

JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

DONOR IMPACT REPORT



Ecology in Classrooms & Outdoors

Photo by Wasim Muklashy ©2018

“It’s because of you that we are reaching more kids than ever before, and it’s the confidence you have in ECO that inspires our work to teach the next generation of environmental advocates, stewards, and leaders.”

Bethany Thomas
Co-Founder



Dear ECO Supporters,

In 2005, when Sarah and I started ECO, there was so much we didn't know: We didn't know how to found a nonprofit, reach new schools, or fund them! We DID know we'd created an awesome program loved by kids and teachers. We knew that bringing hands-on ecology to students week after week, year after year, would make a big difference in their lives, inspiring them to become the environmentally literate and responsible citizens we all need them to be.

We have come so far since those early days of ECO, with many of you here with us since the very beginning! I'm honored and touched by level of support you've all shown for our work -- for our dream!

As of this year, we have grown to support outdoor education from kindergarten through 12th grade! We've expanded out from the Portland metro area, down to Eugene, and on to the coast with the aim of supporting outdoor programs statewide in coming years. That's thanks to you, dear ECO supporters.


This growth has allowed us to welcome incredible new staff. It's also allowed me to confidently move from my role as Development Director over to the Board of Directors, where I will focus on creating greater access to ECO's unique programming and advocate for our growth across the state.

You, who have supported ECO (and me!) through both financial and moral support, are responsible for the terrific growth ECO is experiencing today. It's because of you that we are reaching more kids than ever before, and it's the confidence you have in ECO that inspires our work to teach the next generation of environmental advocates, stewards, and leaders.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart,


Bethany Thomas





Last school year, with your support,
we provided nearly **9000** contact
hours of hands-on ecology
programming during the school day,
inside and outside of **96** classrooms
across the Portland Metro area.

Thanks to you, we also:

