

Q1

January – March 2024

**be
ex**

building
energy
exchange



● **BE-Ex team**

Richard Yancey
Executive Director

Katie Schwamb
Director, Educational
Resources

Andres Torres
Manager, Education &
Engagement

Hailey Moll
Senior Associate, Educational
Resources

Paul Rivers
Senior Associate, Operations &
Memberships

Adrienne La Forte
Associate, Educational
Resources

Kaylee McGowan
Associate, Education &
Engagement

Chloe Kellner
Assistant, Education &
Engagement

To kick off the new year, we launched new trainings, continued our Women in Sustainability and Energy programming, and celebrated our accomplishments and community.

January 31, 2024

Celebrate BE-Ex! A Decade of Excellence

BE-Ex hosted a lively and widely-attended celebration of the accomplishments our organization has made since 2009. The evening connected old and new friends of BE-Ex and honored some of the outstanding people who have contributed to the success of BE-Ex, as well as the energetic board, staff, and community.





January 25, 2024

CMA Series: Keeping Pace with PACE - Financial Resources

In partnership with NRDC, this next panel in the Climate Mobilization Act Series discussed the financial resources available to fund building decarbonization projects. This event brought together an interesting array of voices, with speakers from MOCEJ, NYSERDA, NYCEEC, Con Edison, PACE Equity, and NYC Accelerator.

▶ <https://be-exchange.org/cma-keeping-pace-with-pace/>

February 8, 2024

Take the Heat! Part 2: Building Core & Perimeter

As part of NYSERDA's Empire Building Challenge, this two-part series focused on innovative heating and cooling recovery systems. EBC partner teams highlighted breakthrough approaches to ventilation and cooling heat recovery. Vornado with Jaros, Baum & Bolles, Brookfield with Cosentini, and LeFrak with Steven Winter Associates provided thoughtful presentations and an engaging panel discussion.

▶ <https://be-exchange.org/take-the-heat-part-2/>

column:

Nearly a Decade Wiser: Reflecting on the Impact of the WISE Series

by Hailey Moll

Senior Associate, Educational Resources
Building Energy Exchange

Founded in 2015, Women in Sustainability and Energy (WISE) is a Building Energy Exchange (BE-Ex) inclusive platform for people of all backgrounds and gender identities to learn from experienced women leaders in the sustainability and energy industries, share knowledge and ideas, and advance equity in the workplace.

Looking Back

In honor of Women's History Month, we are reflecting on nearly a decade of WISE. For the last nine years, WISE programming has coalesced an empowering community that has provided emerging professionals with a forum to connect with other

industry practitioners, discover career opportunities and new information, and forge fruitful relationships.

WISE was founded by the women of BE-Ex based on an interest to create a forum for professionals—and especially emerging professionals—to learn what other ambitious and smart people are doing across many sectors of sustainability. Ellen Abramowitz, a founding member of WISE, felt there were often so many “awesome women” that were the sole female at events that she thought, “What if we put all those women in the same room and see what happens?”

► <https://be-exchange.org/insight/nearly-a-decade-wiser/>



WISE Networking Lunch, 2023

Since 2015, WISE programming has:

- Held 58 panels, keynote programs, networking events, and media clubs;
- Featured 84 women leaders;
- Engaged 1,060 LinkedIn group members; and
- Welcomed 2,981 attendees at WISE events.

WISE's success as a community has only been possible because of the women of BE-Ex and our generous sponsors: Con Edison, EN-POWER Group, Environ Energy, New York Power Authority, New York State Energy Research and Development Agency, ROCKWOOL, Sive Paget Riesel, and Voltus. BE-Ex has always prioritized the importance of gender diversity, currently maintaining a staff of two-thirds women and a 50% female board of directors. Across all BE-Ex events, 58% of speakers at our panel events in Q4 2023 were non-male and zero panels were entirely comprised of just men.

As WISE has evolved, however, BE-Ex staffers felt the need to address the larger issue of intersectionality and inclusivity to not only prioritize gender

diversity, but racial and ethnic diversity as well. "Everybody is welcome. That is a key principle of what we are trying to do with WISE," said Nicol La Cumbre-Gibbs, another former BE-Ex staffer. After a few years of WISE, BE-Ex staff broadened the mission statement to include language that welcomed all people in the environmental field. WISE invites all to continue creating impact and recognizes that more work must be done to ensure our industries are diverse and inclusive.

Additionally, the format of events has expanded over the years. Staff began to develop luncheon events to offer other methods of networking that would allow for people to connect in different kinds of ways that might work better for them.

These evolutions over the years have made WISE a rewarding and impactful community for all people to be a part of whose power is "very lasting," according to Ellen Abramowitz.

Looking Ahead

With these successes in the background, WISE continues to develop new programming and

engagement that will grow our community further.

