

SOLARone



Annual Report 2021

2021 Key Facts

- We serve the largest public school system in the country, with over a million students. Several thousand participate in our education programs every year learning about environmental topics like energy, water, climate change, food and materials science.
- We help promote and create access to solar power for New Yorkers. Between 2019 and 2020, installed solar generating capacity in NY increased by 1,000 megawatts, or one gigawatt. Added to the roughly 2,500 megawatts installed over the last decade, that's enough to power over 400,000 homes per year.
- We also help train people for careers in solar installation, green construction, and green building operations and maintenance, which gives opportunities to individuals and families to improve their neighborhoods while also earning a good living.
- As stewards of Stuyvesant Cove Park, we're reimagining urban public space with public foraging and native plant gardening in NYC's flood plain.
- Through our programs embedded at the NYC Mayor's Office, we provide grants, direct technical support to communities, and recognition to local governments across New York State that demonstrate leadership in the area of clean energy.

From Our CEO

Dear Friends,

I am overjoyed to write to you all in my role as the new CEO of Solar One. First, I would like to thank Chris Collins for his amazing 17 years as Executive Director of Solar One, building the organization up from just a few staff members to a thriving nonprofit on the vanguard of the monumental fight against climate change. In short, Chris, along with the dedicated Board of Directors and passionate staff, have created an organization that is resilient, dynamic and will be instrumental as we collectively meet the greatest challenge of our lifetimes. From educating the next generation of environmental leaders, to training the green workforce of the future, to ensuring renewable energy is getting to low income communities across NYC and beyond, Solar One is meeting the moment.



There is so much to be excited about at Solar One. We are continuing to expand our programming, embarking on new partnerships, and we have just opened up our new Green Workforce Training Center and Administrative HQ in Long Island City. The opportunities and possibilities ahead are very bright at Solar One, and I am thrilled to be part of this next chapter. Thank you all for your ongoing partnership and support as we continue our journey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen L. Levin".

Stephen Levin

From Our Board of Directors

Dear Friends,

What an energizing time to be part of Solar One! Through impactful programming and a creative, caring staff, Solar One has grown into a leader in NYC's sustainability movement and serves as a model for efforts around the country. The Board of Directors is proud to support Solar One's critical work and welcomes new partners to join us as we aim to create more just, sustainable, resilient, and equitable communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara Queen".

Sara Queen

Green Design Lab

Green Energy Education for a Sustainable Future

Solar One's Green Design Lab™ (GDL) is an award-winning K-12 environmental education program that explores urban environmental sustainability and climate change through hands-on and interactive activities. Using a creative approach to problem solving, GDL uses the urban environment to inspire students in STEM, emerging green technology, stewardship, and green careers.

Since 2009, GDL has reached nearly 40,000 students, 1,000s of teachers, and 1,000+ schools with classroom programs and teacher training, fostering sustainable behaviors and student-led solutions to real-world issues focused on Energy, Air, Water, Materials, & Food. In 2021, we delivered the majority of our programming remotely, reaching 5,031 students and 541 teachers.

A major highlight of 2021 has been the expansion of three career readiness programs for older youth- the Solar Career & Technical Education (CTE) program, delivered in partnership with NYC Department of Education Office of Sustainability, and our summer and school year "Out of School Time" (OST) programs – CareerCLUE and CareerSTEP. During the Solar CTE program, we train hundreds of NYC students in electrical, engineering, or construction programs for careers in the solar industry. During the summer, Solar One's CareerCLUE (Community, Learning, Understanding, Experience) program, provides youth with a unique experience blending STEM learning, leadership development, field trips, and engagement in environmental sustainability through career exploration and service learning. Our newest work-based learning program, CareerSTEP (Skills, Training, Experience, Power) is a paid OST opportunity that prepares young people for climate and sustainability career pathways. During CareerSTEP, participants work on team projects that build soft skills, and work on capstones designed to reflect real world projects in fields such as environmental policy, solar, education, or energy technology. Solar One educators serve as mentors and work 1:1 with participants throughout the school year. Since September 2021, 22 student interns from DOE high schools and CUNY schools have begun to explore a variety of environmental job types and activities through the CareerSTEP program, and we are working to identify and match them to internships aligned with their interests for the summer.

