



# 2017-2019 ACHIEVEMENTS & SUCCESSES



### ***Our Vision***

Every Oregon student attends a week at Outdoor School.

### ***Our Mission***

Friends of Outdoor School is dedicated to increasing student access to Oregon Outdoor School programs that contribute to educational development, inspire youth, and promote personal growth.

### ***Our Staff & Board of Directors***

Kim Silva, *Executive Director*  
Dan Prince, *Associate Director*  
Sophia Anguilla, *Network Coordinator*  
Jennifer Satalino, *Board Chair*  
Andy Lindberg, *Secretary/Treasurer*  
Jennifer Grube, *Board Member*  
Dave Eshbaugh, *Board Member*  
Paige Richardson, *Board Member*

# A NOTE OF THANKS



I think many of you know much of this story, but I'm not sure that I've ever shared it with you all at once. Welcome to the story of state funding for Outdoor School (ODS)...

In 2012, friendly Oregon legislators created the first bill to try to fund ODS at the state level. Although the bill didn't pass, people in the Capitol, representing people from around the state, approached those of us championing the bill to express their excitement for ODS. It was inspiring and exciting to learn that so many Oregonians loved ODS!

The following year, Friends of Outdoor School gathered a small group of dedicated outdoor education advocates to begin building a relationship with Oregon legislators, share our case for ODS, and learn what lawmakers thought about ODS and outdoor education. We visited with more than 50 legislators and learned that they were hungry for this opportunity for the students in their regions. No matter the communities these policymakers represented - rural and urban, north and south, east and west - ODS was a treasured shared experience. After such a warm welcome, we were determined to find state funding so that EVERY Oregon student would have the opportunity to attend a week of ODS.

In the 2015 legislative session, Friends of Outdoor School led a coalition of outdoor education advocates to pass Senate Bill 439. Senate Bill 439 established a state outdoor education fund and designated Oregon State University Extension Service as the administrator of those funds. Senate Bill 439 was passed enthusiastically by the Oregon legislature. The problem was that we still needed to find the funding.

From this momentum, Measure 99: ODS for All, a citizens' initiative to fund Senate Bill 439, was born. And, as most of you know, Measure 99 was passed overwhelmingly by the voters in November 2016.

Unfortunately, due to a \$1.5 billion shortfall in 2017, the Oregon Legislature designated only about half of the dollars approved by voters for ODS. In spite of the limited funding, the first two years of Measure 99 funding was wildly successful. In the first year alone, over 15,000 additional students from the year before attended ODS.

The following legislative session, because dozens of

advocates around the state testified, wrote letters, made calls, and attended meetings championing ODS, the Oregon Legislature awarded full funding for Measure 99 for the 2019-2021 biennium. Thank you, advocates! Your commitment and stories were the reason for this success.

Friends of Outdoor School is working tirelessly to keep this funding long term - we want to keep it forever! This is where you come in...we each have a role to achieve our shared vision: All Oregon students attend a week of ODS. For example, your generous donations are making it possible for advocates - recruited, coached, and organized by Friends of Outdoor School - to testify for full state funding for ODS.

This active, constant advocacy is vital to the continued viability of ODS. The passionate people running ODS programs and sites are nervous about the long-term stability of the state funding. With your continued investments in Friends of Outdoor School, you are showing these partners that we, as a community, are committed to them and the work they do with students.

Your investments are also helping to organize statewide ODS networks:

- Outdoor School Community Network: The community of individuals, businesses, and organizations that care about ODS.
- Programs and Places Network: The community of ODS programs and sites.

Our Outdoor School Community Network includes a vision for a series of regional gatherings around the state. We hope you will join us in these regional gatherings. Your voice and your passion for ODS matter.

Thank you for your passion for and commitment to ODS. I am humbled by your generosity and thankful that I get to do this work with you for Oregon kids. The ODS community is one of the kindest communities around. Together, we all have a role and make a difference for Oregon kids. Thank you!

