

OPEN SPACE INSTITUTE SHARES ITS MISSION AND PROGRAMS WITH GREEN FINGERS GARDEN CLUB

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The Program: The Open Space Institute protects scenic, natural and historic landscapes to provide public enjoyment, conserve habitat and working lands, and sustain communities. OSI manages several programs: it acquires land for preservation; it provides grants and loans to underwrite and finance conservation for NGOs and public agencies; it advocates for public funding at the federal and state level for land acquisition; and it improves access and amenities for NYS parks to foster use and increase visitation.

In June 2016 OSI awarded its 2016 Land Conservation Award to the Garden Club of America to recognize the GCA's long standing support of land conservation and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The Speakers: Kim Elliman, President and CEO of the Open Space Institute and Peter Howell, Executive Vice President of the Conservation Capital Program.

(Kim) Elliman has served as President and/or CEO of the Open Space Institute. Under his leadership, OSI has promoted conservation and protected landscapes in the eastern US and Maritime Provinces of Canada and has financed 2 million acres or acquired over 140,000 acres of land and has created, expanded or improved close to 40 state and federal parks.

Peter Howell currently serves as the Executive Vice President of the Conservation Capital Program at the Open Space Institute since 2001. Previously, he was the Program Director for the Environment at the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and also worked as a Program Officer at the Wallace Funds, directing an \$18 million national initiative focused on creating and improving urban parks.

Submitted by:



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