



# 2018 CLIMBING ADVOCACY SUMMIT

CELEBRATING CLIMBING AND CONSERVATION

7:30 A.M. – 4:15 P.M.  
09.22.2018

NEW YORK CITY

## SUMMIT SCHEDULE

The main conference space will be broken into two rooms, Room A and B, following the Welcome & Roundtable. Please see schedule below to identify which room your session is in.

7:30 a.m. -  
8:15 a.m.

### **Morning Yoga**

Join Jessica Malloy and Laura Olinger at an optional yoga session specifically created for climbers. Bring a mat or towel if possible.

8:15 a.m. -  
9:00 a.m.

### **Breakfast & Attendee Sign-in**

Sign in and collect summit information packet.

9:00 a.m. -  
10:00 a.m.

### **Welcome & Community Roundtable**

Zachary Lesch-Huie/Access Fund Interim Executive Director, Mike Morin/Access Fund Northeast Regional Director, Jannette Pazer/Gunks Climbers Coalition

**Description:** A bit of town hall, a bit of family reunion, the Welcome & Roundtable is an informal, facilitated session to bring our climbing advocacy family together, break the ice, introduce individual organizations and attendees, and flesh out issues of the day. Stand up, be heard, tell us who you are and what you care about!

10:00 a.m. -  
10:45 a.m.

### **Group Photo & Coffee Break with Patagonia Ambassadors**

Join us for a group photo and a coffee break with Patagonia climbing ambassadors.

10:45 a.m. -  
11:45 p.m.

## FIRST SET OF WORKSHOPS

### **ROOM A: Private to Public: Climbing Access Solutions for Private Lands**

Staff Moderator: Joe Sambataro/Access Director, Panelists: Dave Quinn/Rumney Climbers Association, Travis Peckham & Seth Maciejowski/CRAG-Vermont

**Description:** Private land conservation methods are a traditional and increasingly essential way to create or preserve public climbing access. In tandem with Access Fund, more local non-profit climbing organizations are successfully opening climbing on private land, whether through leases, agreements, or outright acquisition. This panel presentation will highlight strategies for opening climbing on privately owned land, as well as landowner outreach, community fundraising, conservation finance, and local organizing.

### **ROOM B: Be the Best LCO You Can Be: Grassroots Success Stories**

Staff Moderator: Zachary Lesch-Huie/Interim Executive Director, Panelists: Tim McGivern/Southern New England Climbers Coalition, Eric Sophiea/Climbing Association of Southern Arizona, Jackie Feinberg/Mid-Atlantic Climbers, Ryan Shipp/South Central Pennsylvania Climbers

**Description:** Climbing areas get saved when local climbers organize. When we come together, politicians listen, landowners listen, and our community listens. Across the U.S. there are now over 100 non-profit local climbing organizations (LCOs) with a core focus on climbing advocacy, conservation, and stewardship. LCOs have emerged as a fundamental way to effectively organize climbers around the cause of protecting climbing. But starting and sustaining an LCO is no cakewalk. This panel will discuss successes and failures in the occasionally cruxy R/X world of LCO operations. In the end, we'll shake out best practices that keep LCOs alive and well.

11:45 a.m. -  
12:45 p.m.

## LUNCH

12:45 p.m. -  
1:45 p.m.

## SECOND SET OF WORKSHOPS

### **ROOM A: Public Lands Success Stories**

Staff Moderator: Erik Murdock/Policy Director, Panelists: Mike Whelan/Thacher Climbing Coalition, Courtney Curtner/Ohio Climbers Coalition, Peter Horgan/Gunnison Valley Climbers, Jason Keith/Access Fund

**Description:** Whether federal, state, county, or municipal, most of our climbing areas are on public land. This panel will explore a variety of public lands advocacy approaches, from New York state parks to BLM land in Colorado. Panelists will describe their local efforts and experiences, and shake loose the methods and strategies that work to open publicly managed climbing areas.