Magic Penny for You,



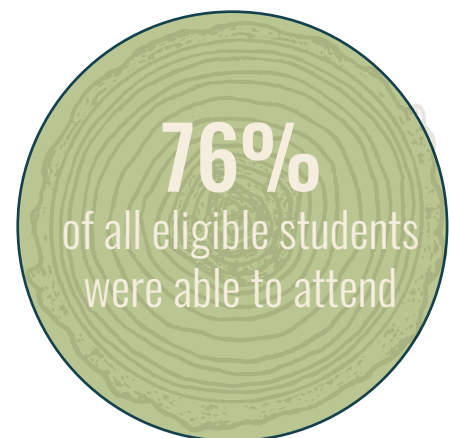
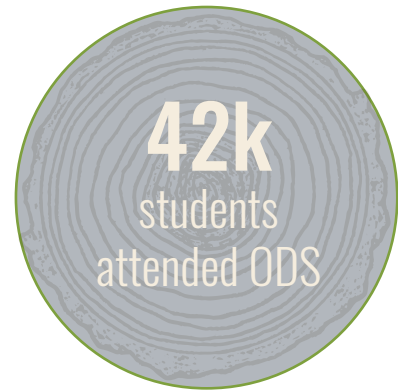
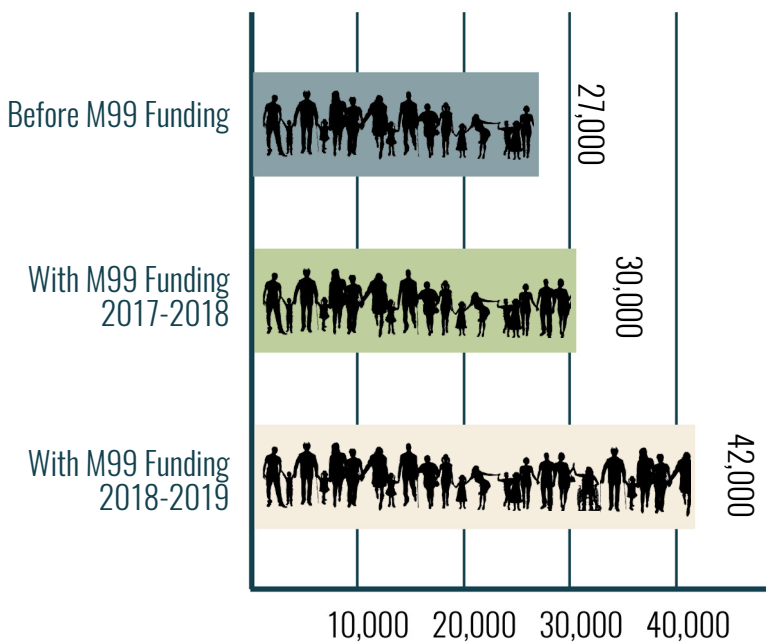
# CONNECT

Friends of Outdoor School is the key connection between ODS and the larger community of individuals, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies that support the statewide ODS system. We work to build the capacity of and support the statewide ODS system. Because this work takes a community effort, we focus on network-building, making connections, community engagement, advocacy, and fundraising.

Community volunteers, advocates, partners, and donors like you are vital to the long-term stability of ODS in Oregon ensuring that ODS is cherished, supported, and funded far into the future. Thank you for your generous investments of time, passion, and donations so that, together, we may continue to do this work that sustains the program we all love.

Just like ODS programs in general, much of what Friends of Outdoor School achieves is about connections - building pathways among ODS programs, schools, funders and donors, decision-makers, and the overall ODS community. Over the last two years, making these connections enabled us to begin to organize networks of ODS champions, programs, and sites around the state to facilitate a cohesive ODS system statewide.

## Because of Your Investments: Students Attending ODS





### Outdoor School Community Network

Oregon's ODS legacy has produced hundreds of thousands of ODS participants, former volunteers and staff, supporters, and advocates. By directly recruiting, connecting, and engaging these stakeholders, we are building a statewide network that will work to reduce barriers to ODS participation, while gathering resources for local students and communities, and advocating for state ODS funding. These networks work locally and statewide to make the case for ODS, as well as share stories, experiences, and insights that will build long-term support for Oregon's ODS programs, sites, and students.



