

A hand holding a white plastic bag against a background of trees. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with the fingers gripping the top of a white plastic bag. The background consists of a dense canopy of green trees, with sunlight filtering through the leaves, creating a bright, slightly hazy atmosphere. The overall image conveys a message of environmental responsibility and the impact of plastic waste.

PATHWAYS TO ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

BEYOND 2020

Earth Team Green
Statement of Qualification



ABOUT EARTH TEAM GREEN

Earth Team Green, an Ohio based non-profit business venture, was established in 2009 to fill a niche to reach and teach the next generation how to protect and respect the environment and each other. We accomplished this by blending a mix of the environment and entertainment, science and science fiction into our products and outreach efforts which center around our critically acclaimed Earth Team Green Eco-Thriller Comic Books and supporting sustainable grounded publications. Contracting with school districts in Mansfield, Ohio Reynoldsburg, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, Steubenville, Ohio, Elgin, Illinois and WDC's Thurgood Marshall Academy. In total over 10,000 students grades K-12 were entertained, enlightened and empowered after learning how and why they can and should become environmental leaders of the future. Since that time Earth Team Green has expanded its sustainability initiatives to include public presentations, workshops, exhibits and displays and taken on a leadership role as a grassroots based sustainability professional development consulting business. Today Earth Team Green's highly skilled, experienced, educated and environmentally driven stellar team of focused on the future individuals have aligned themselves to provide consulting services for environmental issues, waste management and recycling challenges, embracing diversity, environmental justice, professional development and empowerment of employees.

ABOUT THE TEAM

Earth Team Green employs a cadre of qualified environmental, community, professional development diversity, recycling, waste management and sustainability consultants on hand and on call as the needs and services dictate. Among those who have been carefully selected to fulfill the terms and conditions of the Projects being awarded are; Dr. Robert L. Lawson, Abrilla Robinson, Sophia Huda, Umoja Abdul-Ahad, Willie Johnson and Arley Owens. Each brings to these projects the skills, understanding and where with all to meet and exceed the expectations of every task and program as described in the Project overview. Each Team Member will be assigned individual and shared responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the Team Leader.

CAPABILITIES

Earth Team Green will offer and has the capability to assess waste management and recycling needs and solutions, coordinate community driven sustainability programs to include coordinating training modules in specific topics to include, Recycling Right to identify barriers to recycling participation, Zero Waste Neighborhoods, Diversity Equity Inclusion, Environmental Justice, Upstream Awareness, Circular Economy and its impact on communities. In addition Earth Team Green will make available training opportunities for professional development, self esteem, financial success and a proven curriculum and leaning module that trains; community leaders, school administration, teachers and students.

Contact Information

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INTRODUCING THE EARTH TEAM GREEN TEAM MEMBERS

Earth Team Green Team Members, a cadre of qualified environmental, community, professional development diversity, recycling, waste management and sustainability consultants includes: Sophia Huda, Dr. Robert L. Lawson, Abrilla Robinson, Willie Johnson, Umoja Abdul-Ahad, and Arley Owens. Collectively our Team brings to the Projects the skills, understanding and ability to meet and exceed the expectations of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency and the tasks and programs as described in the Project overview.



SOPHIA HUDA

Ironically, it was Sophia's role as a lobbyist for the European plastics industry that ignited her passion for environmental affairs. After working on issues such as plastics, chemical policy, water issues, and energy in Europe, North America, and the Middle East she developed a keen interest and deep understanding of the intersection of the environment, business, policy, and communications.

