



Megan Reilly Cayten Appointed to NEEF Board of Directors

Social Entrepreneur is Co-Founder & CEO of Catrinka

WASHINGTON, May 28, 2013—Megan Reilly Cayten joins the Board of Directors at the nonprofit National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) today. She was appointed pursuant to the National Environmental Education Act by former U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson.

Ms. Cayten is co-founder and CEO of the ethical fashion label Catrinka, a for-profit social venture that employs women artisans to make handbags to raise funds for girls' education. Their first collection is a capsule inspired by the documentary film, *Girl Rising*, and features bags made from local materials in 11 countries, including Afghanistan, Sierra Leone and the U.S.

"We are really thrilled to have Megan on our board," said Chairman Arthur Gibson of the Board of Directors at NEEF. "Megan adds to the diversity of perspectives on our talented board and brings unique experiences from her social venture Catrinka and innovative work abroad."

"NEEF plays a unique and powerful role in the environmental education space," said Ms. Cayten. "NEEF's status as a congressionally chartered organization and its non-partisan approach offer a wide and deep platform for reaching all Americans. The extraordinary leadership of NEEF has made an abiding commitment to engage everyone in the conversation, to meet people where they are today, and help them to make a better tomorrow for all of us. I am honored to have been invited to join the NEEF board and excited to contribute to executing NEEF's ambitious vision for the next four years."

Ms. Cayten has lived and worked in infrastructure development on four continents, with particular experience in Mexico, Central America, India and Southeast Asia. Throughout her career she has focused on developing, financing and operating sustainable core infrastructure and basic services, predominantly in emerging markets. As part of Citigroup's project finance team based in Hong Kong from 2004-07, she originated, structured and executed financings with an aggregate total value of over \$10 billion across the Asia-Pacific region. From 2008-11, she managed three portfolio companies owned by the infrastructure private equity fund Alinda Capital Partners, including an innovative wastewater treatment facility and a municipal lighting contractor, and executed Alinda's first divestiture.

Previously in her career, she developed two co-located power generation and liquefied natural gas import facilities for the AES Corporation in Central America and the Caribbean. Megan also originated and funded a \$1 million program to bring water and sanitation to 67 schools in rural Mexico as part of the Global Water Challenge. That effort won recognition from President

Calderón and the U.N. and helped catalyze a national conversation on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in schools in Mexico.

Megan holds an MBA from Harvard and a BA from Yale, and speaks fluent Spanish and conversational French and Mandarin Chinese. She lives in Brooklyn, New York with her husband Chris and their two children, Caterina and Will.

A full list of NEEF's board members can be found at neefusa.org/about/board.

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About the National Environmental Education Foundation

NEEF is the nation's leading organization in lifelong environmental learning, connecting people to knowledge they use to improve the quality of their lives and the health of the planet. To accomplish this, NEEF provides knowledge to trusted professionals and other leaders who, with their credibility, amplify messages to national audiences to solve everyday environmental problems. Learn more at neefusa.org, follow NEEF on Facebook at <http://goo.gl/FidAX> & Twitter [@neefusa](https://twitter.com/neefusa).

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