

CLIMATE CAFÉ SPEAKER PANEL

Jenny Staletovich, WLRN NPR Miami



Jenny has been a journalist working in Florida for nearly 30 years. She's reported on some of the region's major environment stories, including the 2018 devastating red tide and blue-green algae blooms, impacts from climate change and the Everglades restoration. She's also written about disappearing rare forests, invasive pythons, diseased coral and a host of other critical issues around the state. Jenny has won several state and national awards including the Scripps Howard National Journalism Award for Distinguished Service to the First Amendment, Sunshine State Awards and a National Edward R. Murrow award for her extensive coverage on the python.

Daniella Levine-Cava, Mayor, Miami-Dade County



Daniella Levine Cava was elected Miami-Dade County's first-ever woman mayor in November 2020, after 40 years of advocacy for South Florida families. As mayor, she oversees more than 31,000 county employees, serves nearly 3 million residents, and manages an annual budget of approximately \$12 billion. She is focused on building a more resilient and prosperous Miami-Dade. Her initiatives include combating gun violence, building a future ready economy full of opportunity, tackling the housing crisis, and preserving our precious environment. A social worker, lawyer, and activist, she previously served as the County Commissioner for District 8 and worked with vulnerable populations through Legal Services of Greater Miami and Catalyst Miami, an organization she founded. With her husband, Dr. Robert Cava, she raised two children, Eliza and Edward, in Miami-Dade.

Terrence "Rock" Salt



Terrence "Rock" Salt has been a leader in Everglades restoration since 1991. His service as the Corps' Jacksonville Commander, Executive director of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force and as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) formed the basis for this leadership. Today, he serves as an advisor to Mayor Levine Cava on the Back Bay Study and as a Vice President of Tropical Audubon Society.

Evelyn E. Gaiser, Ph.D., Florida International University



Professor Gaiser is an aquatic ecologist whose research is focused on understanding how algae can be used as "sentinels" of the effects of long-term changes in climate and land-use in aquatic ecosystems. While her work focuses on aquatic systems of South Florida, she and her students also conduct international studies to expand findings contextually. Dr. Gaiser also contributes to creative work that unites faculty across the natural and social sciences and humanities and forges community partnerships to foster sustainability of the planet.

Ben Kirtman, Ph.D., University of Miami Rosenstiel School



Ben Kirtman is an atmospheric scientist. Kirtman's research is a wide-ranging program designed to understand and quantify the limits of climate predictability from days to decades. His research also involves understanding how the climate will change in response to changes in anthropogenic and natural forcing. This research involves hypothesis testing numerical experiments, using sophisticated state-of-the-art climate models and experimental realtime prediction. His group uses and has access to a suite of climate models, climate data, and high performance computational platforms.