

Stories of Gratitude

How Your Giving Changes Lives

SUMMER 2020



WILDERNESS
AWARENESS
SCHOOL

Coming Alive

by Rachel, mother of WAS student Gwenevyre

How do you express the beautiful impact this school has on a child and our families? It's hard to express in words. Our journey all began a while back when I went through 2 years of Community School. This program forever changed my life and left a lasting impression on me.

When my daughter was born I couldn't wait for her to be a part of this magical school. However, juggling two kids and one income has been difficult for us and I was worried I wouldn't be able to get my precious girl into this amazing school. I applied for a scholarship and was so overjoyed to receive financial help and get her into Roots and Wings!

So, now her story begins. Last fall my daughter went into Roots and Wings afraid of the woods and "all the scary animals out there". What she came away with was astonishing. Confidence, for one. But more than that a respect and love for nature that I cannot express with words. Every week you could see the growth in her swelling, her confidence building, and her love of nature intensifying. I so cherish all the little ways this program has given her clarity in her life.

She has come away talking about families and their "village", helping her friends find more appropriate length sticks to play with, teaching her friends to build fairy houses, munching on dandelion leaves, noticing the birds and all their different colors and sounds, curiosity galore, and **most importantly a joyful love and connection to nature, which is more important than ever during these times.** My favorite thing is seeing how her love and curiosity for the wild woods has translated to her little brother and her friends.

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Thanks to you, Gwenevyre was able to experience Roots and Wings - our weekly program for 4-6 year olds.

On top of all this, being a part of this program has connected me to a lifelong friend. It has reached so far as to help me grow and reconnect with myself, nature and my community. That is a blessing that is indescribable. I could never possibly express with words all the beautiful and wonderful ways this program has brought so much into our lives but if I had to sum it up, I'd say this program has helped us all to come ALIVE.

A big and glorious THANK YOU to all the amazing people who have donated and given my daughter the opportunity to blossom into this beautiful human being. Our lives would not be the same without your support.



Your generosity gave Gwenevyre the opportunity to attend summer camp!

Notes From the Eagle's Nest

by Warren Moon, Executive Director

I am amazed and fascinated by the earthworms in my garden. Just ask our staff or my family, as I am regularly sharing my sense of wonder around these remarkable creatures. Earthworms are a vital part of a healthy garden ecosystem, as they create nourishing soil for plants to grow healthy and strong. This brings me to you, our incredible and compassionate donors.



Warren Moon, Executive Director

I imagine you never thought that being compared to a worm would be flattering - please bear with me for a moment. Like the earthworm, **all the good that you do is unseen and yet absolutely essential for the healthy ecosystem of Wilderness Awareness School.**

However, instead of growing nourishing kale, you are helping to grow vibrant and caring humans. Humans who have deep connections with nature and will use that knowledge to help build a more resilient and sustainable world. Earthworms are awesome, and so are you!

Thank you for being our wonderful and caring donors, and for all that you do to create a healthy future for our children and the earth. As we look toward the unpredictable and unknown future, I know that the wisdom of nature will continue to guide us as we navigate these challenging times. It could not be done without all your help!

With gratitude,

Warren Moon

WILDERNESS AWARENESS SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT



2018/2019 Highlights

\$11,800

for preliminary expenses for our Coho Development Project.

\$12,300

towards diversity, equity, and inclusion training, development, and initiatives.

\$6,200

towards initiatives to help grow the nature connection movement.

798

adults participated in a variety of programs, from our 9-month Anake Outdoor School, to weekend and weeklong programs, to Kamana Naturalist Training.

180

volunteers gave

10,540

hours of invaluable time and energy, playing essential roles in our programs. Thank you!

2,226

youth enjoyed fun adventures in nature throughout the year, including

1,856

in summer camps.

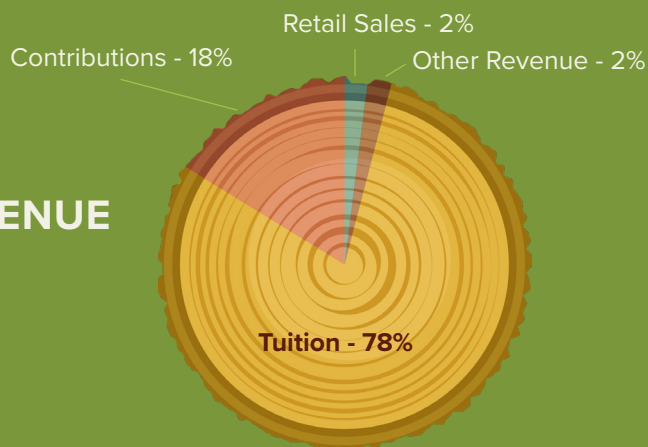
Your support provided

\$76,004

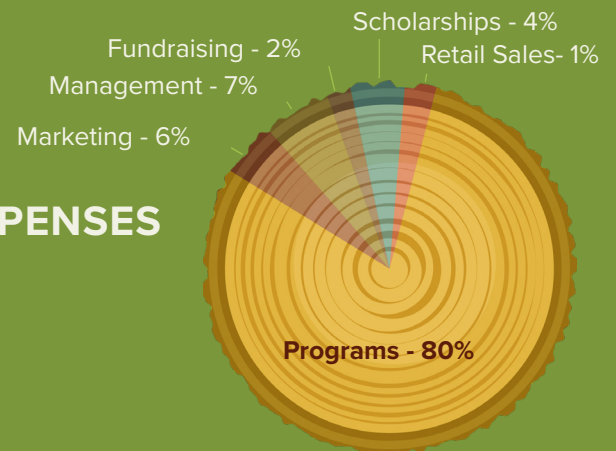
in scholarship, to allow **107** students the ability to attend our programs.

Financial Report: Fiscal Year September 2018 to August 2019

REVENUE



EXPENSES



| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Tuition | \$1,883,983 |
| Contributions | \$433,066 |
| Retail Sales | \$43,705 |
| Other Revenue | \$42,098 |

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Programs | \$1,743,957 |
| Management & General | \$154,395 |
| Marketing | \$137,110 |
| Scholarships | \$76,004 |
| Fundraising | \$33,533 |
| Retail Sales | \$23,619 |

TOTAL \$2,402,852

TOTAL \$2,168,618



Finding Himself

by Evoe, mother of WAS student Xander

It's hard for me to find words for the impact that Wilderness Awareness School has had on our son Xander. We arrived four years ago. Long before the uncertainties that we're facing today were a factor. Our son was being bullied and retreating from the world. I was afraid that he would fall through the cracks, but Wilderness Awareness School has literally saved him. This wouldn't have been possible without a partial scholarship.

Our son is now calm, confident, competent, and cheerful. He is better at holding his own boundaries and more likely to take chances. I can see that this path in life has been altered by his experience at Wilderness Awareness School, and it doesn't matter where he goes in life, because he will know how to be himself. I can't think of a better gift.

Thanks to you, Xander's connection to nature and self-reliance is stronger than ever before.

Your giving matters more than you know. Without your generosity, Gwenevrye and Xander wouldn't have been able to experience the incredible transformation that nature connection offers!

We thank you!

Yes! I want to help the nature connection movement!



- \$35
- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$_____ - the possibilities are endless!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Donate securely online at wildernessawareness.org/support