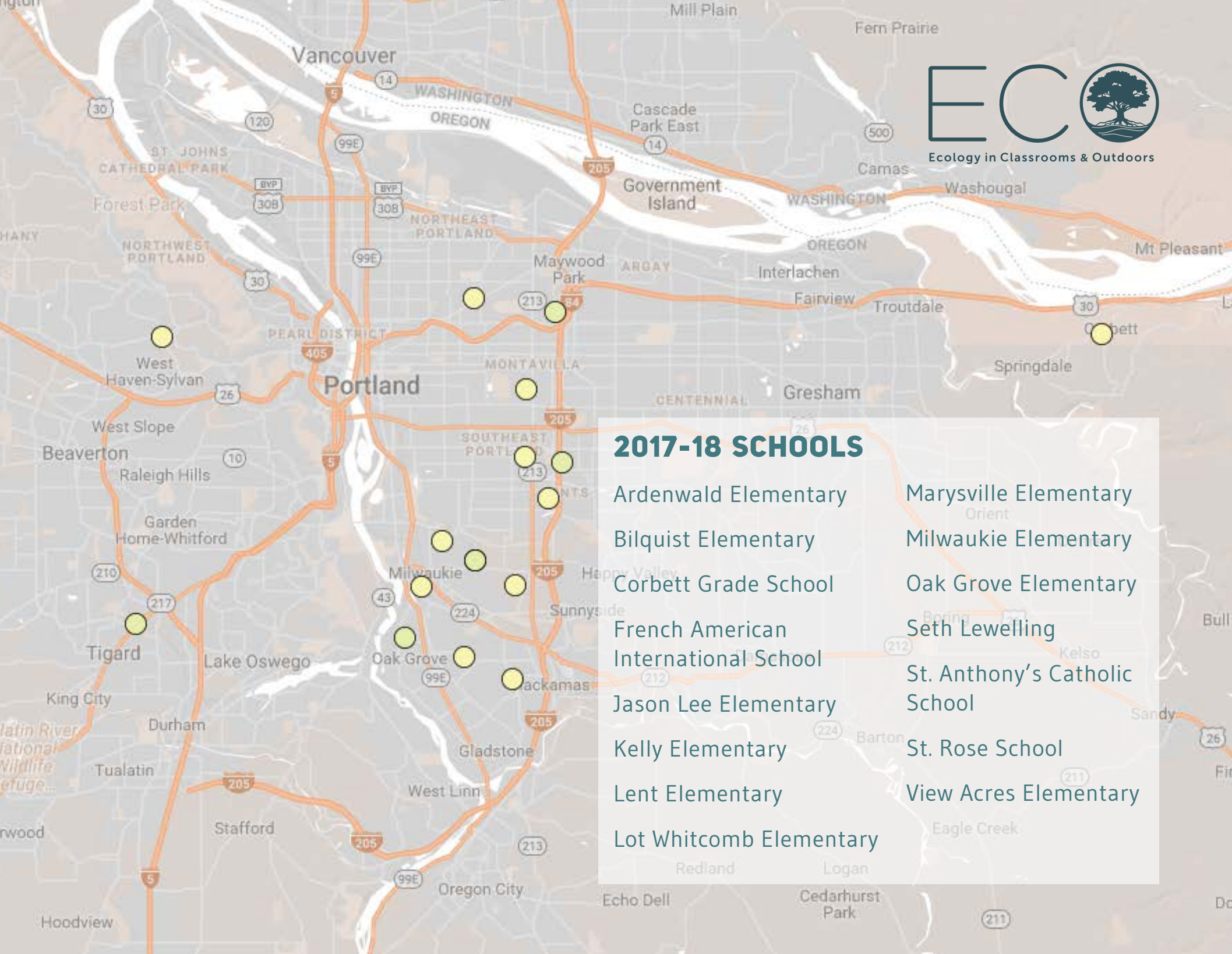
Served
2880
Students

Delivered
396
Lessons

Took
33
Field Trips



Ecology in Classrooms & Outdoors



2017-18 SCHOOLS

- Ardenwald Elementary
- Bilquist Elementary
- Corbett Grade School
- French American International School
- Jason Lee Elementary
- Kelly Elementary
- Lent Elementary
- Lot Whitcomb Elementary
- Marysville Elementary
- Milwaukie Elementary
- Oak Grove Elementary
- Seth Lewelling
- St. Anthony's Catholic School
- St. Rose School
- View Acres Elementary



PARTNERS

Corbett School District, Dharma Rain Zen Center, Dig In, Lent Springwater Habitat Restoration Project, North Clackamas School District, Oregon State University, Portland Metro Stem Partnership, Portland Public Schools, Portland Timbers and Thorns Stand Together Community Partner, Oregon State Parks, Portland Parks and Recreation, Social Venture Partners, The Nature Conservancy, Oak Lodge Water Services District, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, Oregon State Parks Foundation, Wisdom of the Elders

Photo by Wasim Muklashy ©2018



PLACE-BASED UNITS ARE UNDERWAY!

We have our first working curriculum kit - The Wetland Food Web - complete with a lively game, in-depth teacher guides, and integrated, multi-disciplinary lessons. This place-based unit, along with others currently in development, are a step towards our goal of creating greater access to hands-on educational materials for teachers and students across our state.



FUNDERS

CommuniCARE

Dharma Rain Zen Center (EPA)

East Multnomah Soil & Water
Conservation District

Gray Family Foundation
Geography Education

Gray Family Foundation Field Trips

Juan Young Trust

Oregon Forest Resource Institute

Oaks Lodge Water Services District

Oregon Community Foundation (OCF)