Sophia has several years experience working in communications and public affairs for the environmental sector, with a particular focus and passion for recycling and plastic waste. She began her career in Brussels at a trade association representing the plastics industry, where she worked on issues such as chemicals regulation, plastics recycling, and food packaging safety. Her particular focus is on developing end-markets for recycled waste and has worked in market development for a large plastics recycling company where she was involved in developing a public relations and public affairs campaign to address the lack of demand for recycled polymers. She has also worked as a research analyst for the Closed Loop Fund, in the Middle East and Mexico on water management issues, and on public health issues for Sub-Saharan African countries. She is an Adjunct Professor at The New School in New York City where she lectures an undergraduate class on Sustainable Systems at Parsons School of Design and a graduate class on Sustainable Perspectives and Practices for the M.S. Environmental Policy and Sustainability at the Milano School of International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy.

Sophia is also a member of the [Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board](#), where she acts as the Social Media Chair and sits on the Legislative Committee and Cultural Institutions Task Force, which is focused on doing outreach to NYC's cultural institutions and helping them develop more sustainable waste management practices. Sophia also sits on the Leadership Team of the [Ohio Recycling Coalition](#) and is a member of the Balloons Task Force at the [Plastic Free Waters Partnerships](#), which is focused on reducing harmful balloon litter in waterways. She has also volunteered as a tutor and mentor at the East Harlem Tutorial Program since 2015 and sits on the Board of Trustees of the Metropolitan Lighthouse Charter School in the Bronx.

Originally from Toronto, Canada she has also lived and worked in France, Belgium, the West Bank, and the United States. Sophia has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Toronto, and graduated cum laude from the University of Leuven (Leuven, Belgium) with a M.Sc. in Public Policy. Sophia also holds an M.S. in Sustainability Management from Columbia University and is fluent in French.



Dr. Robert L. Lawson

Ed. D., Educational Administration. Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida., 1991.

M. A., English. Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia, 1978.

B.S., English. University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio, 1973.

Educational Consultant, Portsmouth, OH. Responsible for creating, developing and designing programs and curricula that are custom made for delivery to personnel in school systems, businesses, industries, educational institutions and social service organizations. Programs available for implementation and utilization currently in use at other establishments include such notable ones as **Managing Change, Creativity and Innovation in the Workplace, How to Stay Motivated to Win, The Youth Empowerment System, Diversity: An Approach that Works, The Power of Real Leadership, Effective Customer Service and Others**. Also establishes workforce development training for corporate clients as well as recruitment, set up and administrative management for outplacement readjustment for firms that are downsizing. The recent acquisition of a \$91K grant to enhance workplace performance for local business and industry establishments has proven to be most effective. Works well with the general public in terms of collaboration, facilitation, scheduling, marketing, publicity, coordination and implementation of seminars, conferences and workshops. Conducts and facilitates strategic planning sessions for the Southern Ohio Museum and Cultural Center, is recognized as a certified trainer/facilitator for the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services for all 88 counties in the state of Ohio, contracts with Partnership Ohio and the Ohio Management Training Institute to train all Greater Cincinnati Water Works employees (600) in customer service, anger management, personality styles, communications and leadership. Works extensively with colleges and universities throughout the tri-state area including **The Ohio State University, Columbus State Community College, Kentucky State University, The Huntington Junior College of Business, the University of Cincinnati, Cuyahoga Community College, Wright State University, Ohio University and the University of Rio Grande**. Works extensively with the Ohio Department of Development, the Department of Administrative Services out of the Governor's Office as well as the Ohio Board of Regents. The Ohio Department of Development and the Ohio Board of Regents co-funded a workforce development grant authored by the applicant. Currently works with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Commission on African-Americans to develop and implement effective leadership training programs for African-American youth in multi-state arenas. Has developed additional training programs for both minority and women's groups. **Addresses numerous conferences on a yearly basis and currently has an ongoing relationship for program planning, implementation and delivery with the Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program. 1998 to present.**

Director of Continuing Education, Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, OH. Responsible for the provision of high level leadership and direction in all matters relating to the development and implementation of continuing education programs including program planning, coordination, articulation, supervision, and execution. Advocates all university goals, objectives, policies and procedures that pertain to continuing education endeavors. Oversees all aspects of continuing education matters including community service and special programs, off campus credit and non-credit programs, youth programs, summer enrichment and budgetary allocation and review. Reports directly to the provost, serves as a member of the Deans' Council and is the chief administrative officer for the Office of Continuing Education. 1990-1998.

