

Natasha Khanna-Dang

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EDUCATION

California State University, Los Angeles, CA

Master of Science in Environmental Science, Conservation Biology Option

In progress

Bachelor of Art, History and minor, Asian & Asian American Studies. Cum Laude Graduate.

Spring 2011

Pasadena City College, Pasadena, CA

Associate of Art, Social Sciences.

Spring 2006

WORK EXPERIENCE

Project Manager, Urban Food Webs

Feb 2023 – present , 15 hours /week.

Wood Lab of Avian and Urban Ecology, California State University, Los Angeles

- Oversee and deploy long-term food web study. Assist with all aspects of the grant, including purchasing and planting trees and equipment, working with land managers and contractors to plant trees and manage the experiment, ensuring proper establishment of experimental design, management of students and volunteers, project outreach, data collection, maintenance, analysis, and report writing.

Botany Intern

May 2021 – Sept 2021, 40 hours/week.

Chicago Botanic Garden and the Lincoln National Forest, Alamogordo, New Mexico

- Conducted plant surveys for endangered and rare species for large scale land management projects and the development of a habitat suitability model. Implemented vegetation monitoring surveys on potential or protected habitat for the Mexican Spotted Owl and the New Mexico Jumping Mouse. Executed riparian and wetland habitat restoration projects including the construction of one-rock dams and beaver dam analogs.

Seasonal Stewardship Technician

Nov 2020 – Feb 2021, 40 hours/week.

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, San Pedro and Palos Verdes, California

- Responsible for carrying out habitat restoration projects in coastal sage scrub habitat and management of 1600 acres. Specialized in planting native flora, invasive species management, and maintenance of irrigation systems. Collected and processed native seeds and cuttings for propagation.

Reserve Management Intern

Mar 2020 – July 2020, 40 hours/week.

Student Conservation Association

University of California, Davis - Mclaughlin Natural Reserve, Lower Lake, California

- Invasive species management and restoration 363 acres of serpentine grasslands using hand pulling, herbicide application, and mechanical removal of grassland and riparian weeds. Conducted native plant and noxious weed surveys in grassland, chaparral and riparian habitats. Collected plant specimens for herbarium collection.

Farmer-Owner

Jan 2018 – Mar 2020, 15-20 hours/week.

Los Angeles Worm Farm Collective, Los Angeles

- Developed a small business- worker cooperative that sells worm castings and provides vermiculture composting education to empower low income, queer and working-class communities of color. Managed compost intake, compost processing, worm ecosystem and casting inventory. Tested and refined new methods of composting.

Bird Education Intern

Oct 2019 – Feb 2020, 80 hours total.

Pasadena Audubon Society, Pasadena, California

- Assisted with teaching Bird Science Program to K-5 students. Lesson topics included bird migration in the Americas, owl pellet dissection, feather observation using a microscope, and bird watching.

Field Organizer

Jan 2017 – June 2019, 40 hours/week.

National Audubon Society, Audubon California Office, Los Angeles

- Mobilized 500+ supporters and volunteers through development and implementation of civic engagement projects, leadership trainings, policy advocacy actions, community outreach, and coalition building for conservation and environmental justice efforts.

Case Manager and Yoga Instructor

Mar 2014 – Jan 2017 , 40 hours/week.

Special Services for Groups Alliance, Los Angeles

- Provided mental health rehabilitation and case management services for formerly incarcerated individuals.

Outreach Consultant

Dec 2013 – Oct 2014, 20 hours/week.

AAPJ Equity Alliance (formerly- Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council), Los Angeles

- Developed and implemented a postcard civic engagement program to achieve targeted outreach goals of the San Gabriel Mountains National Recreation Area campaign. Increased campaign support and involvement of Asian American communities in San Gabriel Valley.

Business Outreach Consultant

Oct 2013 – Dec 2013, 40 hours/week.

East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Commerce, California

- Cultivated support from business community for Commerce’s new green revitalization plan. Obtained business endorsements leading to support and passage of city’s Green Zones Policy.

