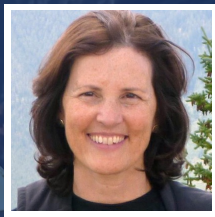


# Protecting the Planet and Preserving History



Mary Pearl  
Provost Professor, Biology

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Ethnobotany can Improve Health and Wellness

The Algonquian are one of the largest North American Native American groups with tribes that once spanned the regions of modern day Canada and the US. Despite their declining population, the Algonquian of today continue to be stewards of the lands that provide for them and as a result, are incredibly knowledgeable about the many native plant species in the areas in which they reside. In an effort to preserve the culture and collective knowledge of the Algonquian people in addition, to providing novel plant targets for therapeutics, Dr. Mary Pearl, of Macaulay Honors College of City University of New York, is working with the Algonquian people to catalog the vast amounts of useful plants within the New York area. Fundamentally interested in understanding how we can maintain the health of ecosystems, Dr. Pearl is convinced that human well-being depends on the maintenance of biodiversity. Therefore, in addition to her work with the Algonquian people, she also conducts research on endangered species conservation and forest conservation.

With only three ethnobotany programs at US universities, Dr. Pearl's is the only program that focuses on urban-centered plant use. Furthermore, it is the only program that links a Native American tribe, a botanical garden, and a university to form an incredible collaboration that helps to understand the value of native plants to human health and well-being. In addition to her cultivation of biodiversity, Dr. Pearl concentrates many of her efforts upon implementing educational innovations to ensure that young people are scientifically literate and numerate. By building novel curriculums for general science education at the college level in the US and improving STEM education...

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## AFFILIATION

MACAULAY Macaulay Honors College of City University of New York

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D., in Anthropology, 1982 , Yale University

## AWARDS

- Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- International Conservation Award, Ecohealth Alliance
- Honorary doctorate of science, Marist College
- Elected to International Women's Forum
- Who's Who in America

## RESEARCH AREAS

Environment, Ecology, Global Policy

## FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Mary Pearl, of Macaulay Honors College of City University of New York. Donations will support the necessary \$230K required for creating an economic botany of the northeastern Algonquians. Thus, in choosing to donate, you will play a role in making it possible for educational institutions, communities, and governments to create strategies to protect our planet while preserving the rich history of the Shinnecock Nation.