

THE ROAR ACADEMY 2.0

A free summer bioregional credentialing program

SUMMER 2022



Seed saving at a Community Garden



Kayaking on the Kokosing River



Canning at Glass Rooster Cannery



Training & Credentialing

Participants will engage in hands-on experiences to develop a range of environmental skillsets. Possible topic areas include: environmental justice, bioregionalism, reforestation, agroforestry, urban gardening, food justice, regenerative agriculture, greenspace preservation, wildlife corridors, political advocacy, and wetland restoration. Preparation for each training will include contemporary readings and films, conversations with peers from Ohio colleges and universities, and experts in the field. Each participant who completes the academy will earn a ROAR Academy Certificate sponsored by The Ohio Environmental Council's Action Fund.



Social Outings

The academy offers numerous opportunities to engage with students who are conducting research, completing internships, or working on project teams at area campuses. Participants will join in conversations about their vision for environmental change, watch films together, and reflect on the issues raised by our exploration. Paired with trainings and excursions will be fun social outings. Slated for this summer are a kayaking **trip** on the Kokosing River, lunches and dinners at locally sourced restaurants, and an overnight weekend retreat.



Excursions

The academy will offer 5-6 bioregional excursions to meet area knowledgemakers and learn about local strategies for bioregional regeneration.

Participants will explore new ideas at various sites to create healthier, less destructive, and more cooperative ways of living in harmony with the earth. From our own campuses to the foothills of the Appalachian mountains, we will examine and support systemic ecological **change** across the region. These place-

based experiences will inform our larger effort to transform the region and design sustainable and regenerative means to address significant challenges.

Student VOICES

"This experience allowed me to see my political work through the lens of bioregionalism and local decision-making, which has emerged as a crucial takeaway from my work this summer." - Denison Intern at OEC

"The people were intoxicating! I learned more about nature and sustainable processes than I ever could have thought." -Intern at the Kenyon Farm

"One major take-away is that we are much more powerful and impactful when working together!" - Intern at the Otterbein Community Garden

"The connections between people stood out to me. It's all just people who were open to opportunities and willing to put in a lot of work [...] It doesn't take many people initially to start something that has a huge impact, ecologically and socially." -Intern at MTSO (Methodist Theological School)

BioRegional Stewards

- Stratford Ecological Center: ecological strategies
- The Kenyon Farm: agricultural practices
- **Environmental Professionals Network:** mentoring
- Otterbein Community Garden: food justice
- Rural Action: regional cooperation
- **Denison Edge:** career exploration
- Ohio Environmental Council: political action
- MTSO's Seminary Hill Farm: eco-theology
- Mad Scientist & Associates: wetland restoration
- Glass Rooster Cannery: locally sourced food
- Franklinton Farms: urban farming
- Ohio Wesleyan University: sustainable practices