5,031

Total Students Taught

531

Teachers Trained

22

Student Interns

Here Comes Solar

Affordable Solar and Technical Assistance for Urban Communities

Solar One's Here Comes Solar (HCS) program seeks to expand access to the benefits of solar power to all New Yorkers. We achieve this goal by providing solar and energy storage consultation and assistance to affordable housing providers, low-income homeowners/renters, and community-based organizations. Through a combination of solar expertise, an effective technical assistance model, and strong partnerships, Solar One has developed more than 750 solar projects in New York's underserved market segments, primarily on multifamily affordable housing.

To date, Here Comes Solar has facilitated 26.7 megawatts of solar, including 447 affordable housing properties. This represents a \$80 million investment in local solar power, primarily benefiting low-income communities. Our resilient solar projects provide clean energy and emergency blackout power to community facilities in neighborhoods at high-risk of coastal and extreme storm flooding. The HCS team also supports Community Power, an ambitious project through which we trained/employed NYCHA residents to build New York's first and only community solar project that is exclusively serving low-income renters.

In addition to providing direct services to facilitate high-impact solar projects, HCS staff works with City and State agencies and environmental justice partners to help inform New York's decision-makers so they better serve low-income communities. Throughout 2021, HCS worked with NYSERDA to expand their affordable housing solar incentive; partnered with the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) to launch "Solar Where Feasible," which is the nation's first cost-effective solar mandate for affordable housing; and built a coalition to emphasize the importance of continuing NYC's community solar program.



464

Projects Installed to Date

759

Projects Committed to Date

447

Affordable Housing Projects

Green Workforce Program

Helping Underserved Communities Acquire Skills for Green Building Careers

Solar One's Green Workforce Training Program (GWF), educates both entry-level and incumbent workforce in energy efficiency, green building operations and maintenance, and renewable energy. Since its inception in 2009, the program has successfully trained over 4,000 individuals in a wide array of hard-skills training courses and industry recognized certifications.

The GWF team works closely with established New York and New Jersey workforce agencies and our trainee demographics include criminal justice system-involved individuals, disconnected youth, veterans, individuals struggling with addiction, people experiencing homelessness, and residents of public housing.

Solar One courses cover topics in green construction (including carpentry, electrical and plumbing), green building operations and maintenance, solar PV installation and numerous nationally recognized certification courses, such as:

- GPRO Operations + Maintenance
- GPRO Electrical
- NABCEP Solar PV Associate
- BPI Multifamily Building Operator
- EPA Lead RRP
- OSHA 30
- NYC Dept. of Buildings Site Safety Training

Within the Green Workforce Training Program, we trained 409 un- and under-employed adults, and as some students earned more than one certification, they ended the year with 564 certifications.

409

Total Students Trained

564

Certificates Awarded

34

Cohorts



Clean Energy Communities

Facilitating High Impact Community Based Clean Energy Programs

The Clean Energy Communities Program (CECP) is a program funded by the New York State Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

This program provides grants, direct technical support to communities, and recognition to local governments across New York State that demonstrate leadership in the area of clean energy. The program focuses on fourteen high-impact actions that local governments can take to save money, foster a vibrant economy, and improve the environment: Benchmarking, Clean Energy Upgrades, Clean Fleets, Clean Heating and Cooling Demo, Climate Smart Communities Certification, Community Campaigns, Community Choice Aggregation, County Hosted Trainings, LED Streetlights, NYStretch Energy Code, PACE Financing, Unified Solar Permit, and 100% Renewables for Municipal Operations.

Solar One is NYSERDA's implementation partner for CECP in New York City and Long Island. In New York City, we currently have three embedded staff at the NYC Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justice (MOC&EJ) and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services Division of Energy Management (DCAS DEM) to support emissions reduction initiatives by embedding full-time Clean Energy Communities Coordinators within the City to work on high impact efforts, including: expanded benchmarking and energy efficiency solutions for private buildings; developing and launching equitable electrification policies and programs; and working with NYC's public agencies to implement plans for public sector emissions reduction.

Additionally, Solar One hired a Community Campaigns Coordinator under the CECP who works closely with neighborhood-based organizations, borough presidents, and community boards to launch clean energy campaigns.