OCF: Green Grove Fund

OCF: Linda Deery Fund

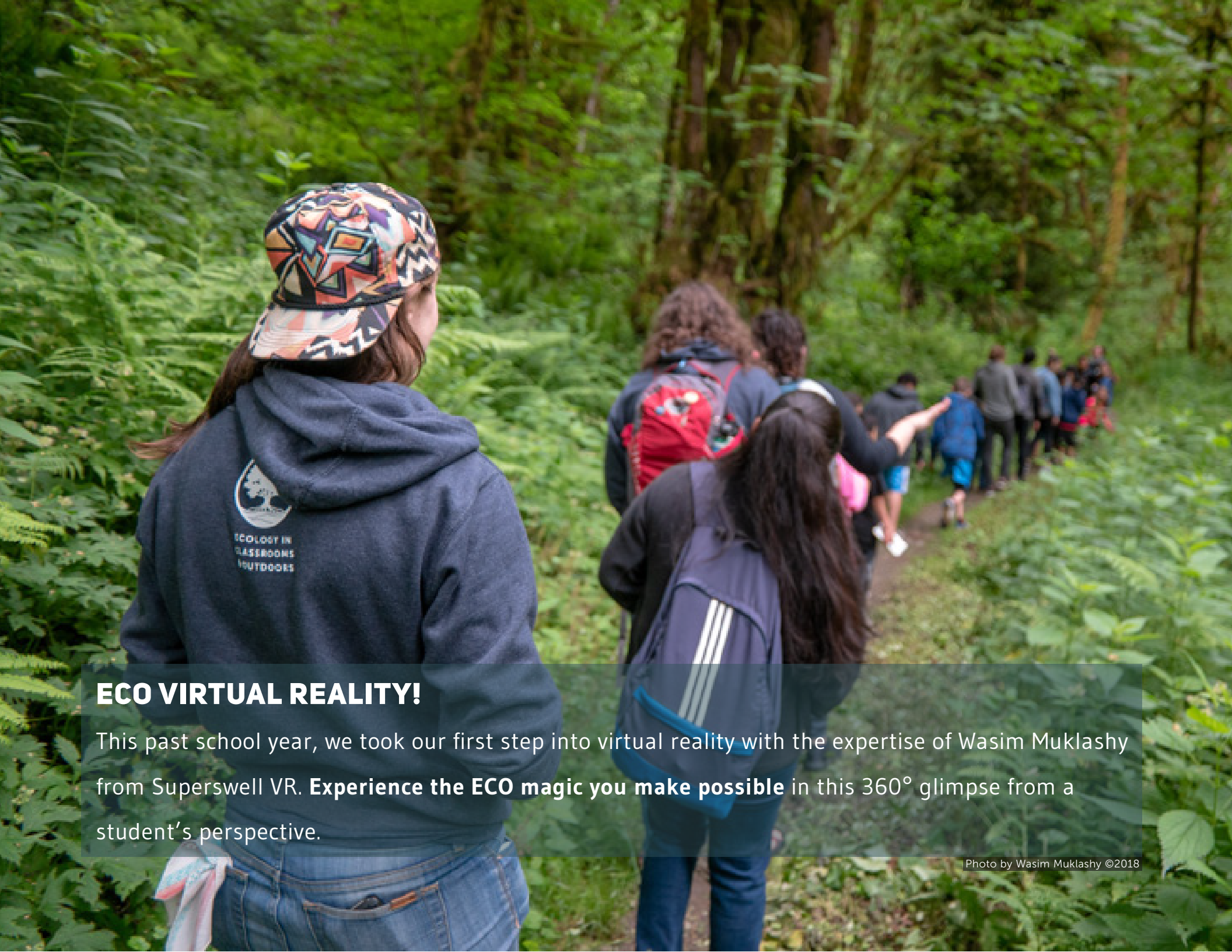
OCF: MacFarlane - Stoinoff

Oregon State Parks Foundation

Portland Timbers Community Fund

RiverHealth Stewardship Program

Wentworth Foundation



ECO VIRTUAL REALITY!

This past school year, we took our first step into virtual reality with the expertise of Wasim Muklashy from Superswell VR. **Experience the ECO magic you make possible** in this 360° glimpse from a student's perspective.

Photo by Wasim Muklashy ©2018



LIGHT A FIRE!

We are the Most with the Least! We may be small, but we're mighty! Your support has been instrumental in ECO's ability to serve our communities and make a difference. In the fall of 2017, our work was recognized by Portland Monthly with a Light a Fire award.

GIVE!GUIDE



Last year, Willamette Week also recognized the impact we have on our community by including us in their annual Give!Guide. Thank you WW! It's an incredible gift to be a part of this initiative. We've been invited back this fall - for our fifth year - because so many of you participated and contributed to our success in 2017. Thank you! **Support ECO this year >>**

FILM SCREENING SPONSORS

We screened Look & See with the support of Tiedemann Advisors, Heritage Bank, and the Corporate Sustainability Collaborative. Pacific Northwest College of Art generously provided the space, equipment, and technical support.

EARTH DAY PARTNERS

A big thanks to our 2017 Earth Day Partners: Townshend's Tea Company, Moberi, Timber's Team Store, The Float Shoppe, Glassybaby, and Bloom Garden Supply.

GARDEN PARTY SPONSORS

Thank you, Townshend's Distillery, Heritage Bank, and Ruby Jewel for supporting our first ever Garden Party.



