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For Immediate Release

**Executive Director of Children's Environmental Health Network to receive a 2018 Snowy Egret Award from The Eastern Queens Alliance.**

The Eastern Queens Alliance will be honoring Children's Environmental Health Network's Executive Director, Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, at the 11th Annual Idlewild Park Preserve Benefit and Awards Luncheon in Flushing, Queens New York. Ms. Witherspoon will be one of six 2018 Snowy Egret Awardees recognized at the event on April 14, and will receive the Health and Wellness Snowy Egret Award for her considerable contributions to the protection of the health and well-being of all children.

*"I am quite humbled and honored to be presented this distinction, especially on behalf of all vulnerable children, their safety, health, and well-being,"* said Ms. Witherspoon. *"The important work of the Eastern Queens Alliance to provide after school and summer environmental education programs, community cafes on health, safety, education and quality of life issues, and family friendly events in Idlewild Park are to be commended. I am pleased to help bring attention to EAQ's leadership in the community and opportunities for forward growth."*

The Eastern Queens Alliance (EQA) is a coalition of civic associations addressing issues and concerns of residents living in southeast Queens, NY. The Alliance's mission is to *"unify, organize, mobilize and utilize the talents and potentials of all of the residents, civics, neighborhood associations, businesses, clergy and service providers in the area in order to bring about self-determination by acting in concert on mutual concerns and issues; to use the instruments of power to maintain, preserve, and develop the economic, political, social, moral and cultural stability of the communities within the area; to maintain, stabilize, develop and improve the area's physical environment; to monitor, urge and support the improved delivery of services by the Community Board, elected officials and all city, state and Federal agencies that make decisions which impact upon the lives of those residing in the area"*.

The 2018 luncheon will be a celebration of thanks and tribute to the outstanding community and national leaders who are recipients of the EQA 2018 awards. Luncheon proceeds will help to fund the EQA's in-school, after-school and summer environmental science education programs, community cafes on health, safety, education and quality of life issues, family-friendly events, Idlewild trail building/maintenance initiatives, and the expansion of the soon-to-be-built Idlewild Park Preserve Environmental Science Learning Center.

**About the Children's Environmental Health Network**

CEHN is a national multi-disciplinary organization whose mission is to protect the developing child from environmental health hazards and promote a healthier environment. As the nation's leading organization dedicated to children's environmental health, CEHN: stimulates preventive research; promotes sound policy; provides education and training to various audiences; and elevates public awareness of environmental hazards to children. For more information, visit [www.cehn.org](http://www.cehn.org).

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