

2021 Reflection: A Year of Gratitude

As 2021 comes to an end, all of us at Gray Family Foundation are overcome with gratitude for the tireless work you-our grantees and partners-do to more deeply engage all people in Oregon as active stewards of our communities and natural environment. This year continued to be one of significant challenges. We are inspired by all of you. You have remained steadfast and flexible and have met the needs of our communities and youth. May 2022 bring joy and time in nature for us all!



“rarely, if ever, are any of us healed in isolation. Healing is an act of communion.” -bell hooks

Gray Family Foundation is thankful to be able to do this work in communion with you and we look forward to supporting your efforts in 2022.

Meet Our New Board Member



Les Perkins joined Gray Family Foundation in November 2021. Les lives in the Hood River Valley where he is the General Manager of the Farmers Irrigation District. A native Oregonian, Les has specialized in water resources, energy, and timber related issues for more than 20 years. We are thrilled that Les is joining the Gray Family Foundation board and will be sharing his expertise with us.

We also want to give a heartfelt hurrah to Chuck Sams, who departed the Gray Family Foundation board last month after being confirmed as the first ever Indigenous Director of the National Park Service. We are overjoyed for Chuck, our National Park Service and the future of all of our work!

2022 Grant Program Updates

We have some exciting grant program updates for 2022 to share with you all. During our 2021 Board Retreat, we identified several priorities for our grant programs as we move into 2022 including:

- Increased multi-year, flexible, and general operating support grant opportunities for mission-aligned organizations and programs
- Co-creation (in collaboration with grantees) of networking, capacity building, and field building opportunities for organizations across Oregon
- Expansion of community participation in strategy development, prioritization, and decision-making across all our grant programs

You will see some of these shifts represented in our 2022 grant opportunities. We also always welcome you to [reach out to staff](#) with questions, ideas, or things we've missed or anything you would like us to consider as we learn and grow moving forward in partnership with you.

2022 Grant Deadlines

2022 Competitive Grant Program Deadlines

(More details are available at: <https://grayff.org/grants/>)

Environmental Education – March 15, 2022 and October 1, 2021 (Adding an additional cycle)

Geography Education – March 15, 2022

Outdoor School - January 14, 2022, April 1, 2022, August 1, 2022, and October 15, 2022