

Speaker biographies



Gretchen C. Daily is co-founder and faculty director of the Stanford Natural Capital Project. The Natural Capital Project is a global partnership whose goal is to integrate the values of nature into planning, policy, finance and management.

Daily is also the Bing Professor of Environmental Science in the Department of Biology at Stanford University, director of the Center for Conservation Biology at Stanford, and a senior fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

Daily's work is focused on understanding human dependence and impacts on nature and the deep societal transformations needed to secure people and Earth's life-support systems. Her work spans fundamental research and policy-oriented initiatives to open inclusive and green development pathways. She co-develops pragmatic approaches, engaging with governments, multilateral development banks, investors, businesses, farmers and ranchers, communities, and NGOs.

Together with many colleagues, Daily has published several hundred scientific and popular articles, and a dozen books, including *Nature's Services: Societal Dependence on Natural Ecosystems* (1997), *The New Economy of Nature: The Quest to Make Conservation Profitable* (2002), *Natural Capital: Theory and Practice of Mapping Ecosystem Services* (2011), *The Power of Trees* (2012), *One Tree* (2018), *Green Growth that Works: Natural Capital Policy and Finance Mechanisms Around the World* (2019), and *Rural Livelihood and Environmental Sustainability in China* (2020 in English).

Daily has received international honors and is an elected fellow of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts, and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.



Aleta Hayes is a choreographer, performer, and lecturer in the Department of Theater and Performance Studies (TAPS) at Stanford University. In addition to her courses in TAPS which integrate dance, movement, theater and visual art, Hayes facilitates embodied leadership workshops at the d.school, the Stanford Technology Ventures Program, and outside companies such as GoogleX, SouthWest Airlines and the Maxwell Airforce Base. She is the artistic director for the Chocolate Heads Movement Band — a cross-genre, dance and performance troupe that creates original, site-specific performances that feature and highlight architecture within the Stanford arts district. Most recently, Ms. Hayes choreographed "Helen/Hecuba" for Stanford Repertory Theater, which subsequently travelled to Athens, Greece, performed the role of "Mama" in the TAPS' 2019 production of "Raisin in the Sun" and choreographed a Danse Macabre for the TAPS production of "Everybody."



John (Jack) Muir Laws is a principal leader and innovator of the worldwide nature journaling movement. Jack is a scientist, educator, and author, who helps people forge a deeper and more personal connection with nature through keeping illustrated nature journals and understanding science. His work intersects science, art, and mindfulness. Trained as a wildlife biologist and an associate of the California Academy of Sciences, he observes the world with rigorous attention. He looks for mysteries, plays with ideas, and seeks connections in all he sees. Attention, observation, curiosity, and creative thinking are not gifts, but skills that grow with training and deliberate practice. As an educator and author, Jack teaches techniques and supports routines that develop these skills to make them a part of everyday life.

He was given the 2020 Bay Nature Local Hero award for his work in environmental education. In 2009, he received the Terwilliger Environmental Award for outstanding service in Environmental Education. He is a 2010 TogetherGreen Conservation Leadership Fellow with the National Audubon Society. He was the 2011 artist for International Migratory Bird Day. He has written and illustrated books about art and natural history including *The Laws Guide to Nature Drawing and Journaling* (2016), *The Laws Guide to Drawing Birds* (2012), *Sierra Birds: a Hiker's Guide* (2004), *The Laws Guide to the Sierra Nevada* (2007), and *The Laws Pocket Guide Set to the San Francisco Bay Area* (2009). He is a regular contributor to Bay Nature magazine with his "Naturalists Notebook" column. He is the primary author and editor of the curriculum: *Opening the World through Nature Journaling*. This free teaching guide is kid-tested and teacher-approved and integrates science, language arts, and visual arts through keeping a nature journal. He is the founder and host of the Bay Area Nature Journal Club, monthly free nature sketching workshops, field trips, and events, connecting people with nature through art.