Stuyvesant Cove Park



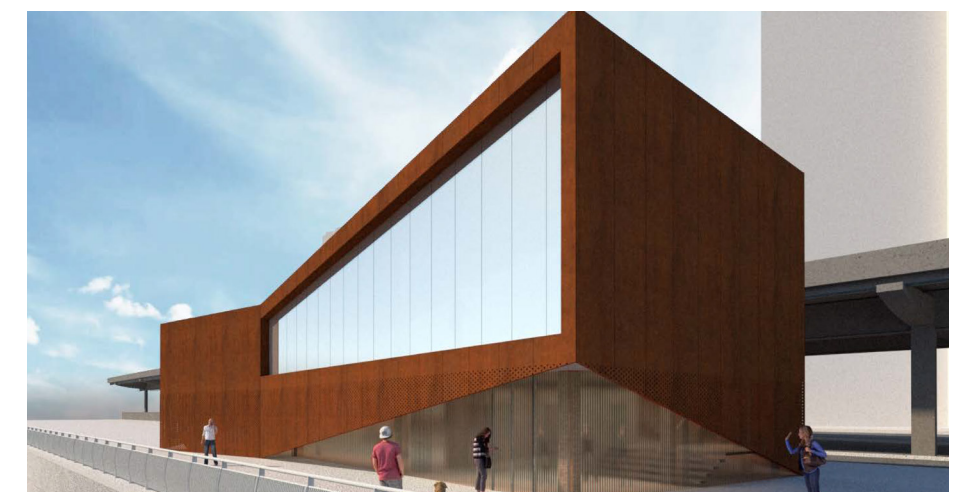
A Resilient Green Space and Productive Urban Ecosystem

At Stuyvesant Cove Park, over the course of the 2021 season our original slate of 11 events expanded to 15, and touched on everything from queer identity to soil science, while remaining firmly grounded in Stuy Cove's mission as a living laboratory for agroecology, public foraging and food justice. We reached almost 2,000 people through in-person events, zoom forums, and Instagram livestreams. This is in addition to the tens of thousands of people who visit the Park every year for rest or recreation, and over 1,907 volunteer hours in 2021.

The East Side Coastal Resiliency Project (ESCR) – a citywide climate adaptation project– broke ground in our park at the beginning of the year, with the northern section of the park closing to the public in the fall of 2021. This project has resulted in the demolition of the existing ecosystem and establishment of a floodwall with landscape redesign to be implemented by Matthews Nielsen Landscape Architects in 2022.. With demolition forthcoming, we spent 2021 giving away thousands of native plants from the “old Stuy Cove” to 30+ community organizations across the five boroughs, even working with ESCR contractors to give felled oaks to community gardens for shiitake mushroom cultivation. We felt that this was an important step for modeling how climate adaptation projects could also be climate mitigation projects in a more carbon conscious future.

Coming Soon: The Solar One Environmental Education Center

Plans are underway for a beautiful new Environmental Education Center to be built in the park, right alongside the East River. The Center will be a free standing, resilient, solar powered community hub for events, green energy education, park management and so much more.



Board and Staff

Board Officers

Sara Queen, Chair
Jane Crotty, Secretary
Ellen Witzling Roff, Treasurer

Board Members

Kara M. Allen
Katherine Boden
William Browning
Christopher J. Carolan
Majora Carter
Ann Davlin
Donna DeCostanzo
Brian Fielding
Julie Gallanty
Patricia M. Grayson
Amy C. Poster
Stephan Roundtree
Thor Thors

Executive

Stephen Levin
Chief Executive Officer

Finance and Operations

Nancy Weber
Chief Operating Officer
Raimonda Baneleviciute
Grants Administrator
Shinn Yang
Finance Director
Lena Zeng
Fiscal Assistant/Bookkeeper

Development

Sara Radelet
Development Director
Deana Hare
Philanthropy Specialist
Barbara Lerman-Golomb
Philanthropy Specialist

