

## Reflecting and planning for 2024



Over the past quarter, Gray Family Foundation has spent time on the road connecting and learning with our grantees and volunteers across the state. A big thank you to Camp Westwind for hosting our Camp Maintenance Committee meeting in September. During the visit, the committee learned about some of the challenges and opportunities facing coastal camp facilities and opportunities to increase accessibility and comfort for students and staff attending outdoor school.

In October, we were thrilled to bring together our Youth Leadership for the Environment learning cohort at OMSI's Camp Gray for two days. This included staff from 18 youth serving organizations across the state engaging highschoolers in leadership and workforce development opportunities connected to the environmental sector. We appreciated hearing highlights of their work and celebrating the past three years of the cohort.

The Greenbelt Land Trust hosted Gray Family Foundation's Geography Education Committee at Bald Hill Farm, a beautiful site hosting many community organizations and programs in Benton County. The meeting was an opportunity for reflection and a chance to discuss our long-term goals and priorities for impacting geography education in Oregon.

We believe that one of the best ways to continue to work in service to our communities is to spend time building relationships and learning from the organizations and individuals we

support through our grantmaking. We greatly enjoyed the time spent with these inspiring people and places and are excited to apply our learnings in 2024.

## Congratulations to Ben DeCarlow a 2024 Grants in Place Fellow for the PNW/Oregon Region

Teach Rural Oregon and the Rural Schools Collaborative announced Ben DeCarlow has been named a 2024 Grants in Place Fellow for the PNW/Oregon region. Ben DeCarlow teaches at Butte Falls Charter School and is the Education Lead for the Butte Falls Natural Resource Center (NRC). You can learn more about all the 2024 Fellows and the NRC's "Where Have All the Frogs Gone" project [here](#).



We are thrilled that Ben's great work in Butte Falls has been acknowledged by this collaborative.

## 2023 Gray Family Foundation Fall Grant Recipients



Gray Family Foundation is excited to share that our board has approved grants totaling \$500,000 to 18 organizations in November. Awards were given to grantees focused on Environmental Education, Outdoor School, Camp Maintenance and Youth Leadership for the Environment as well as initiatives to Advance Equity. We are honored to share in this work and look forward to the opportunity to continue to learn in collaboration with our grantees. [Click here](#) to see our grant recipients.

If you have questions about our grant priorities or any of the projects listed on our grant list, please reach out to Nell Tessman, Program Officer, at [ntessman@grayff.org](mailto:ntessman@grayff.org).

## Join us at the 2024 Outdoor School Gathering!

Friends of Outdoor School, OSU Extension Outdoor School Program, and Gray Family Foundation are excited to announce that registration is now open for the [2024 Outdoor School Gathering](#).

The event takes place January 31 & February 1, 2024, with an optional bonus day January 30th. It will be hosted at the 4-H Center (Trickle Creek), near Salem, Oregon. We are planning a lively event with opportunities for networking, sharing best practices, building partnerships, and professional development. Registration will close on *January 17* or when we reach capacity. To learn more go to <https://outdoorschool.oregonstate.edu/events/2024-outdoor-school-gathering-pre-conference/>.

[Register Here](#)

## Announcing Gray Family

[Environmental Education](#) – Applications open January 15, 2024. Applications due March 22, 2024.

[Outdoor School](#) and [Camp Maintenance](#) - Rolling

# Foundation' s 2024 Grant Deadlines

applications. January 22, 2024, May 6, 2024, August 9, 2024, & October 18, 2024.

[Geography Education](#) – please visit our website for more information.

Visit our [website](#) for more details.

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