

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Mia Primrose | [mia@wohesc.org](mailto:mia@wohesc.org) | 503.266.2377 x 107



### **WOHESC 2026 to Convene Higher Education Leaders at University of Washington**

*Still We Rise: Intergenerational Leadership for a Sustainable Future*

March 2–4, 2026 | Seattle, WA

**February 23, 2026** – The 2026 **Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC)** will take place **March 2–4, 2026**, at the **University of Washington’s Husky Union Building** in **Seattle**. Bringing together students, faculty, staff, administrators, and community partners from across the Cascadia region, WOHESC 2026 will foster collaboration and drive action on sustainability and social justice in higher education.

The 2026 theme, **Still We Rise: Intergenerational Leadership for a Sustainable Future**, explores how collective leadership across generations can shape resilient, regenerative systems—within higher education and beyond. The conference serves as a platform for contributors, advocates, and changemakers to share practical solutions and cultivate lasting institutional and community impact.

### **2026 Conference Highlights**

#### **Keynote Speakers**

WOHESC 2026 features two visionary keynote leaders:

- **Amy Bowers Cordalis**, UN Champion of the Earth, TIME 100 Climate Leader, and author of *The Water Remembers*, whose work centers Indigenous sovereignty, ecological restoration, and cultural healing.
- **Aimée Okotie-Oyekan**, Founder and Principal of Aiyé Collaborative, whose work advances community-driven futures grounded in justice and collective care.

Together, they invite attendees to reimagine justice-centered sustainability through intergenerational leadership.

## **Authors Plenary - Perfectly Imperfect: Memory, Speculation, and Mindful Action**

This plenary convenes acclaimed authors whose work draws on memory, lived experience, and speculative storytelling to confront harm, explore interdependence, and grapple with sustainability in an imperfect world.

### **Featured Author Speakers:**

- **Amy Bowers Cordalis** | *The Water Remembers*
- **Karen Thompson Walker** | *The Strange Case of Jane O; The Age of Miracles; The Dreamers*
- **Johanna Stoberock** | *Pigs: A Novel*
- **Laurie Frankel** | *One Two Three*
- **Anu Taranath** | *Beyond Guilt Trips: Mindful Travel in an Unequal World*

### **Intergenerational Student Leadership Plenary**

Student leaders from across the Pacific Northwest connect to share how mentorship, collaboration, and bold ideas are transforming higher education into a catalyst for climate action and resilient communities built on equality.

### **Tours:**

Attendees can participate in immersive tours showcasing sustainability in practice, including:

- University of Washington Seattle
  - Power Plant Tour
  - Grounds Management Campus Sustainability Initiatives
  - Campus Sustainability Fund Project Tour
  - Green Buildings Showcase
  - UW Farm: An On-Campus Tour of a Living Laboratory
  - Project Indoor Farm: Empowering Students to Participate Directly in Urban Food Systems
- University of Washington Bothell/Cascadia College Campus Sustainability Tour
- Restoring Water, Land, and Community at Washington Park Arboretum Walking Tour
- Union Bay Natural Area, Natural and Cultural Tour

### **Conference Details**

#### **Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC)**

**Date:** March 2–4, 2026

**Location:** University of Washington Husky Union Building (HUB)  
4001 E Stevens Way NE, Seattle, Washington 98195

**Schedule and Speakers:** <https://wohesc.org/program/>

Tickets can be purchased [online](#) or by phone at 503.226.2377.

## **About WOHESC**

The Washington Oregon Cascadia Higher Education Sustainability Conference (WOHESC) is a platform for inspiring change, facilitating action, and promoting collaboration related to sustainability and social justice within the region's higher education institutions. As a regional conference, WOHEC promotes a local focus, with dialogue specifically addressing issues in the Cascadia region. Solutions will be tailored for implementation and action in our unique political, social, economic, and environmental climate. More information at <https://wohesc.org/>.

###