Communications and Design

Michael Barry
Communications & Design Manager

Green Design Lab

Sarah Pidgeon
Co-Director of Programs
Karen Alsen
Director of K-12 Education
Isabel Avina
Education Program Associate
Geovani Caldero
Program Manager for Career & Technical Education
Amy Colorado
Program Manager for Curriculum & Instruction
Vera Figueiredo
K-12 Environmental Educator/Workforce Instructor, NJ
Alex Nathanson
Solar Educator
Michaela Ritz
K-12 Environmental Educator

Events and Stuyvesant Cove Park

Dina Elkan
Director, Events & Park
Candace Thompson
Park Manager

Green Workforce Training

Max Levitzke
Director, Green Workforce
James Kinyanjui
Program Manager, Green Workforce
Gary Smith
Green Workforce Instructor
Josh Vedder
Green Workforce Instructor
Matthew Dean
Green Workforce Instructor

Here Comes Solar

Noah Ginsburg
Co-Program Director; Director, HCS
Angelica Ramdhari
Director, Resilient Solar
Anika Wistar-Jones
Director, Affordable Solar
José Tulio Gálvez Contreras
Senior Program Manager, Affordable Solar
Gretchen Bradley
Senior Program Manager, Community Solar
Cyra Copeland
Contract Analyst
Bruno Estrada
Solar Associate, Resilient Solar
Britt Martinez-Hewitt
Bilingual Community Solar Associate
Lawrence Halsey
Program Manager, Affordable Solar Program
Kate Selden
Program Manager, Affordable Solar Program
Patrick Owusu
Program Manager, Affordable Solar Program
Michele Chung
Program Manager, Resilient Solar
Michael Weiss
Solar Site Assessor
Richard Bundy
Technical Design Consultant
Maxwell Barnett
Carbon Emissions Consultant

Clean Energy Communities Program

Elissa Knight
Director, Clean Energy Communities Program
Nicole Joseph
Manager, Building Electrification Programs and Policy
Kathryn Charpin
Emissions Reduction Analyst
Isabela Brown
Community Emissions Specialist
Jeanette Castillo
Community Campaigns Coordinator

Major Supporters

Government

Dormitory Authority of the State of New York
Governor's Office of Storm Recovery – NY Rising
Manhattan Borough President's Office – Hon. Gale Brewer
NYC Council – Speaker Corey Johnson
NYC Council – Hon. Keith Powers
NYC Council Greener NYC Initiative
NYC Department of Education
NYC Economic Development Corporation
NYS Assemblyman – Hon. Harvey Epstein
NY Power Authority
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

Foundations

11th Hour Project of the Schmidt Family Foundation
Citi Foundation
Dr. Robert C. & Tina Sohn Foundation
FJC – A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds
Honda USA Foundation
Lily Auchincloss Foundation
LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust
Marietta & Andrew Romay Foundation Inc.
Evi Blaikie and Peter Frey
MUFG Union Bank Foundation
National Grid Foundation
New York Community Trust
Posner Foundation of Pittsburgh
PSEG Foundation
Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation
The City Gardens Club of NYC
The JPB Foundation
The Pinkerton Foundation
Victoria Foundation

Corporations & Organizations

Best Energy Power
Brooklyn Solar Works
Compass
Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.
Constellation Energy
Erie 1 Boces
Inclusive Prosperity Capital
Mutual of America
Norinchukin Bank
NRDC \ Donna de Costanzo
PKF O'Connor Davies LLP
Stuyvesant Cove Park Assn.
Terrapin Bright Green
Volunteers of America

Individuals

Kara Allen & Brent Culpepper
Adrian & Amy Banner
Ann Barrett
Jenna Behrendt
Barbara & Geoffrey Berresford
G.A. Blauvelt
Katherine Boden
Allison Brown
William Browning
Erin Burns
Wendy Byrne
Christopher Carolan
Majora Carter
Myrel Chernick
Adele Cohen
David & Barbara Cook
Valerie Corbett
Charles Cornell
Jane Crotty
Andrew Darrell
Stephanie & Andrew Diggins
Lorrie Dirkse