Director of Continuing Education, Marshall University Community and Technical College. Responsible for the development of a comprehensive community service continuing education outreach program. Hired and supervised 70-100 instructors per year to teach short courses, established memorandums of understanding with various companies, facilitated the arrangement of articulation agreements, established the Children's College Program, designed and implemented effective workshops, seminars and conferences on child care, motivation, small business development and supervision. Also successfully coordinated the nationally acclaimed Elderhostel program designed for adults who are 60 years of age and older, set up video conferences and successfully represented the university at the state and national levels on continuing education matters. 1983 to 1990.

RELATED EXPERIENCE Served as the Affirmative Action Officer for Marshall University and was a member of the President's Cabinet. Served as President of the Black Administration, Faculty and Staff Organization at Marshall University. Served as Chair of the Education Task Force in efforts to get Portsmouth, Ohio recognized as an Enterprise, Empowerment Zone Community. Served as a member of the Board of Trustees, Southern Ohio Museum and Cultural Center, Portsmouth, Ohio. Served as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee for the Scioto County School System, Portsmouth, Ohio. Served as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee for Leadership Portsmouth, Portsmouth, Ohio. Charter Member, Leadership Portsmouth, Portsmouth, Ohio. Served as a member of the Deans' and Directors' Council, Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, Ohio. Served as a member of the University Teleconference Advisory Committee. Served as a member of the Rio Grande Alumni Board of Directors. Served as a member of the Ohio Continuing Higher Education Association Served as a member of the Shawnee State University Student Retention Committee. Served as a member of the Board of Directors, Jobs Training Advisory Committee. Served as a Member of the Ohio Speakers' Forum Served as Editor for the Ohio Speakers' Forum Newsletter Served as a member of the National Speakers' Association.



Abrilla O. Robinson

Manager of Minorities In Recycling and Environmental Management and Ohio Recycling Coalition's Vice President and Chair of the ORC's Diversity Equity Inclusion Council, and Chair of the National Recycling Coalition's Diversity Equity Inclusion Council, is a proven business administrator and environmental leader. She has been sought out by national recycling and state recycling organizations for her advice and thought provoking feedback on matters such as establishing multifamily recycling programs; community outreach programs particularly for underserved communities. Abrilla is an expert at establishing forward thinking initiatives designed to empower students, struggling start up business owners and those seeking to make a difference in our environment with a focus on recycling participation.

An accomplished organizer, Abrilla created the National Recycling Coalition's (NRC) Minorities In Recycling Council (MRC) in 1991 and single handedly recruited well over 200 new NRC/MRC members including representatives from the United States Navy, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the United States Marines, the Federal Government General Services Administration Department, several state representatives, Fortune 500 representatives, and the City of Chicago.

Abrilla was elected from the floor at the 1990 NRC's San Diego Conference and was the National Recycling Coalition first African American Female to serve on the National Recycling Coalition's Board of Directors. Under Abrilla's leadership the NRC/MRC received an award from Keep America Beautiful for efforts in increasing recycling participation rates and community outreach. Abrilla was also instrumental in creating the MRC/NRC's Torch Awards For Environmental Management and Recycling, whereby the MRC recognized businesses and individuals across America. Adding to Abrilla NRC/MRC legacy was the creation of the MRC's "How To Reach Underserved and Minority Communities National Workshops." These workshops were held in Boston, Cincinnati, Ohio, Lancaster, Ohio, and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Abrilla is the Founder and Manager of Minorities In Recycling and Environmental Management and has held positions as the Executive Director of Sunshares, a nonprofit organization located in Durham, North Carolina, heading up strategic planning, supervising over 1000 volunteers to aid in increasing recycling and recycling participation in three counties.

