

# SOLARone

## For Immediate Release

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## Solar One, Celebrating 20 Years of Climate Action, Announces Promotions and Leadership Expansion

**New York City, May 6, 2024** – Solar One, a leading non-profit dedicated to expanding access to clean energy solutions since 2004, has announced four new Managing Directors, two Senior Directors, and the creation of a Chief External Affairs Officer position, all promoted from within the organization.

### A Mission-Driven Response to Climate Challenges

“For 20 years, Solar One has served as an antidote to climate despair by offering New Yorkers meaningful ways to take action,” said Stephen Levin, CEO of Solar One. “These promotions and leadership expansion reflect our unwavering commitment to local solutions and empowers us to further propel the clean energy transition in the New York and New Jersey metro area.”

### Experienced Leaders Take the Helm

- Sara Radelet assumes the newly-created role of Chief External Affairs Officer, bringing more than 25 years of experience in fundraising, marketing and partnership development. She joined Solar One in 2021.
- Karen Alsen, an environmental educator with Solar One since 2014, has been promoted to Managing Director of Education. Karen leads the Green Design Lab, a K-12 classroom program that uses hands-on activities to get students excited about science, technology, and design – all while building their knowledge about critical environmental issues.
- Max Levitzke, pivotal in the Green Workforce program since 2017, now serves as Managing Director of Workforce Development, an initiative that offers extensive training in green hard skills, including industry-recognized certifications in green building operations, energy efficiency, and solar technology.
- Shakira Hart was promoted to Senior Director of Community Engagement. Since joining the team in 2022, Shakira's been passionate about helping Solar One's Green Workforce graduates thrive.



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- Anika Wistar-Jones, a Solar One champion for equitable solar access since 2016, has been named Managing Director of Here Comes Solar, a program dedicated to providing solar technical assistance to low-and-moderate-income communities.
- Alysha Willis, was named Senior Director of Human Resources and brings more than 20 years experience working in various environments including corporate, field, retail, start-up, college, and K-12 education. She received her MBA from Mercy University and has been a certified human resources professional since 2011. Alysha joined Solar One in 2023..
- Shinn Yang, who leverages more than 25 years of experience in financial management across both nonprofit and for-profit sectors, has been promoted to Managing Director of Finance. Shinn joined Solar One in 2019.

Solar One remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing sustainability and equity throughout New York City and Newark, N.J. With this leadership expansion, the organization is poised to amplify its impact in combating climate change. Its acclaimed programs, including the Green Design Lab, the Green Workforce program for adults facing employment barriers in clean energy, and the Here Comes Solar initiative, which has facilitated solar installations on nearly 1,000 low-and moderate-income rooftops in the city, showcase the organization's strength.

Additionally, the development of Stuyvesant Cove Park into the new Solar One Environmental Education Center underscores Solar One's dedication to fostering dialogues on ecology, climate, and social justice.

"We are proud to take on this work every day and inspired to see the next generation of climate leaders rise to address the central challenge of our time," Levin said.

"During the past 20 years, Solar One has grown from a nonprofit with a focus on community environment education to today becoming a recognized leader in climate solutions and a guide for how communities around the world can fight climate change," Levin said.

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**Solar One** is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to design and deliver innovative education, training, and technical assistance that fosters sustainability and resiliency in diverse urban environments. We facilitate learning that changes the way people think about energy, sustainability, and resilience by engaging diverse program participants. Our programs help individuals and communities explore new ways of living and working that are more adaptive to a climate-change impacted world. The official IRS 501c3 designation is CEC Stuyvesant Cove, Inc.

Visit <http://www.solar1.org> for more information