To kick off 2024, we reinvigorated BE-Ex's live podcast series, Radio BE-Ex, publishing an interview with longtime BE-Ex board member and Advisor to the Urban Future Lab at NYU Tandon School of Engineering, Pat Sapinsley.

We aim to expand our reach into other industries in the energy and sustainability sector, as “the definition of sustainability is evolving rapidly,” said another founding WISE member, Jocelyn Gan. To continue developing new community relationships and partnerships, WISE is pleased to be hosting our Sustainable Career Showcase on April 4th at BE-Ex's office in downtown Manhattan. This event is a unique opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about various sustainability career paths beyond the built environment to expand their networks as well as find opportunities available in the climate space.

Other WISE programming and goals on the horizon are:

- Engage more with our LinkedIn community, with a goal of breaking 1,500 members;
- Produce panel events that can bring together more organizations;
- Hold more networking opportunities through luncheons and happy hours to create more diverse opportunities for people to connect in other formats; and
- Host our annual holiday party in December.

We can't wait until we hit a decade of WISE and thank all of our WISE supporters and participants - we could not do it without you! ■

“Being able to look up at a panel and see somebody who's doing things you might aspire to be doing or maybe you didn't even realize were options [is important to embodying representation]”

Helen Chananie, Former BE-Ex Staff

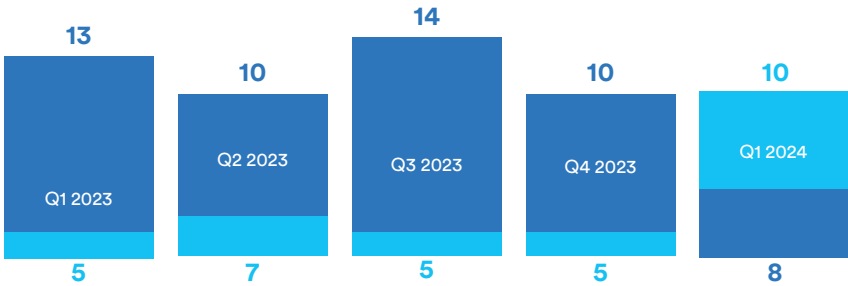
● programs

BE-Ex delivered a range of engaging events including building out and expanding our training courses. We continued our partnerships with organizations such as NYSERDA, NYC Housing Authority, the Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice, and NYC Accelerator.

events at BE-Ex

BE-Ex developed

BE-Ex hosted



diversity goals

1. No all male panels

Q1: 0 all male panels

2. 50% female speakers across BE-Ex panel events

Q1: 30% non-male speakers



average number of days on calendar, BE-Ex events



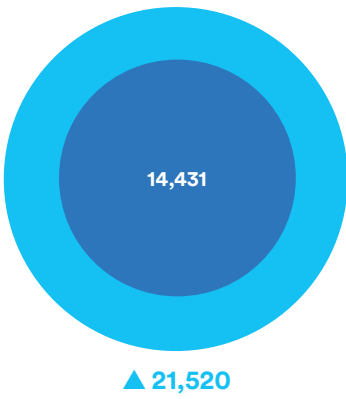
average attendance, BE-Ex events

● audience

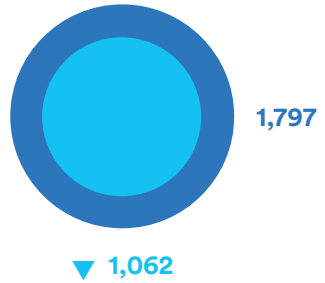
BE-Ex expanded social media content, driving up engagement on all platforms. Celebrate BE-Ex and other well-attended events drove users to our website.

■ Q4 2022 ■ Q1 2023

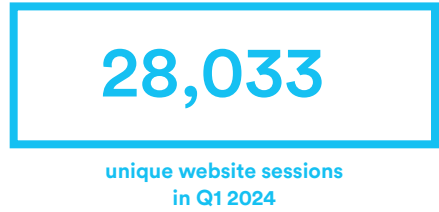
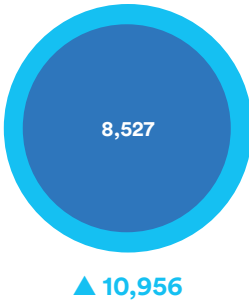
newsletter subscribers



resource downloads



social media followers



program audience geographic distribution



Climate Mobilization Act Series



The Climate Mobilization Act Series is one of BE-Ex's longest running series, producing over 20 events and 26 publications since 2018. The series aims to demystify the Climate Mobilization Act, provide strategies for compliance, and connect community members with resources.

As 2024 marks the start of the first compliance period, BE-Ex has expanded the Climate Mobilization Act Series, developing a training aimed at educating affordable housing stakeholders. The new course, offered as an in-person event and on our on-demand platform, is seeing early success, already training 133 industry professionals in its first quarter.