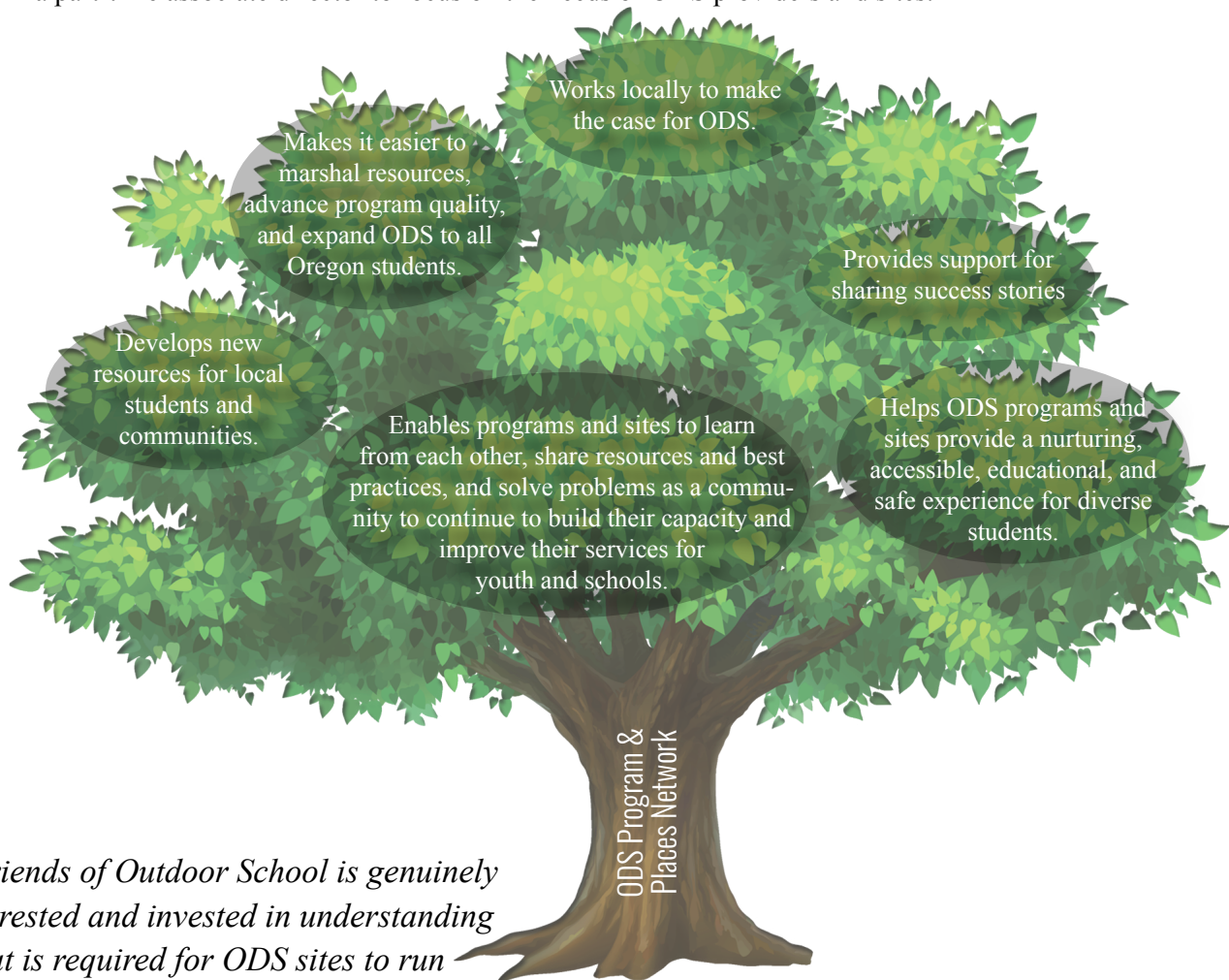
# SUPPORT

## School Districts and Education Service Districts:

Along with helping school districts and education service districts navigate the new state funding application and reporting process, Friends of Outdoor School continues to work with schools and school districts to support their fundraising work, including: supporting school-based volunteers, promoting the opportunities to support schools/districts directly to the Friends of Outdoor School network, providing professional expertise, managing funds, and providing opportunities for additional funds. Friends of Outdoor School also raises funds from governments, foundations, corporations, and individuals to help send students to ODS. Over and above state funding, Friends of Outdoor School gathered more than \$2 million from government agency contracts and foundation grants to support sending Oregon students to ODS.

## ODS Program & Places Network:

While we continue to support school districts and education service districts, we were also able to hire a part-time associate director to focus on the needs of ODS providers and sites.

