



## Comprehensive Workforce Development for Social and Environmental Justice

**Solar One's Green Workforce Training Program and Green Design Lab Program  
PRESENTED BY: Sarah Pidgeon, Co-Director of Programs, Solar One**





# STUYVESANT COVE PARK







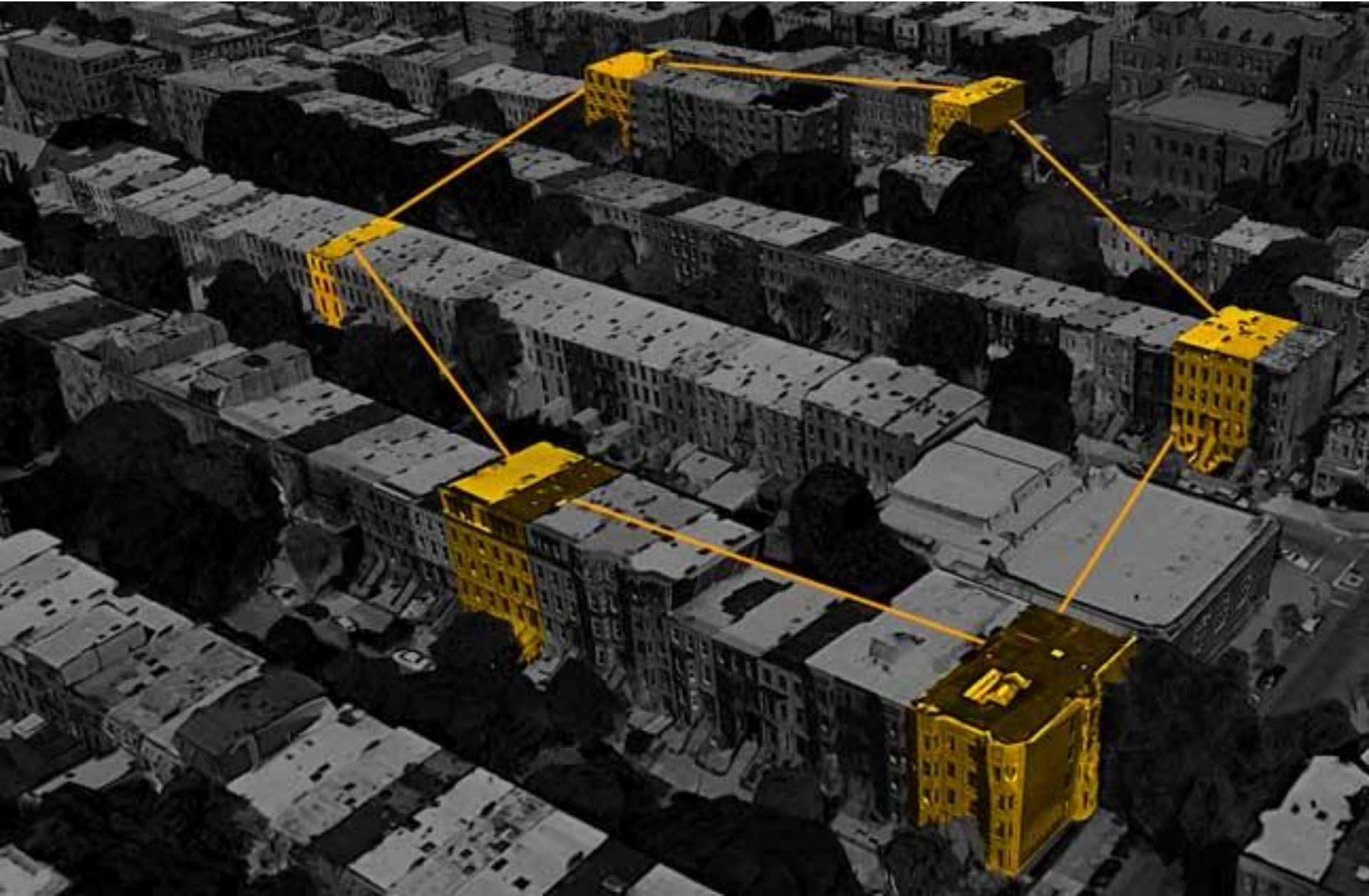
# HERE COMES SOLAR







# COMMUNITY SOLAR





# GREEN WORKFORCE TRAINING







### **Courses for building staff, property managers and unemployed or underemployed New Yorkers**

- Green building operations and maintenance
- Green construction (carpentry, electrical, plumbing)
- Energy efficiency & building performance
- Solar panel installation
- Industry certifications (BPI and GPRO)



- The Fortune Society
- WEACT for Environmental Justice
- STRIVE International
- St. Nicks Alliance
- Green City Force
- UPROSE
- LaGuardia Community College
- And more!