New Release: Radio BE-Ex Episode Featuring Pat Sapinsley

Radio BE-Ex is a podcast produced by Building Energy Exchange that features conversations with industry leaders around a variety of topics relating to buildings, energy efficiency, and sustainability. We kicked off Season 5 with a conversation with Pat Sapinsley, a BE-Ex board member and Advisor to the Urban Future Lab at NYU Tandon School of Engineering.

With her background in architecture, venture capital, and climate tech start ups, Pat shares thoughtful insights on the plethora of green building solutions and discusses why the next step is figuring out how to scale them up. This episode dives into market availability for climate tech, as well as the connections between government, investors, and business.

Listen to the episode:

<https://be-exchange.org/radio-be-ex/>

April 4, 2024

WISE: Sustainable Career Showcase

This event will highlight seven diverse voices from a range of industries, offering insights to early and transitioning professionals who want to learn more about different sustainability career paths. The panel event will be followed by a networking reception.



May 14, 2023

**Pratt Ice Box Challenge:
Empowering Tomorrow's
High Performance Designers**

Pratt architecture students recently led the 2023 Ice Box Challenge, showcasing the energy efficiency of Passive House design. Their Passive House structure retained 900 out of 1,144 pounds of ice after a week in the summer sun. This event celebrates an exhibit of their work and provides an opportunity to hear from experts in the field.

► <https://be-exchange.org/pratt-ice-box-challenge-empowering-tomorrows-high-performance-designers/>

May 29, 2023

**NYC - Stockholm Retrofit
Exchange**

Last summer, BE-Ex and NYSERDA organized a delegation of U.S. companies to travel to Stockholm, Sweden, a leader in sustainable urban development, to learn and share perspectives. This event hosts experts from NYC and Stockholm to provide updates on the initiatives driving progress in both cities and marks the release of the report, International Exchanges - Solutions for Low Carbon Building: Stockholm.



► <https://be-exchange.org/nyc-stockholm-retrofit-exchange/>

completed

training

Climate Mobilization Act: Affordable Housing Training



Live Training

This initiative aims to demystify NYC's Climate Mobilization Act and its impact on the affordable housing sector. Our newly launched training will provide actionable knowledge to affordable housing stakeholders on how to comply with local laws, connect with relevant financing resources, and develop decarbonization master plans.

Climate Mobilization Act: Affordable Housing Training

The Climate Mobilization Act (CMA) Affordable Housing Training demystifies the basic principles of the CMA and provides actionable guidance to affordable housing property owners, developers, managers, and consultants. Participants will gain a deep...

FREE course

Credits: 1 AIA LU | HSW

On-demand Training

The online version of the Climate Mobilization Act: Affordable Housing Training was launched on BE-Ex's e-learning platform, BE-Ex Ed. This three-part course contains the same content as the live trainings, but is available on-demand. The course is offered for 1 LU/HSW credit, and it is ideal for those who are unable to attend a live training session but are still interested in learning more about affordable housing compliance obligations for Local Law 97.

upcoming



resource

Empire Building Challenge Knowledge Platform

Developed in partnership with NYSERDA, RMI, and ULI, the “Retrofit Playbook for Large Buildings” is a knowledge-sharing platform supporting building owners, operators, and their design and engineering teams in creating cost-effective, long-term decarbonization strategies for large buildings. This platform will host a collection of resources offering guidance and insights from EBC project teams to inform the development of effective decarbonization roadmaps for their properties.



resource

Decarbonizing New York City Offices

Developed in partnership with the Institute for Market Transformation (IMT) and with support from NYSERDA, this initiative is aimed at driving sustained decarbonization of leased office spaces. This summer will mark the release of a suite of pragmatic and actionable resources to facilitate meaningful collaboration between building owners, tenants, brokers, lawyers, designers, and others involved in leasing and office utilization decisions.

programs

Climate Ready Buildings Training - HPD
January 23th

Climate Mobilization Act Series: Keeping
Pace with PACE - Financial Resources
January 25th

Climate Mobilization Act: Affordable
Housing Training
January 30th

Celebrate BE-Ex! A Decade of Excellence
January 31st

Take the Heat! Part 2: Building Core &
Perimeter
February 8th

Passive House Construction Primer
February 29th

Climate Mobilization Act: Affordable
Housing Training
March 6th

project status

Q1 2024

- Climate Mobilization Act Series:
Affordable Housing Education

- Decarbonizing New York City Offices:
Resources and Training

- Empire Building Challenge Knowledge
Platform

Ongoing

- Building Performance Partnership:
Hubs Support

- Cold Climate Heat Pump Tech Primer

- Future Housing Initiative:
An Equity & Carbon Database for
Multifamily Housing - Health Metrics

- Future Housing Initiative:
Underwriting Standards for
Low-Carbon Housing

- Climate Ready Buildings Training 2.0 -
Ongoing Training

- High Rise / Low Carbon: Multifamily Deep
Retrofit Profiles

- Stockholm Delegation Pamphlet

■ COMPLETED □ ANTICIPATED