CELEBRATING NATIONAL GET OUTDOORS DAY

As one of Portland Timbers and Portland Thorns (FC) Stand Together Community Partners, we took to Powell Butte for a morning of stewardship during Stand Together Week for National Get Outdoors Day. Alongside Portland Parks and Recreation, The Nature Conservancy, Thorn's players AD Franch and Britt Eckerstrom, Timber's Jack Jewsbury, and a large group of volunteers, we moved compost, pulled invasives, and picked up litter. We love what happens when we come together!



WE LOVE OUR IN-KIND DONORS!

Ben Canales, Uncage the Soul, Besaws, Bloom Garden Supply, BOGS, Brew Dr. Kombucha, Corporate Sustainability Collaborative, Fit Body Bootcamp, Glassybaby, Good Coffee, Hansen Group, Keller Williams Realty, Portland Premiere, Heritage Bank, Hot Diggity Dog Dog Walking, House Spirits, Distillery, Intel, Jacobsen Salt Co., KEEN, M&M Painting, LLC, Moberi, New Seasons Market, Nike, Patagonia, Portland General Electric, Portland Timbers and Thorns FC, Ranger Chocolate, Rolling River Spirits, Ruby Jewel Ice Cream, Shwood Eyewear, Snow Peak, Stitch & Loom, Stonebarn Brandyworks, SubUrban Riot, The Float Shoppe, Tiedemann Advisors, Townshend's Distillery, Townshend's Tea Company, Vernier Software and Technology, Wild Roots



2017-18 FIELD SITES

Bilquist Bioswales

Champoeg State Park

Corbett Natural Area &

Outdoor Classroom

Columbia Children's

Arboretum

Guy Talbot State Park

Mclver State Park

Milwaukie Elks Lodge Wetland

Powell Butte Natural Area

Siskiyou Square

Springwater Trail/Foster

Floodplain

Tryon Creek State Park

Whitcomb Rain Garden

60% Grants and Foundations

10.4% Fee for Program

22.7% Donors and Contributors

6.9% Other Fundraising Efforts



EXPENSES Programs **55.6%** Fundraising **22.2%** General **22.3%**



45.4% of students belong to a minority group



62.6% are eligible for free or reduced lunch



“ECO OPENS OUR EYES TO THE FACT THAT A LOT OF KIDS HAVE NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OR EXPOSURE TO ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION. THIS PROGRAM IS MOTIVATIONAL FOR BOTH STUDENTS AND TEACHERS. IT UNITES COMMUNITIES AND EXPANDS OUR LIMITED VISION OF NATURE AROUND US.”

Kelly Elementary teacher



PORTLAND AND BEYOND

Here's a brief peek at what we've been doing with your support:

This last spring, our trailblazing co-founder and Director of Operations, Sarah Bercume, began trekking between Portland and the central coast to build relationships with the Siuslaw Watershed Council and the Siuslaw, Mapleton, and Reedsport School Districts in our first, solid step towards statewide expansion.

In August of this year, we acquired three new programs (including one out on the coast!), which altogether will find us working with kindergarten through 12th grade students AND delivering after school and summer programs. You'll be hearing more on this enormous change over the next couple months. Stay Tuned!

Additionally, as an Outdoor School Advisory Committee member, we are weighing in on how to bring outdoor education to all Oregon students.

Together, we do so much. We reach more students, more schools, more communities. We think bigger, and aim higher.

ON BEHALF OF EVERY ECO STUDENT, THANK YOU!

