Story of Self, US and Now

I did not grow up like you AND I belong here

Mel Mac Innis
She/They

Director Outdoor Activities, Sierra Club

And you are about to learn a whole lot more about me
TAKE HOME

Mentor someone holding identities other than yours
TAKE HOME

Acknowledge and Confront your Bias

https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html
Volunteer of the month
River-rider Melanie MacInnis understands rough water

Melanie MacInnis may look like your typical teenager—it's not every day you see someone wearing a cowboy hat and a cowboy boot, but that's Melanie. She's from the small town of Jackson, Wyoming, where she grew up sailing and fishing on the Snake River. Growing up in the West, Melanie quickly learned the importance of water and wildlife. She became a volunteer for the Snake River Conservancy and now helps the organization to protect the river and its wildlife. Melanie is the perfect example of how one person can make a difference in their community.

Paddling for the Planet
Melanie MacInnis—Berkeley, California

Melanie MacInnis is a high school student in Berkeley, California. She started paddling at the age of 11 and has been involved with the school's environmental club since she was a freshman. Melanie says that paddling is a great way for her to relax and clear her mind. She is also passionate about protecting the environment and has been involved in several environmental projects, including a successful campaign to ban single-use plastic bags in Berkeley.

Who Will Lead the Sierra Club?

The Sierra Club is a national organization dedicated to protecting the environment. The organization is led by a board of directors, which includes members from all over the United States. The club has a long history of fighting against pollution and the degradation of the environment. The club's mission is to protect the natural beauty of the United States and to ensure that future generations can enjoy the country's natural resources.
TAKE HOME

Include people with marginalized identities without tokenizing them
TAKE HOME

Get to know people who live life and experience life differently than you do
• Gender Identity Inclusion Practices
• Exclusive Spaces: Managing Inherent Risks to Traveling as a Visibly Marginalized Group
• Ability Awareness: Emotional Well-Being for People with Disabilities
• Supporting Indigenous Resurgence Through Anti-Colonial Approaches to Risk Management Planning
BRING IT! HOME

• Mentor and open doors
• Examine your bias
• Authentically Include people with marginalized identities
• Get to know people with different lived experiences
• Tell a diversity of stories