

News & Notes | Stories, updates and opportunities from the Gray Family Foundation



News & Notes

Big Investments by a Small Foundation Take Outdoor School Statewide

by Nancy Bales

On Tuesday, November 8th, 2016, while voters across the country were taking part in an historic Presidential election, Oregon voters were making history of another kind: by a wide margin, they passed a citizen-initiated ballot measure that, for the first time in the United States, provides state-level funding for outdoor education.



Oregon Measure 99, "Outdoor School for All," dedicates \$22 million from the Oregon lottery to send every 5th or 6th grader in the state to a full week of outdoor school. Working alongside countless committed partners, the Gray Family Foundation contributed our statewide network of environmental educators, garnered from our years of support for this work in Oregon, and financial resources to seed the effort and grow the network of support.

[Read the full blog article here](#)

[Read our official press release here](#)

Success story: Curry Watersheds Partners

A beautiful creek runs right next to Riley Creek Elementary in Gold Beach, but none of the students even knew it was there.

[Read more](#)



FREE Dam City Classic Men's Basketball Game Tickets!

Gray FF is offering complimentary tickets to the Sunday, December 18th Dam City Classic Men's Basketball game between Oregon State University and the University of Portland, courtesy of OSU.

The fun event will include a raffle for great prizes, such as OSU athletic apparel and tickets to future games. Everyone will have the chance to meet Benny Beaver and Santa, and there will be interactive games for the kids.

When: December 18, 3:00 pm

Where: Moda Center

Who: Youth grades 8 and under and their immediate family members. You can use these tickets for students you work with or your family.

Limited quantities; tickets are first come, first served.

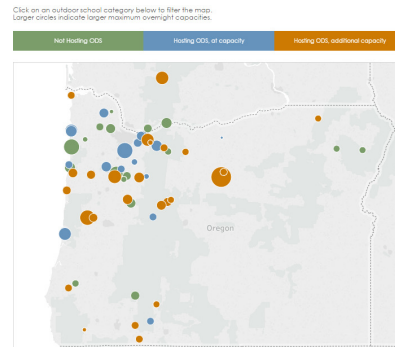
[Request tickets](#)

[Text Link](#)

Oregon Residential Camps Map

In 2015, a survey was conducted by the Oregon Outdoor Education Coalition with support from Friends of Outdoor School to assist Oregon State University Extension Services in planning for a statewide outdoor school grant program. Using that information, two maps were published to help illustrate the camp sector in Oregon.

[See the maps](#)



Upcoming Grant Opportunities

[Link](#)

Environmental Education Program

Application opens: December 1, 2016

Deadline: January 20, 2017

Notifications sent: May 2017

Geography Education Program

Application opens: December 1, 2016

Deadline: January 20, 2017

Notifications sent: May 2017

[View the grants calendar and apply](#)



The Gray Family Foundation is founded on the belief that fostering an understanding and appreciation of our natural world is a crucial part of a child's education. By supporting programs such as Outdoor School, geography education and professional development for teachers, we seek to give Oregon students a greater understanding of the world outside their classroom. Learn more at www.grayff.org

STAY CONNECTED:



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