\$10 - \$99

Abigail Orosz, Alexander Reid, Alison Reddy Abel & David Abel, Amrita Vatsal, Amy Newton & Kurt Johnson, Amy Solana & Dave Trost, Andrea & Damon Schrosk, Andrew & Rizeld Hagerty, Andrew Ring, Ann Dodds, Anna Dillen, Anna Hoesly, Anna Huttel, Anna Muchnik, Ashley Frazier, Audrey Petterson, Barbara Van Raalte, Barnes Ellis, Betsy Rice, Bettina Von Hagen, Blake Wiltse, Bonnie & Brian Kaul, Brandon Taft, Brenda Smith, Brian Wagner, Brina Bolanz, Brittany & Tim Smith, Caitlin & Brett Galimidi, Candace Bonner, Candice Enderlé, Carol Hult, Cassidy Ellis, Cathy Larkin, Chad Parker, Chantal Anderson, Christina & Ron Kirby, Christopher Houghton, Colleen & John Norton, Connor Williams, Dan & Jennifer Prince, David & Kay Pollack, Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen & Jesse Lowe, Dayne & Sierra Turpin, Deaven Edmonson, Debi Lorence, Debi Marshall, Dee & Tom Ross, Dolores Judkins, Donia Prince, Douglas Deaton, Dresden & John Skees-Gregory, Elianne Lieberman, Elizabeth Held, Emily Smith Harrington, Erin Auel, *Erin Hislope*, Esther Nelson, Evan Penfield & Heather Penfield, Francine & Dan Storzbach, Frank Sterrett, Frederick Wearn, Gail Shaloum, Gerie & Bahje Hayek, Gina Bartocci, Greg Williams, Heather Bacon-Shone, Heidi Salerno, Holly Olson & Sean Dougan, Ian Durias, Ian Kimmich & Kate Malone Kimmich, Ignacio Gonzalez-Reyes, India Torrez, Isadora Roth, Jackson & Melanie Clayton, Jake & Laura Gano, Jake Sullivan, Jamie Dawson, Jamie Helton, Jan & Jack McGowan, Jan Wilson, Jann Lane, Jay & Kim Kosa, Jeff Zimmerlin, Jenna & Tyler Mendenhall, Jennifer Bildersee, Jesse Gadola, Joan McAllister & Mike S., John & Katy Taft, John & Sarah Paul, Jon Biemer, Josh & Jessica Alsberg, Judy Stafford, Julie Baweja, Justin Sooper, Karen & Larry Nollenberger, Kate Donnelly, Katelynn Karch, Katherine Scherling, Katherine Sklar, Kathleen Taylor, Katie & Brad Day, Katie Morrice, Kelsie Orikasa, Kenzie Parrish & Ryan Robertson, Kevin Le, Kym Gordon-Cumbo & Fred Gordan, Laura Mark, Laura Weiss & Stephen Zylstra, Lauren Shey, Laurie Paul, Leah Harrison, Lesley Bennett, Leslie Picco, Lindsay Papa, Lisa Skaff, Matt Borish, Max Stearns, Megan & Scott Bigelow, Megan & Steve Nofziger, Megan Wentworth & Don Light, Meghan Humphreys, Michael Madias, Michael O'Brien & Kris Anderson, Mindy Durias, Myranda Rusie & Jimmie Kruschinska, Nicholas Gunter, Nicole Berg, Noah Emmet, Ola Kirk, Olivia & Erick Paulson, Parag Shah & Carmel Breathnach, Pat Wollner, Patricia McManus & Richard Miselis, Patrick Erp, Patrick Siver, Paul & Anne Niedergang, Paul Heimowitz, Pru Spofford, Ruthellen & Rich Fein, Salwa & Adnan Muklashy, Samara Haver, Sara Elezan, Sara Morton & Alex Millkey, Sarah Bercume, Sarah Knudsen, Scott Bendoroff, Sean Becker, Sharon Dawson, Sharon Ellis, Shauna Stevenson, Sheryl Horwitz & Larry Knudsen, Stacy Leavans, Stephanie & Kyler Davis, Susan Curry, Susan Smallsreed, Suzanne Savell, Tabitha & Jared Ames, Tara Duffy & Paz Méndez, Tedd Simmons, Timothy Hahn, Toby Farzan, Tom Popowich, Tom Wassum & Christy Hall, Tracy Caretto, Travis Tresnit & Julie Lipson, Trisha & Thom Thoms, Valarie Smith, Vicky & Peter Charlston, Victoria & Parker Campbell, Victoria Robinson, Ward Johnson, Wendy & Jonathan Cogan, Wendy Lichtenbaum, William & Elizabeth Hathaway, Yael Warshai, Yehudah Winter & Joan Levine