Abrilla presently is a member of the Ohio Recycling Coalition's Environmental Leadership Team and holds the position of Vice President over ORC's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council. Abrilla is also actively involved in the Ohio Recycling Coalition's Made In America NOW national campaign which is designed champion the movement to bring back manufacturing to America and where possible integrate recycled feedstock into the production of goods and products. Abrilla in addition to her involvement in the environment has had a successful career in the Insurance, Health and Financial Industry.

By attending numerous Seminars in Management, Sales, Product Knowledge, Customer Service, Media Relationships, Human Resources, Marketing and Public Relations; Abrilla has and continues to be a prolific Environment Leader and Business Manager. Abrilla attended Highland Park Community College, Highland Park, Michigan Liberal Arts and attended the Center for Creative Arts and Studies College of Design, Detroit, Michigan majoring in Advertising.



WILLIE JOHNSON

President/CEO – Willie Johnson Communications Willie Johnson – “The Ambassador of Potentiality”. Award winning Motivational Speaker and Trainer. Whether you need someone to boost individual and or team member morale, inspire staff, provide a challenge to customer service representatives, or energize your sales force, Willie Johnson will deliver a tailored, content filled, motivational message that will resonate and challenge participants to “Go Make a Difference” in their life, their organization, and in the life of others. He has authored “It’s Never Too Late To Live Up To Your Potential” and “Be Amazing” available on Amazon.

Willie is the Director of the Ohio Recycling Coalition’s Environmental Leadership and Sustainability Academy and oversees the Ohio Recycling Coalition’s and Earth Team Green’s Embracing Diversity Programs.

Willie has conducted self-improvement workshops across the United States. In 2006 Willie was awarded the Magee-Stovall High Impact Emerging Speaker Award. Willie was one of the 88 Semi-finalists in Toastmaster's 2013 World International Speech Contest; in which more than 32,000 contestants entered from around the world. Willie is a John Maxwell Team Member Speaker, Trainer, Teacher & Coach; Willie is a Certified Franklin Covey Client Facilitator for “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, and Willie is a Certified D.I.S.C. Facilitator and D.I.S.C. Human Development Consultant.



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UMOJA O. N. ABDUL-AHAD



MAN OF THE YEAR

UMOJA O. N. ABDUL-AHAD

Umoja O. N. Abdul-Ahad is one of the founders and presently serves as Executive Director of PROJECT 2000, INC. He has served in this capacity since 1979. Under his leadership, Project 2000, Inc. has been actively engaged in many successful community development initiatives.

One of the most successful initiatives developed by Project 2000 was the Public Housing Multi-Family Recycling Program. Under Mr. Abdul-Ahad's leadership, the program spread from Knoxville to 35 cities in the United States and Puerto Rico and has received national and international recognition.

Mr. Abdul-Ahad has been active in community development initiatives in Knoxville for nearly three decades. In the mid to late 1970s, Umoja volunteered with community action committees such as Advocates for Neighborhood Development and the Committee for the Development of the African-American Community. His more recent efforts include campaigns to save Austin Homes and Knoxville College, as well as work with African-American Appalachian Arts. Mr. Abdul-Ahad's commitment to the betterment of the Knoxville community is well documented.

Mr. Abdul-Ahad is also very committed to Knoxville's youth. He has served as a teacher and counselor for the Highlander Summer Youth Program. He has also served as an officer for the Fair Garden Elementary and Vine Magnet Parent Teacher Associations. Presently, Project 2000, Inc. is developing new community health initiatives that focus on family fitness through walking and cycling.

Mr. Abdul-Ahad is a native of Knoxville. He was the first African-American to graduate from Karns High School in 1965. He continued his education at the University of Tennessee and Knoxville College. Mr. Abdul-Ahad is also a veteran of the United States Air Force.



