design Competition](#)

The WEF Student Design Competition is celebrating its 16th annual event at WEFTEC this year! The competition began in 2002 to promote real-world design experience for students interested in pursuing education and careers in water and wastewater engineering and science. The 2017 competition will feature presentations from 17 schools from 16 different Member Associations in the United States and Canada. Students from both competitions will come together for a rapid-fire process challenge in the afternoon, along with a networking dessert reception and awards ceremony.



WEF's Students and Young Professionals Committee encourages you to come cheer on your alma mater or Member Association's team at this year's competition on Sunday, October 1 at the McCormick Place Convention Center

in Chicago. Be sure to explore the full schedule and details of the 2017 competition [here](#).

Thank You to our 2017 Sponsors and Donors!

Without the support of sponsors and donors, this year's Community Service Project, Water Palooza Education Day, Student Design Competition and WEFTEC events for Students & YPs wouldn't be possible. The SYPC would like to thank the following organizations for their generosity:



Sponsors: AECOM, Arcadis, Black & Veatch, Brown and Caldwell, Carollo Engineers, CDM Smith, CH2M, Greeley and Hansen, Hazen and Sawyer, HDR, and Mott MacDonald.

Service Project Partner: Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. **Donors:** AE2S, AECOM/Parsons Joint Venture, Brentwood Industries, Central States Water Environment Association, CH2M, Chemtrol, a brand of NIBCO INC., Corzan Industrial Systems, DC Water, Donohue & Associates, Inc., Duperon Corporation, EOSi, FKC Co., Ltd., Hach, Illinois Water Environment Association, Lotus Water, Michael Baker International, Midwest Groundcovers, Ozinga, Tnemec Company, Inc., Unilock Pavers, Water Charities Fundraising, and World Water Works, Inc. **In-Kind Support:** Center for Neighborhood Technology, Chicago Public Schools, City of Chicago - Department of Water Management, Trotter & Associates, Inc., Green City Market.

More News for Students and Young Professionals

[Submit your resume by Friday, Sept. 8 for the Career Fair at WEFTEC](#)

[Volunteers Needed for the 2017 Student Design Competition at WEFTEC](#)

[Work with the Next Generation of Water Stewards at Water Palooza 2017](#)

[Coming to WEFTEC? Don't miss the 2017 Young Professionals Reception!](#)

[See Water Quality Professionals Perform at the 5th Annual Jammin'4Water Event](#)

[Explore Leadership Opportunities at the Water Environment Federation](#)

[Learn more about WEAO's Intelligent Wastewater Systems Seminar on Sept. 14](#)

[Participate in Imagine a Day Without Water on Oct. 12](#)