Program Coordinator

Mar 2011 – Mar 2013, 32 hours/week.

AAPJ Equity Alliance (formerly- Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council), Los Angeles

- Organized a network of Asian Pacific American environmentalists for strategic policy advocacy. Successfully advocated for passage of environmental justice bills in the California Legislature. Handled daily office operations.

Research Assistant

July 2010 – Mar 2011, 15 hours/week.

California State University, Los Angeles Anthropology Department, Los Angeles

- Collected and analyzed literature for Dr. ChorSwang Ngin’s research on Asian refugees seeking asylum in the United States. Annotated research for publication.

PUBLIC WRITINGS

Blog articles found at Chicago Land Management Internship Blog - clminternship.org/blog :

- [“Farewell to Summer 2021 and the Lincoln National Forest”](#) Sept 2021
- [“Native American Perspectives on Public Lands and Stewardship”](#) Aug 2021
- [“Vibing in the Southwest”](#) June 2021

Blog articles found at Audubon California Blog - ca.audubon.org :

- [“LA Bird Walk Celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage”](#) May 2019
- [“Sea and Sage Audubon Tackles Local Conservation Issues”](#) Mar 2019
- [“LA Audubon Restoration Program Creates New Opportunities for Young People”](#) Oct 2017
- [“Volunteers Brave Heat to Make a Better Place for Birds”](#) June 2017
- [“Organizing to Protect the San Gabriel National Monument”](#) June 2017

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Restoration Volunteer

Sept 2019 – Feb 2020, 8 hours/week.

California Botanic Garden (Formerly - Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden), Claremont, California

- Propagated and produced native plants using best management practices to prevent soil borne pathogens and diseases such as *Phytophthora* pathogens using phytosanitary techniques and modern nursery facilities for habitat restoration. Surveyed restoration sites to monitor seedling survival rates.

Seed Processing Volunteer

June 2019 – Sept 2019, 4 hours/week.

Theodore Payne Foundation, Sun Valley, California

- Collected, cleaned and processed California native seeds for seed bank and nursery sale.

AWARDS & HONORS

Certificate of Merit, US Forest Service – Lincoln National Forest	Sept 2021
Los Angeles Nature For All Leadership Grant - \$1500	March 2020
Recognition for Environmental Stewardship, L.A. County Board of Supervisors	Nov 2019
Congressional Recognition for Environmental Stewardship, US Rep. Jimmy Gomez	Nov 2019
Congressional Recognition for Community Service, US Rep. Karen Bass	Dec 2016
Dean's Honor List, California State University, Los Angeles	2008-2009

CONFERENCE & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

"Decolonizing Gardens and Green Spaces: Growing with Native Plants" - Altadena, CA **Feb 2020**
Organizer and presenter for a workshop on indigenous perspectives on working with the land, colonization, and landscaping trends in Southern California. Co-hosted by Regenerative Collective, Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy and LA Nature for All, in Altadena, California.

Audubon California Assembly, Long Beach, California **Nov 2018**
Moderator and presenter at conference for "Conservation for a New Generation: Integrating Youth Stewardship, Accessibility, and Environmental Justice into the Conservation Movement".

"Audubon California Advocacy Day" – Sacramento, CA **2017, 2018 & 2019**
Organizer for annual one day convening of supporters across the state to advocate for conservation and environmental justice bills at the state capitol.

"Composting and Vermiculture 101" - Los Angeles, California **Oct 2018**
Presenter at Fandangobon Environmental Encuentro, hosted by Japanese American Cultural and Community Center.

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAININGS

California Native Plant Landscaper Certificate **Oct 2021 – Dec 2021**
Certified with Theodore Payne Foundation, US Green Building Council, California Native Plant Society & LADWP.

LA Nature for All Leadership Academy **Aug 2019 – Feb 2020**
Trained in organizing, civic engagement, and local community action for working class communities of color.

UC California Naturalist **Fall 2018**
Trained in environmental stewardship, California ecology, and community science.