\$100- \$249

Andy & Heather Perkin, Ann & David Kafoury, Ann French, Anonymous, Ash Miller, Beth Nesser, Brittany Alosi, Carol de Kerchove d'Ousselghem, Carolyn & Jim Furlong, Catherine Zwicker, Chris Bekemeier & David Oyen, Darcie LaMotte-Waage & Casey Waage, Dianne & Neil Mikeska, Don Haaga, Eric Jordan, Erika Kane, Evan Smith, Fern Russak & Sean Schafer, Gregg Shetterly, Gretchen Schnepfer & Darby Granberry, Gun Denhart, Gwendoline Van Doosselaere & Graham Brown, James Hearn, James Paul, Janna Green & Paul Rastler, Jeffrey & Robin Jensen, Joel Turney & Elizabeth Silberg, Julie Bevan & David Manfield, Julie Furlong, Kaaren Beaver, Krissy & Nick Ehlers, Kristen Connor, Kristie & Ted Morgan, Kyle Mylius, Lane & Francine Shetterly, Lawrence Weisberg, Lawson Fite & Kate Sharaf, Linda Simmons, Lindsey Sage, Lynn & Tony Vandermeer, Mardy & Hank Stevens, Matt Piccone, Michelle & Chris Dawkins, Michiel Frishert, Morgan Rider, Morton Henig, **Nancy Lapotin**, Nathan Koach, Nora Semonsen, Patty & Angelo Gomez, Ray Bercume, Rob & Krista Nollenberger, Rose & Cal Brower, Ruth Roth, Sam Martin, Sara Butcher, Stephanie & Neil Dytham, Susan Douglass, Susan Masta & Jay Withgott, Taft & Mina Stricklin, Terri Rottman, **Tim Grisham**, Usman & Anna Ahmad, Wasim Muklashy, Wendy & Raymond Mitchell, Yuji Sumimoto

**“ECO HELPS US
BETTER UNDERSTAND
THE MEANING OF LIFE
AND WONDER.”**

Bilquist Elementary 5th-grader

\$250- \$499

Abby & Mike Houston, Alain Van Doosselaere, Cathy & Mark Myers, Claudia & Mark Sanzone, David & Gloria Dunlap, David Irving, Elizabeth & Dave Anderson, Estelle Robichaux, Fae Young & Kyle Scherling, Jamie & James Newell, Jeff Curtis, **Jess Martin & Devon Mitchell**, Joan Hoffman, Justin Amago, Kate & Rory Schmick, Kristina Weis, Lynn & Eric Tobar, Nicole Mathes, Ryan Carpenter, Shannon & Matt Daley, Yori Kvitchko & Cheryl Curry

\$500- \$999

Brian Schmedinghoff, Dayna & Larry Corwin, Dick & Jeanne Roy, Jack Boudreau & Betsy Lattig Boudreau, John & Traci Wheeler, Josh & Renee Bean, **Lauren & Scott Mullen**, Mary McKinney Ezell and Flay Ezell Fund of the Wentworth Foundation, Raymond H. and Florence L. Sponberg Foundation, Rod Michaels & Joseph Dove, **Tom & Linda Ralley**, Wendy & Carter Wray

\$1,000+

Bland Family Foundation, Brian & Adell Shetterly, Don and Anne Stager Family Foundation, Elliqua Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, Fred Cohen & Randy Zasloff, Green Grove Fund, Jenny & Ken Martin, Kathy Thomas, Kevin & Jessica Sailor, Linda Deery Nelson Fund, **Matt & Bethany Thomas**, Ryan Carpenter, Steve & Trese Lytle

Monthly contributors

“ECO LESSONS WERE WELL PLANNED, ENGAGING, AND PROVIDED DIFFERENT TYPES OF LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS. THEY ALSO CREATED A POSITIVE SHARED EXPERIENCE THAT DEEPENED OUR COMMUNITY BOND.”

Whitcomb Elementary teacher

RAISING A GENERATION OF STEWARDS

With a multi-tiered, instructional approach, we build on the knowledge developed in the classroom and apply this foundation to service-learning projects that enrich educational experiences and strengthen communities. Students develop a deeper sense of place, learn civic responsibility, and further understand their capacity to become positive change-makers and leaders.



OUR STAFF

Gwendoline Van Doosselaere, Executive Director

Bethany Thomas, Co-Founder and Development Director

Sarah Bercume, Co-Founder and Director of Operations

Fae Scherling, Communications Specialist

Sierra Ellis, Development Associate

Fred Cohen, Encore Fellow

Betsy Lattig Boudreau, Program Manager

Julia Baweja, Lead Educator

Yael Warshai, Educator

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jess Martin, President

Dan Prince, Secretary

Brittany Smith

Katie Morrice

Ryan Carpenter

Stephanie Dytham

Wasim Muklashy

Yori Kvitchko

TOGETHER, WE'RE RAISING THE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS AND LEADERS OF TOMORROW!



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