## Program Highlights



- The Fortune Society- I-CAN PROGRAM at Rikers Island Prison Complex
- NYSERDA: New York State Energy Research and Development Authority- Property Management and Building Staff Training

*"I was incarcerated and when I was released I couldn't find a job. I went to Solar One for training and I got a job installing solar panels. From there I went on to my job now, which is at Green Energy Masters installing gaskets. I love my job and I'm one of the top installers."*

-- Braulio Rodriguez, Green Energy Masters,  
a division of The Gasket Guy





“We must all do our part to make New York a more sustainable city. The Solar One Workforce training program provides needed green job training skills to New Yorkers, and I’m proud to support this important initiative”

City Council Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito after visiting Solar One’s Solar Installer Class In Long Island City

2017 WORKFORCE JOB PLACEMENT DATA	TOTALS
Number of students that completed training	233
Number of students placed in jobs	164
Number of students placed in green jobs	133
Out of all job placements, % that are green	81%
% of students still employed as of June 2017	69%



# GREEN DESIGN LAB K-12 PROGRAM



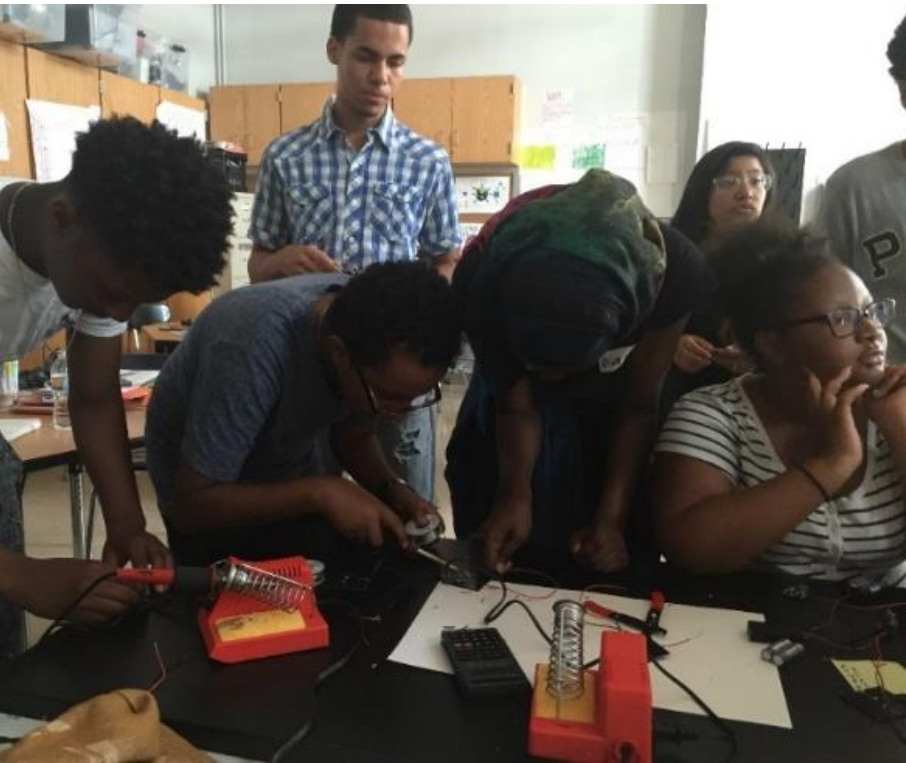


# GREEN DESIGN LAB K-12 PROGRAM



“Increasing the sustainability of New York City’s systems is of critical and growing importance. Solar One’s Solar Schools and Career and Technical Education Programs bring our solar program to life for school communities in an engaging way, connecting the benefit of resilient infrastructure with the value of career preparation. **Green jobs have earned a place on the radar of our youth**, and we are thrilled that Solar One strongly supports student learning and leadership in this workforce development!”