Dr. Noémie Le Pertel is the founder/CEO of Empowered Wellness and the Center for Positive Leadership, LLC, empowering the fulfillment of potential through human-centered, whole-person leadership through embodied neuroscience for over 20 years. She is an international keynote speaker, consultant, and executive resilience coach specializing in sustainability and human flourishing for global institutions. Dr. Le Pertel leads experiential virtual and nature-based retreats for leaders seeking to embody evidence-informed insights, greater wellbeing and resilience.

Dr. Le Pertel currently leads research on global and organizational wellbeing, burnout, health and human flourishing in 122 countries with Harvard School of Public Health and World Bank. From a medical context, Dr. Le Pertel has served top-tier academic medical centers for over a decade as a researcher,

educator, and licensed doctor of East Asian integrative medicine. Having led initiatives on provider wellbeing, resilience, mindfulness, and integrative medicine for 20,000+ Columbia University Medical Center staff, medical providers, residents, and treating 10,000+ patients across pediatric/adult oncology, neurology, palliative care, family, and emergency medicine, Dr. Le Pertel is passionate about sustainable health. In 2017, she was awarded the national Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health (ACIH) Award for Leadership in Health Care Collaboration & Communication.

Dr. Le Pertel holds master's degrees in public health from Columbia University, Applied Positive Psychology & Organizational Learning from the University of Pennsylvania, and is a doctoral candidate in Organizational Learning at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a member of McKinsey & Co.'s Consortium for Learning Innovation, and has led research on neuroscience, networks, and resilience with Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Harvard Medical School/Brigham Women's Hospital, the University of Pennsylvania, and Harvard School of Public Health. Clients include United Nations, European Central Bank, NN Investment Partners, KBC, Columbia Business School, Ireland's Health Service Executive, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, AppNexus, CHUBB, AACSB, AbbVie, New York Times.



Helen Krug von Nidda is a contagiously optimistic Executive Coach, speaker and trainer with over 20 years of global experience in human resources. She has focused her career on leadership development, coaching and training in the international development field and human rights sector. Helen has extensive facilitation experience leading sessions in both French and English on four continents.

She was the HR Strategic Partner at United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), formerly Director of Talent Management at the International Rescue Committee (IRC). She also worked for UNICEF, the United Nations, the World Wildlife

Fund for Nature (WWF) and, in the private sector, for Reuters, Sotheby's, and Seagram's.

Raised in Switzerland and living in the US for the last 10+ years, Helen brings her multi-faceted international experience and adult learning approach to her work. She is a Certified Co-Active Coach and a licensed Career Counselor, as well as an Executive Coach for INSEAD's Gender and Diversity program. A graduate of Smith College, she holds a Master's in HRM and is pursuing her Doctorate in Adult Learning at Columbia University. She is the Founder and Chief Executive Optimist of with Helen, a coaching practice focused on women's personal and professional growth.



Joseph Bharat Cornell is an internationally renowned author, educator, and founder of Sharing Nature Worldwide, one of the planet's most widely respected nature awareness programs. Cornell is the author of the bestselling Sharing Nature Book Series, used by millions of parents, educators, naturalists, and youth and religious leaders all over the world. His first book, Sharing Nature with Children, was selected by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as one of the fifteen most influential books published since 1890 to 2010 for connecting children and families to nature. Two of his books: The Sky and Earth Touched

Me and Sharing Nature were Indie Book Award Grand Prize Winners for Non-Fiction. Cornell "is considered the grandfather of experiential nature education," and his books and presentations have "sparked a worldwide revolution in nature education."

His recent book, Deep Nature Play: A Guide to Wholeness, Aliveness, Creativity, and Inspired Learning, and his soon-to-be published, Flow Learning®: Opening Heart and Spirit through Nature, offer an exciting new dimension to deep nature connection. Cornell's books have been published in 26 languages, and he has lectured in 30 countries. He is Honorary President of Sharing Nature Association Japan, an organization with 10,000 trained Sharing Nature leaders.