Arley Owens,

A proven and time tested Environmental Thought Leader, Arley is the Founder and President of Earth Team Green which has evolved into an environmental crossroad for sustainability initiatives, environmental education, conservation consultancy and publisher of sustainable guides and home to the critically acclaimed; Earth Team Green Eco-Thriller Comic Book Franchise www.earthteamgreen.org. Arley's next best-selling Eco-Thriller Comic Book is titled "The Sky Princess-Crusader For Climate Change and Zero Waste Wonder.

Arley also volunteers his time to be the Executive Director of the Ohio Recycling Coalition, a 501 (c-3) Non-Profit organization www.orcrecycles.org. Recently Arley was appointed as a new Board Member for the National Recycling Coalition's Board of Directors and Chairs the NRC's new Diversity Equity Inclusion Council and also Co-Chairs the National Recycling Coalition's Board of Director's Fund Development Committee and Communications Committee.

Arley was the founder and Executive Director for Keep Reynoldsburg Beautiful and was instrumental in securing, at no cost to the City of Reynoldsburg, state of the art recycling collection containers for Reynoldsburg's Park System valued at nearly \$50,000. Arley has also secured every year at no cost to the City of Reynoldsburg, litter collection equipment and supplies since 2016 for Reynoldsburg Annual Cleanup Day. Arley, at no cost to the City's Police Department, created an Eco-Thriller Comic Book in 2017 titled **Peace Justice and Respect** and most recently has published but yet to be distributed a new Eco-Thriller Comic Book titled **Rise Of The Paragon** which features Slate Ridge Elementary School and honors Alexander Livingston and the Livingston House.

Today as the volunteer Executive Director for the Ohio Recycling Coalition, Arley along with ORC's Leadership Team, have launched ORC's "Made In America NOW" Financial Stimulus Program, and are in the process of creating ORC's Environmental Leadership Academy designed to expose, engage, educate and empower individuals to learn how they will be the next generation of Environmental Stewards for our Planet Earth.

Arley's pathway to environmental leadership began with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) where he implemented several energy and resource savings programs as the Chief Sustainability Officer and Special Programs Group Manager for ODNR's Ohio State Parks, one of America's largest park systems, overseeing recycling, waste management, grant administration and special environmental programs designed to reduce energy costs within the 74 state park system.

Prior to Arley's promotion to Chief Sustainability/Environmental Officer, Arley was the Communications Administrator for the ODNR's Division of Recycling where he, along with a stellar staff, created and implemented the national award winning Recycle, Ohio! Program for the State of Ohio; worked closely with Ohio's 52 Solid Waste District; administered an annual five million dollar grant assistance program and coordinated annual statewide recycling awareness campaigns and environmental education programs. Arley also held positions with ODNR's Office of Employee Services as an EEO Officer, Employee Relations Coordinator; and the ODNR Division of Civilian Conservation Corps as Project Supervisor.

In 2014, Arley along with nine other Ohio based businesses and individuals to include Honda of America and Rumpke Recycling, were recognized by the Association of Ohio Recyclers for their respective major impact they had made on Ohio's Recycling Industry.

Arley earned an MBA in Marketing from the University of Phoenix, Business Marketing Certification from THE Ohio State Fisher College of Business, and a BA in Communications from THE Ohio State University and successfully completed the Solid Waste Authority of North America's course work and is a SWANA Certified Residential Recycling Manager.

Arley is a United States Air Force Viet Nam Veteran and served proudly as a member of the US Air Force Tactical Air Command's Elite Combat Security Police Squadron who successfully defended eleven US Air Force Bases in South Viet Nam.

AFFILIATIONS OF EARTH TEAM GREEN

National Recycling Coalition

Solid Waste Authority Of North America

Michigan Recycling Coalition

Association of Ohio Recyclers

Made In America Inc.

Reuse Institute

Keep America Beautiful

Sun Watch Indian Village/Archeology Park Dayton, Ohio

Keep Ohio Beautiful

Ohio Environmental Education Council

National Urban League