Meredith McDermott, Director of Sustainability, NYC Department of Education



- **Career & Technical Education**
- **K-12 Curriculum Resources**

- **Classroom Residency Programs**
- **Professional Development Training**





### **Program Opportunities**

- Co-Teaching
- Solar CTE Training Program
- Professional Development Training

### **Certification Opportunities**

- NABCEP
- GPRO
- BPI



- Academic Credit
- Summer Wages through Summer Youth Employment Program
- Co-Teaching
- Field Trips
- Service Learning
- Green Career Exploration
- Final Presentations



“Solar installation has interested me the most so far; there is so much innovation in this field, and I can see myself as a part of it”

– High School student, CareerCLUE Program, Summer 2018

### 2017-18 GREEN DESIGN LAB DATA

Number of students reached	6,000
Number of teachers reached through Professional Development training	375
Percent of teachers that plan to incorporate solar and climate lessons after participating in a Solar One training	95%
Number of students in CareerCLUE Program	121

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS & KEY LEARNING







## *Future Plans for growing Workforce Programs*



- Continue to work with NYPA Environmental Justice program to provide training in New York State
- Expanding Solar CTE program in NYC
- Program growth in New Jersey- starting in Newark
- Hoping to expand to other areas in the Northeast

# Solar One Environmental Education Center



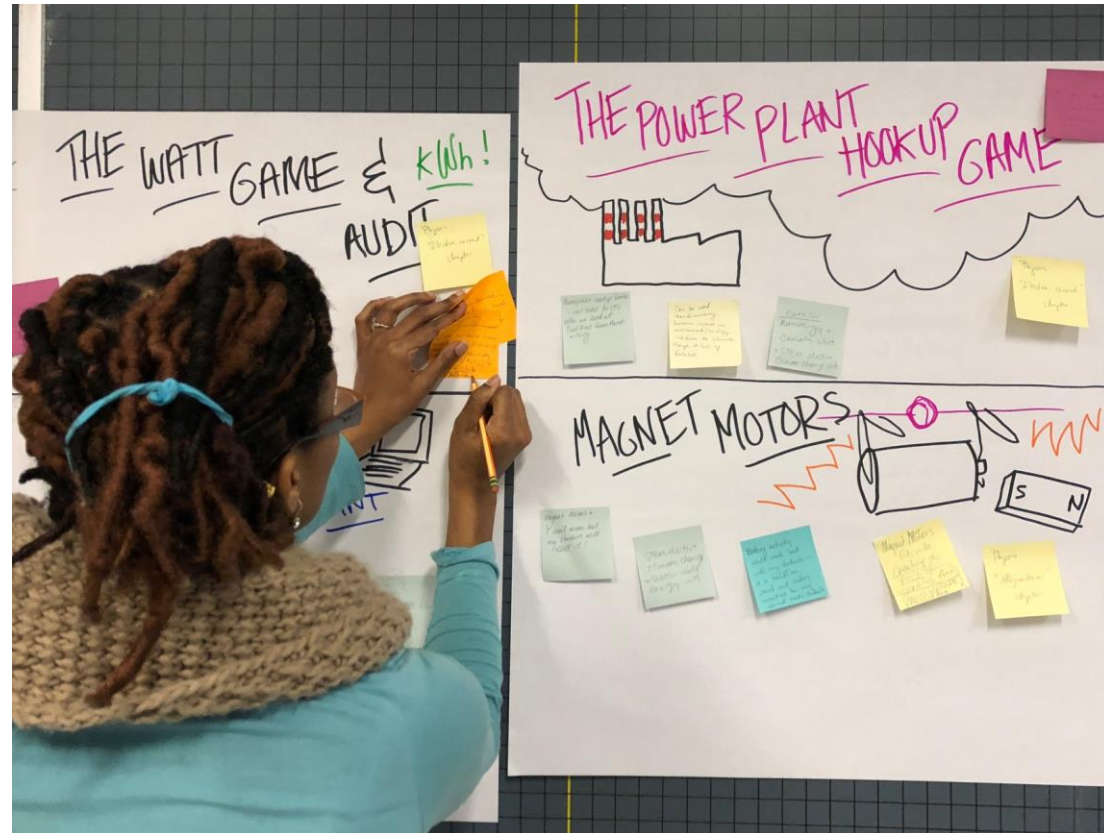
Construction will begin in 2019





## Key Learning & Takeaways

- Green Job Training can take many forms.
- City agencies can support climate goals with workforce development
- Workforce Development starts in middle and high school
- Educational networks can connect an entire industry





# Working together to build a more environmentally sustainable future

