NEWS & NOTES

www.grayff.org

The Gray Family Foundation seeks to fulfill John and Betty Gray’s faith in the human spirit. The Gray family acknowledges their responsibility to give back to the systems that nurture all of us: our culture, our natural environment and our communities.

2013 EE Conference in Partnership with the Environmental Education Association of Oregon

This year, the Gray Family Foundation partnered with the Environmental Education Association of Oregon (EEAO) to provide a statewide environmental education conference for Oregon. Over 80 attendees came from every region of the state to share and learn from one another at the Oregon State University's West Campus Center in Corvallis, OR.

Sessions provided a variety of environmental education lenses on learning, professional development training in meeting facilitation and group collaboration, civic engagement of student populations, and a special screening of the movie Play Again. Keynote speakers featured Ben Cannon, education advisor to Governor Kitzhaber, John Faulk, OSU professor and expert on science/lifelong learning, and film producer Meg Merrill, among others.

Although we lacked a fire pit for late night socializing, colleagues enjoyed evening gatherings that included live music in the OSU dorms, reminiscent of college life, with a better spread of food at mealtimes. Next year, the EEAO will take over lead coordination and implementation of the statewide EE conference, and we look forward to being there as supporters! Thanks to the conference planning team and the EEAO board. We are excited about the continued partnership with the EEAO, Oregon's statewide national affiliate for providers of environmental education!
Notable News

RFP for Network of Oregon Watershed Councils Released
In response to recent internal and external changes, the Network board has begun a process to review and re-focus our strategic plan, and develop a business plan and revenue model that support successful implementation of the plan.

The RFP is available on the Network's Website at: http://oregonwatersheds.org/jobs/rfp-nowc-strategic-plan-review-and-business-plan-development

Out & About

Eric attended the first half of the Geography Institute training for K–12 teachers organized by the Oregon Geographic Alliance, which has since changed it's name to the Center for Geographic Education (C–GEO). This intensive five-day program trains approximately 25 teachers annually in geographic literacy.

Clearing Magazine Seeks Board Members
CLEARING is a 501c3 non–profit online and print publication for teachers throughout the Pacific Northwest that provides ideas, activities, strategies and inspiration for teaching environmental literacy and sustainability.

It is the only publication of its kind in the western US, and we currently reach thousands of classroom and non–formal educators throughout the region and around the world. They are currently seeking 2–3 individuals who want to help guide the growth and development of CLEARING by joining our Board of Directors.

The individuals we seek will have a passion for education, and love of nature, and a belief that environmental literacy should be an essential goal of our educational system. This is a chance for you to serve alongside members of the business community and build contacts with educators, writers, publishers, advertisers, students and others who understand the importance of place–based environmental education.
For more information, contact editor@clearingmagazine.org or call Larry Beutler at (503) 703-1943.

Grant Cycle Updates

Current Grant Funding Category: Overnight, Residential Outdoor School Programs for fifth or sixth grade students

The Gray Family Foundation Grants Committee is hard at work reviewing the 44 proposals we received for our Fall 2013 Cycle. Requests for funding totaled $677,108. The Committee will meet in early September to prioritize a list of recommendations which will then go before the Board for final approval. Applicants will be notified of their status in October.

Next Cycle?
The RFP for our Teacher Professional Development funding category as well as for our Community Field Trips for 5th – 8th grade students category will go up on our website in early November. The deadline for proposals is February 3rd, 2014.

GFF makes grants to schools, government agencies, and nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations. Over $350,000 will be available for grants for outdoor school programs for the 2013 calendar year. Please refer to our website for examples of recent successful projects and amounts granted.

Stay Connected
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