



October 2014

## NEWS & NOTES

[www.grayff.org](http://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.*

### Staff Transitions

Amy Morrison will be stepping in to support the Gray Family Foundation staff while Rana DeBey is on family leave until March. As a previous GFF office volunteer, Amy has become familiar with the foundation's grant cycle process. With a background in local environmental nonprofit program management, she is excited to support the community of organizations positively impacted by the work of the Gray Family Foundation. If you have any general inquiries, or questions regarding grant applications and evaluations please feel free to contact [Amy](#).

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### Notable News

#### **Outdoor School Funding Efforts Gain Momentum**

A movement is currently underway to restore outdoor education throughout Oregon.

The Oregon Outdoor Education Coalition (OOEC) is working to secure state funding for a full week of Outdoor School for every Oregon sixth grade student. This effort is a partnership between Friends of Outdoor School, the Gray Family Foundation, Metropolitan Group (and many others yet to be announced - hopefully you!)

OOEC and its partners are committed to creating a strong, cohesive voice for Oregon outdoor education.

You can help. Go to [www.outdoorschoolforall.org](http://www.outdoorschoolforall.org) to join the coalition and share your stories of how outdoor school has made a positive impact on you, your children, and your community.

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### **Premiere of the Caldera Civil Rights Internship Video - *Finding Their Forest***

Students from Caldera explore the Metolius River forests and their relationship to nature while learning about natural resource internships in the Deschutes National Forest.

Watch their journey from city streets to the riverside forests captured in this five minute [video](#).

Caldera is a nonprofit arts organization which provides innovative art and environmental programs as a catalyst for the transformation of underserved youth. Together with Discover Your Forest and the US Forest Service the internship program finds new ways to reach the next generation of stewards through educational outreach and career pathway programs.

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### **Geography Education Ideas in Action**

Teachers and students are highlighted in the recent *Metro-Parent Magazine* for implementing a variety of geography related projects and programs. From Geography Bees to Passport Clubs, read more about new ideas in geography education in the [full article](#).

The Gray Family Foundation Geography Education program promotes and supports the teaching of geography in K-12 schools throughout Oregon. Current program efforts are focused on our partnership with the Center for Geography Education in Oregon (held in partnership between Portland State University and Western Oregon University). Find out more about this program on our [website](#).

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### **Grant Cycle Updates**

The RFP for our Teacher Professional Development funding category, as well as for our Community Field Trips for 5th - 8th grade student category will open November 15th, 2014. Applications will be posted on our [website](#) and the deadline for proposals is January 15th, 2015.

GFF makes grants to schools, government agencies, and nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations. Please refer to our [website](#) for examples of recent successful projects and amounts.

## Stay Connected

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