Maggie Emma
Brian Fielding
Curtis Flowers
Stephen Foster & Russell Saray
Michael Freedman-Schnapp
Jennifer Frentz
Julie Gallanty
Desiree Gazzo
Roz Gibbons
Steve Gilbert
Noah Ginsburg
Patricia & Stanley Grayson
Sharon Griffith
Helen Hooke & Colleen McDonough
Cullen Howe
Joanna Hubbard Cossa
Jacqueline Huey
Max Joel
Michael Johnson-Chase
Evan Jones
Barbara Lerman-Golomb & John Golomb
Nelson Louis
Sarah Manley Morales
Jennifer McClung
Diane & Alan Meltzer
Meghan Milo
Yoko Ohama
James Papiano
Jamie Paquette
Rachel Perkins
Veronique Pittman
Maureen Pricci
Sara Queen
Aaron Radelet
Kevin Radelet
John & Marirose Radelet
Steve Radelet & Carrie Hessler-Radelet
Timothy Radelet
Magdalena Rendon
Mary Ann Rothman
Pat Sapinsley/Sapinsley Levy Family Fund
Elisha Schecter
Howard Scher & Shari Ostrow
Lawrence Scheyer
Marylea Schmidt
Martha Sickles
Malcolm Slaney
Lisa Swain
Machi Tantillo
Thor & Melissa Thors
Samuel Ting
Jacqueline Toscano
Michael Tuckman & Nadya Salcedo
David Vassar
Jeffrey Vogel
Homer Williams
Carol & Mark Willis
Ellen Witzling Roff
Shinn Yang
Maureen & Christopher Zegler
Lena Zeng

Partners

2030 District NYC
350.org Brooklyn
Accord Power
American Solar Partners
Arker Companies
Ascendant Neighborhood Development
Andromeda Academy of Construction Trades
Association for Energy Affordability
Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development
Bed Stuy Restoration
Best Energy Power
Bluestone Organization
Building Works
Brooklyn Borough President – Renewable Energy and Sustainability Taskforce
Brooklyn Community Board 6
Brooklyn Movement Center
Brooklyn Public Library
Brooklyn SolarWorks
Brooklyn Workforce Innovations
Camber Property Group
Cathedral of Saint John the Divine
Center for NYC Neighborhoods
Community League of the Heights
Con Edison - REV Demonstration Project Team
Co-op Power
Cooper Square Committee
The DOOR
Ecogy Solar
Enterprise Community Partners
ExpandedED Schools
Fifth Avenue Committee
The Fortune Society
Foxy Management
Gilbane Bjarke Ingels Group
Green City Force
Habitat for Humanity NYC
Hellenic American Neighborhood Action Committee (HANAC)
The HOPE Program
Housing Works
ICF
Ironbound Community Corporation
Inclusive Prosperity Capital
Joint Ownership Entity NYC
KO2 Consulting
LaGuardia Community College
Local Initiatives Support Corporation NYC
Math for America
Metropolitan Transit Authority
Natural Resources Defense Council
Nazareth Housing
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Newark Public Schools
Newark Mayor’s Office of Sustainability
Greater Newark Conservancy
New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services
New York City Department of Education:
 Brooklyn North STEAM Collaborative
 Office of Community Schools
 Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning, Multilingual Learners
 Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning, STEM
 Office of Postsecondary Readiness
 Office of Sustainability
New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development
New York City Housing Authority
New York City Economic Development Corp.
New York City Energy Efficiency Corp.
New York City Environmental Justice Alliance
New York City Mayor’s Office Center for Youth Employment
New York City Mayor’s Office of Climate and Environmental Justice
New York Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery
NY Renews
New York Solar Energy Industries Association
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
New York Sunworks
Nontraditional Employment for Women (NEW)
Park Reservoir Housing Corporation
Premier Solar
Queens Public Library
The RETI Center
Sol Purpose
Solar Energy Systems
Solar Liberty
Solar Uptown Now Services
St Nicks Alliance
STRIVE
StuyTown Property Services
Sustainable CUNY
Sunkeeper Solar
Sunrun
Sunwealth
UPROSE
Urban Homesteading Assistance Board
Vote Solar
WE ACT for Environmental Justice
WNET- New York Public Media



Administrative Office
9-03 44th Road
Long Island City, NY 11101
Suite 201
email: info@solar1.org
web: www.solar1.org
phone: 212.505.6050