## **ROOM B: How to Engage Our Diverse Climbing Community to Increase Conservation**

Staff Moderator: Jessica Dauchy/Operations Director, Panelists: Kareemah Batts/Brooklyn Boulders, Justin Forrest Parks/Sending in Color

**Description:** Protect America's Climbing—but for whom? There's a measurable lack of diversity in our climbing and outdoor recreation community. Conservation groups and outdoor industry groups are recognizing the gap and making efforts toward broader inclusion and representation. What can we do at our home crags and boulders to make our work welcoming to all backgrounds? Ultimately, if we can't represent diverse communities, we'll lack the very broad base of support we need to protect our climbing areas. This presentation will give an overview of diversity in outdoor recreation and conservation, and provide some practical approaches to take home to your climbing area or LCO.

1:45 p.m. -  
2:00 p.m.

## BREAK

2:00 p.m. -  
3:00 p.m.

## THIRD SET OF WORKSHOPS

### **ROOM A: Educational Strategies for Low Impact Climbing**

Staff Moderator: Ty Tyler/Stewardship Director, Panelists: Andrea Hassler & Annabelle McClure/Access Fund

**Description:** There are more climbers than ever, and our impacts have never been greater. So, how do we ensure that our use has a manageable impact? How do we instill the values of climbing stewardship in climbers young and old? Finally, how do we translate those values to behavior, so we can teach and embody a way of climbing that will preserve our climbing areas? We'll ask these big questions and talk solutions that make an on-the-ground difference.

### **ROOM B: Cliff Ecology, Fixed Anchors, and a Gunks Case Study**

Staff Moderator: Mike Morin/Northeast Regional Director, Panelists: Laura Boggess/Carolina Climbers Coalition, Jason Beaupre/Gunks Climbers' Coalition

**Description:** Cliff faces, talus, boulder fields—these rocky cliff and boulder environments are our playgrounds. But they're also home to animals and plants where unique biological communities, rare species, and important wildlife thrive. This workshop will explore the intersection of cliff ecology and climbing management, and present an instructive case study from the Gunks, where Mohonk Preserve and Gunks Climbers' Coalition worked together to preserve climbing and cliff vegetation.

3:00 p.m. -  
3:15 p.m.

## BREAK

3:15 p.m. -  
4:15 p.m.

## FOURTH SET OF WORKSHOPS

### **ROOM A: Membership, Development, and Fundraising: Strategies That Work**

Staff Moderator: Jordan Fisher/Marketing Manager, Panelists: Heather McGonegle/Access Fund, Melissa Whalen/Salt Lake Climbers Alliance, Bethany Lebewitz/Brown Girls Climb

**Description:** How do we rally the support and generate the resources we need to reach our goals in advocacy and conservation? This workshop will hone in on two big, effective ways to rally your community and raise money for the cause: good old-fashioned community events and the brave new (well, not that new) world of social media. Panelists will discuss a few example communications projects.

### **ROOM B: Climbing Trails and Infrastructure**

Staff Moderator: Ty Tyler/Stewardship Director, Panelists: Jody Chinchin Matz/White Mountain National Forest, Kate Johnson & Chris Wu/Access Fund

**Description:** The climbing stewardship game is changing. Decades of one-off trail days and clean ups have laid a foundation for longer-term, planned stewardship initiatives at climbing areas across the country. LCOs and land managers are responding and digging in for the long haul. The impacts and threats are real: Climbing areas get shut down if our impacts aren't managed sustainably. That's why Access Fund, LCOs, land managers, and other groups are joining in long-term, multi-year stewardship initiatives—to make a positive impact that lasts not for a day, but for a generation.

5:30 p.m. -  
10:30 p.m.

## CELEBRATING CLIMBING AND CONSERVATION DINNER

Edison Ballroom , 240 W 47th St., New York, NY 10036

## THANK YOU!

This summit would not be possible without Patagonia, all of our presenters, panelists, volunteers, and local climbing organization representatives.

PRESENTED BY

**patagonia**



Protect America's Climbing