

Announcing Our 2021 Environmental Education Grant Recipients

Gray Family Foundation would like to share our [2021 grantees in our Environmental Education program](#).



We are grateful to each of the organizations across Oregon working to connect youth to communities, culture, and the natural environment. We appreciate the opportunity to share in this work and to continue to learn from our grantees.

To help us ensure our grantmaking priorities and decisions are aligned with community strengths and opportunities, we recruit and engage board members and grant reviewers who are representative of the breadth and diversity of perspectives, cultures, and communities from across Oregon, including leaders in nonprofits and education and direct practitioners in environmental education.

If you have questions about our grant priorities or any of the projects listed, please feel free to reach out to Nell Tessman, Program Officer, at ntessman@grayff.org.

2021 GeoFest

Gray Family Foundation was proud to share our new Geography Education Teacher Grant opportunity at this year's 2021 GeoFest, the Center for Geography Education's (C-Geo) Annual Teachers Conference on March 6, 2021. The conference also highlighted the new Ethnic Studies Standards, a Holocaust & Genocide Curriculum, the Story of Place project, future C-Geo Educator Institute opportunities, and much more. Recorded and asynchronous sessions can still be viewed through the end of March by visiting [the conference website](#).

Grantee Stories: Friends of Tryon Creek

With its lush plant life, multi-layered tree canopy

and fish-bearing streams, Tryon Creek State Natural Area offers a glimpse of what Portland looked like pre-colonization. But when Gabe Sheoships began working there in 2016, he was surprised to see that the park's educational materials only focused on the past 150 years. [Read More.](#)



2021 Grant Opportunity-Geography Education Educator Innovation Grants

In 2020, students, educators, and families across Oregon faced and overcame a myriad of challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and wildfires. Recognizing and honoring the significant ways educators have been innovating to help students understand and navigate this complicated time, in 2021 Gray Family Foundation is offering \$5,000 grants per educator to support educators in the development of instructional resources that use the power of geography to help students explore and understand the challenges facing our local communities. [Learn more](#) about this opportunity.

[Visit our website](#)

National Coverage of Outdoor Learning

CBS Sunday Morning aired a segment this past week featuring the benefits of learning outdoors during the pandemic – as well as beyond COVID-19. It featured Portland's Forest School as well as public school outdoor learning initiatives in Portland, Maine. You can watch the segment [here](#) and access other resources and stories at [Green Schoolyards America](#).