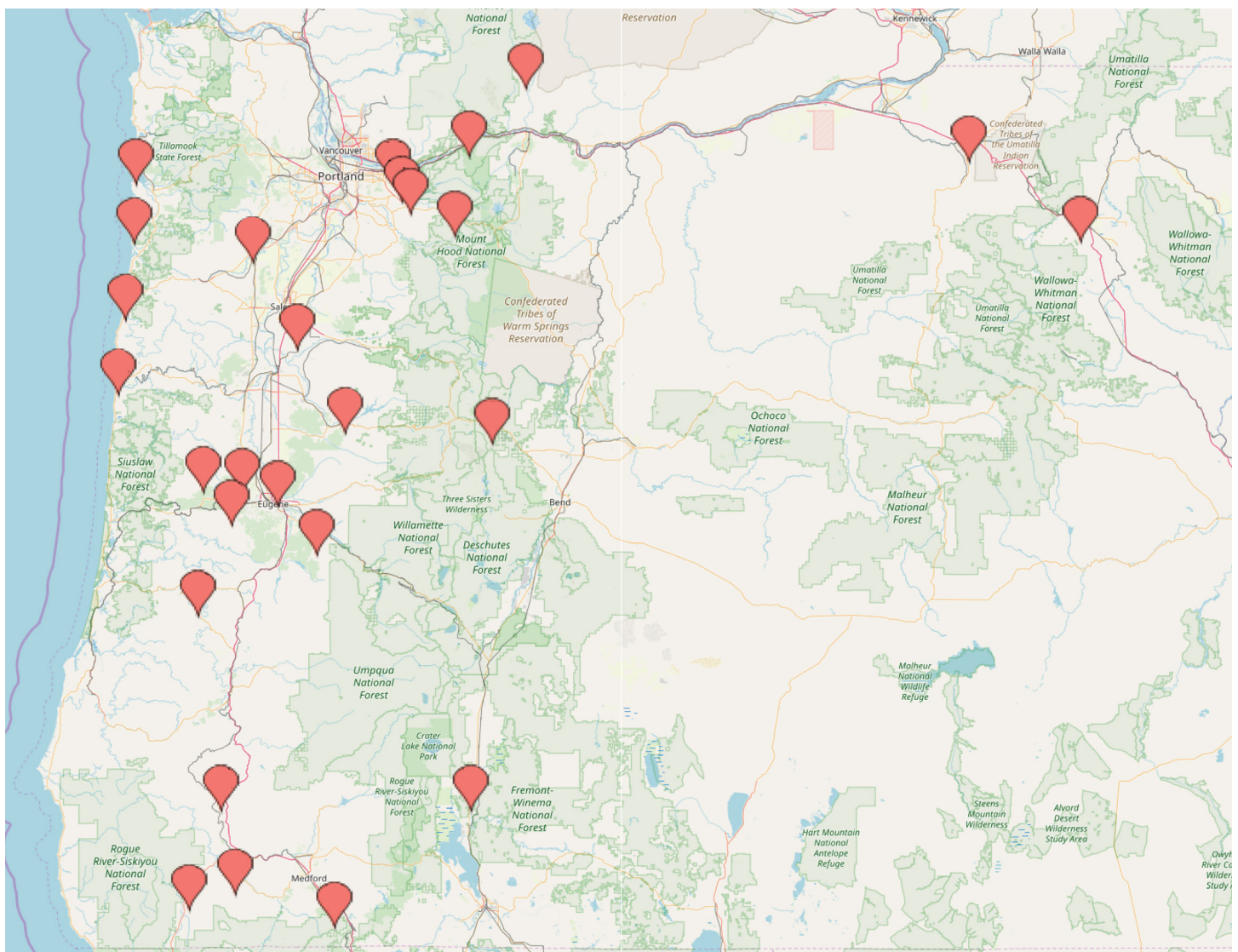


*“Friends of Outdoor School is genuinely interested and invested in understanding what is required for ODS sites to run and cares about their success. I appreciate the ways I’ve felt listened to, and I think there is advocacy going on for us because of it. I feel like FODS helped foster a connection among ODS sites.”*

