

2023 Gray Family Foundation Grant Recipients

We are honored to support the work of schools and community-based organizations around Oregon through our grantmaking. To date in 2023, Gray Family Foundation has provided grants totaling \$984,718 to 49 organizations. Grants were made through our Environmental Education, Geography Education, Outdoor School, and Camp Maintenance programs. We are also excited to contribute \$10,000 to the Oregon Wildfire Youth Corps for their 5:1 match for the development of a youth wildfire workforce corps.



We are pleased to share in this work and look forward to the opportunity to continue to learn from each of you, our grantees. If you have questions about our grant priorities or any of the projects listed on our [grant list](#), please reach out to Nell Tesson, Program Officer, at ntesson@grayff.org.



Spirit of Community

The Gray Family Foundation Board of Directors held their May meeting in Southern Oregon. We want to share a huge thank you to [Vesper Meadow Education Program](#) and [Butte Falls Natural Resource Center](#) for welcoming us and sharing their work.

At Vesper Meadow we had a chance to preview their [Fire Ecology and the Human Relationship curriculum](#) developed with the support of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and available to [download](#) for free. This Oregon-based curriculum covers fire's connections with biodiversity, Indigenous culture, land management history, climate change, and social impacts today.

Ben Decarlow of Butte Falls NRC lent his star power to a 50th anniversary celebration video for the [Oregon Community Foundation](#). They are partnering with KOBI-TV NBC5 in Medford to share stories about the spirit of generosity in Oregon. This [video](#) features the Gray Family Foundation and our dedication to outdoor education. Gray Family Foundation is built upon the spirit and generosity of John and Betty Gray, whose visionary leadership significantly shaped the Oregon we know and love today.

Blue Sky Funders and Outdoor Alliance for Kids



Nancy and Nell recently joined colleagues from across the country at a Blue Sky Convening co-hosted by [Outdoor Alliance for Kids](#) in Washington, DC. Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland joined the group to share her commitment to youth leadership and equitable access to the outdoors. OAK is a national strategic partnership of businesses and nonprofit organizations with a common interest in connecting children, youth, and families with the outdoors. If you are interested in learning more or becoming a member, you can find an application here: <https://outdoorsallianceforkids.org/about/join-oak/>

Outdoor School funding in the Oregon Legislature

\$56.4 million is being recommended for the statewide Outdoor School program in the budget to the Oregon legislature for the 2023-2024 biennium. We appreciate the continued support of this important statewide program. If you have the chance, be sure to encourage your local Senator or Representative to support full funding and thank them for their ongoing support.

Grantee Highlight - Lomakatsi Restoration Project

We are excited to share a story about one of Gray Family Foundation's grantees.

While we continue to experience extreme temperatures resulting in fires and intense drought, grantees like the [Lomakatsi Restoration Project](#) work towards creating a healthy and thriving community. [Click here](#) to learn more about their great work.

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Gray Family Foundation | 1221 SW Yamhill St., Suite 100, Portland, OR 97205

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