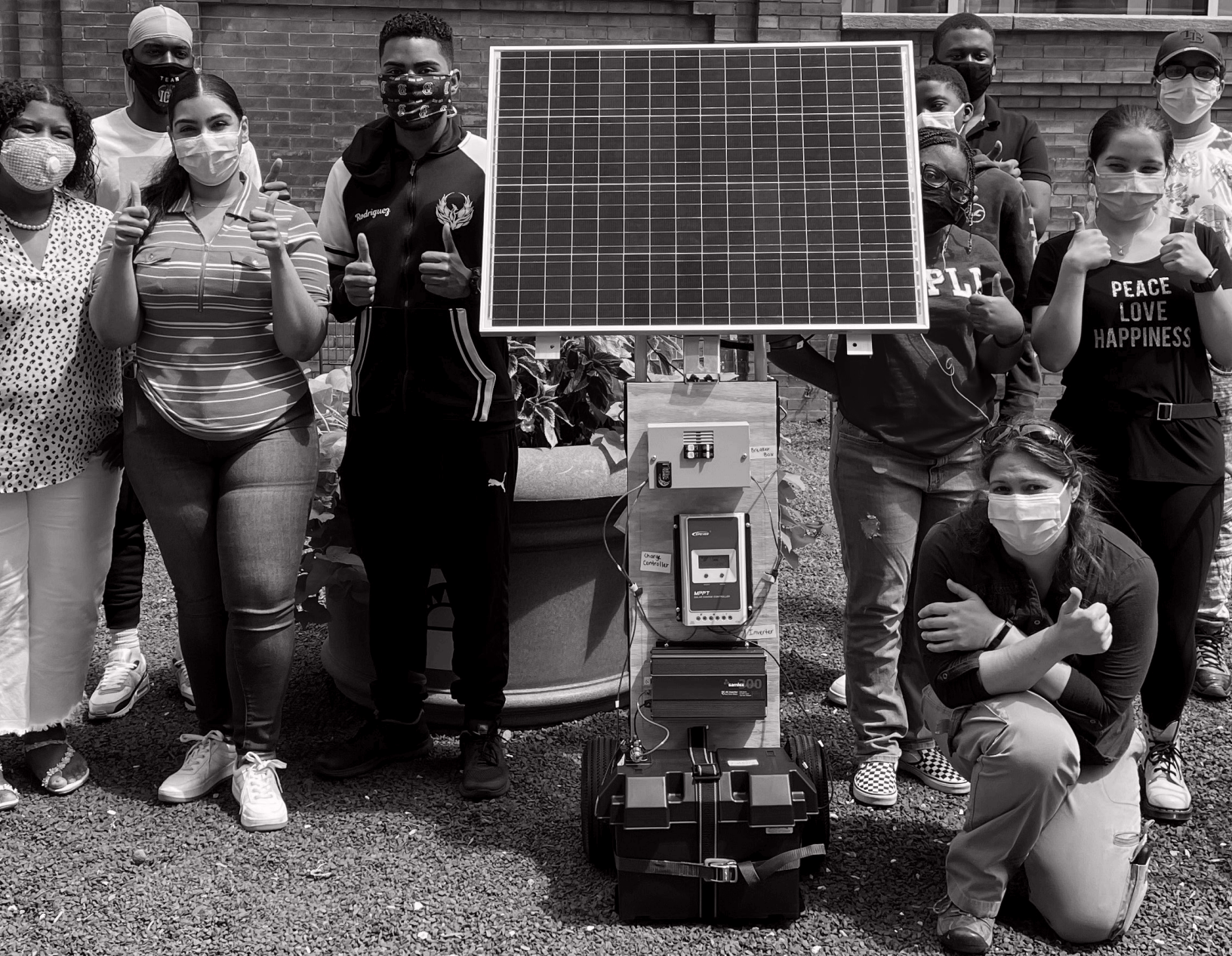
Solar One - Stuyvesant Cove Park
20th Street and the East River
New York, NY 10010

Visit Us Online



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 empower learning that changes the way people think about energy, sustainability, and resilience by engaging and educating a diverse set of stakeholders and beneficiaries. Our programs help individuals and communities explore new ways of living and working that are more adaptive to a changing world.

SOLARone



www.solar1.org