***-Outdoor School Site Supervisor***

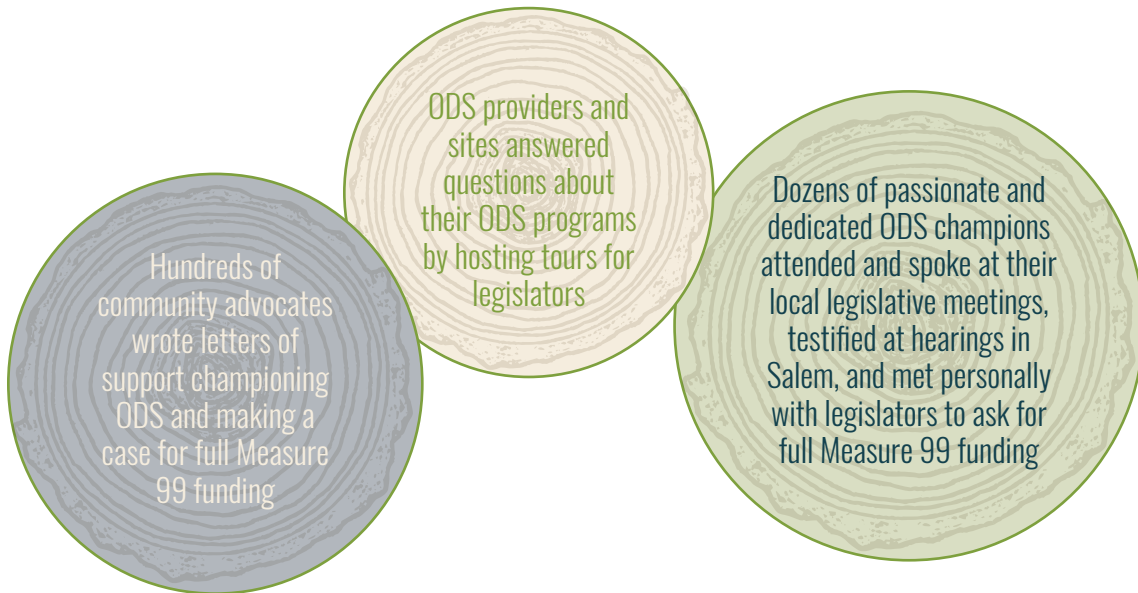


In dozens of personal visits around the state, we explored the needs, vision, and opportunities that could be gained by participating in a network of ODS providers and sites. In these visits, we learned the concerns and hopes of sites and programs, shared with them about the statewide ODS program, connected them with others doing this work, referred available locations to ODS program providers or schools, and helped them understand what hosting or presenting ODS programming requires. This work set the foundation for a wider outreach to determine how Friends of Outdoor School may meet the needs of ODS providers and sites, including working to reduce barriers to participation for 5th/6th grade and high school students. As ODS programming expands across the state, significant challenges must be addressed to ensure adequate capacity, high quality, and full inclusion.



# ADVOCATE

A team of advocates from around the state were the unsung heroes for Outdoor School the last couple years. We contracted with a skilled and knowledgeable government relations team to advise on and manage our legislative engagement. Our statewide community organizer and other staff also identified and supported dozens of community advocates from around the state who wanted to champion ODS. Incredibly important to telling a more complete story about who benefits from and who contributes to ODS statewide, each advocate brought a unique perspective about the importance of ODS. Engaging in advocacy ensures that legislators hear advocates' stories first-hand from the communities they are elected to represent:



A vibrant and dynamic advocacy program is vital to maintaining full funding for ODS long-term. Because of tireless and passionate advocacy efforts, Measure 99 was funded at \$24 million for the biennium 2017-2019 to ramp up the statewide program, then fully funded at \$46.8 million for the biennium 2019-2021. Going directly to school districts and education service districts, this funding will enable over 94,000 students to attend ODS in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. In the meantime, the Outdoor School Community and Program and Places networks will work to make sure that ODS funding is never lost.

This funding ensures that ALL Oregon 5th/6th grade students have financial access to a week of Outdoor School!







*“I was hired to work with ODS and quickly realized that there was something special about the program.”*  
*-Outdoor School Advocate*

*“As a Student Leader I had incredibly formative experiences that gave me confidence, brought out my true self, and was darn tootin’ fun!”*  
*-Outdoor School Advocate*



*“I now teach 5th grade...all because of one amazing week at Outdoor School.”*  
*-Outdoor School Advocate*

# PARTNERS

Thank you to the many organizations that support Friends of Outdoor School. Your advocacy and generosity make sure that ODS networks have the resources they need to champion and support ODS statewide:



**Oregon State University**  
Extension Service  
Outdoor School

To help develop the first-ever statewide ODS program, Friends of Outdoor School volunteers, partners, staff, and board provided a variety of expertise and support to Extension.

#### FODS...

- Led advocacy for full Measure 99 funding.
- Oriented Extension staff to ODS programming and sites around the state.
- Championed an avenue for private schools to access state ODS funding.
- Shared information with the ODS community about how to navigate the new program.
- Participated in a variety of committees and work groups to contribute expertise on: policy development, program funding advocacy, curriculum, research and assessment, equity, program development, site and program needs, public school processes and rules, visioning.
- Provided historical perspective.
- Helped to hire the Extension ODS program manager and shared their other job announcements with our networks.

*“In the next year we are excited to support Friends of Outdoor School’s efforts to collaborate with OSU Extension Outdoor School Program and other stakeholders to build and support Oregon’s powerful network of Outdoor School program providers, camps, schools and districts. We look forward to continuing to work with Friends of Outdoor School towards the shared goal of ensuring all 5th and 6th grade students across Oregon have the chance to experience Outdoor School.”*

*-Gray Family Foundation*





For a decade, Gray Family Foundation has been the key to ensuring that Oregon students have access to ODS. ODS has maintained as the keystone educational experience in Oregon schools because of the Gray Family Foundation's selfless generosity. Without the Gray Family Foundation, ODS in Oregon would have been lost long ago.

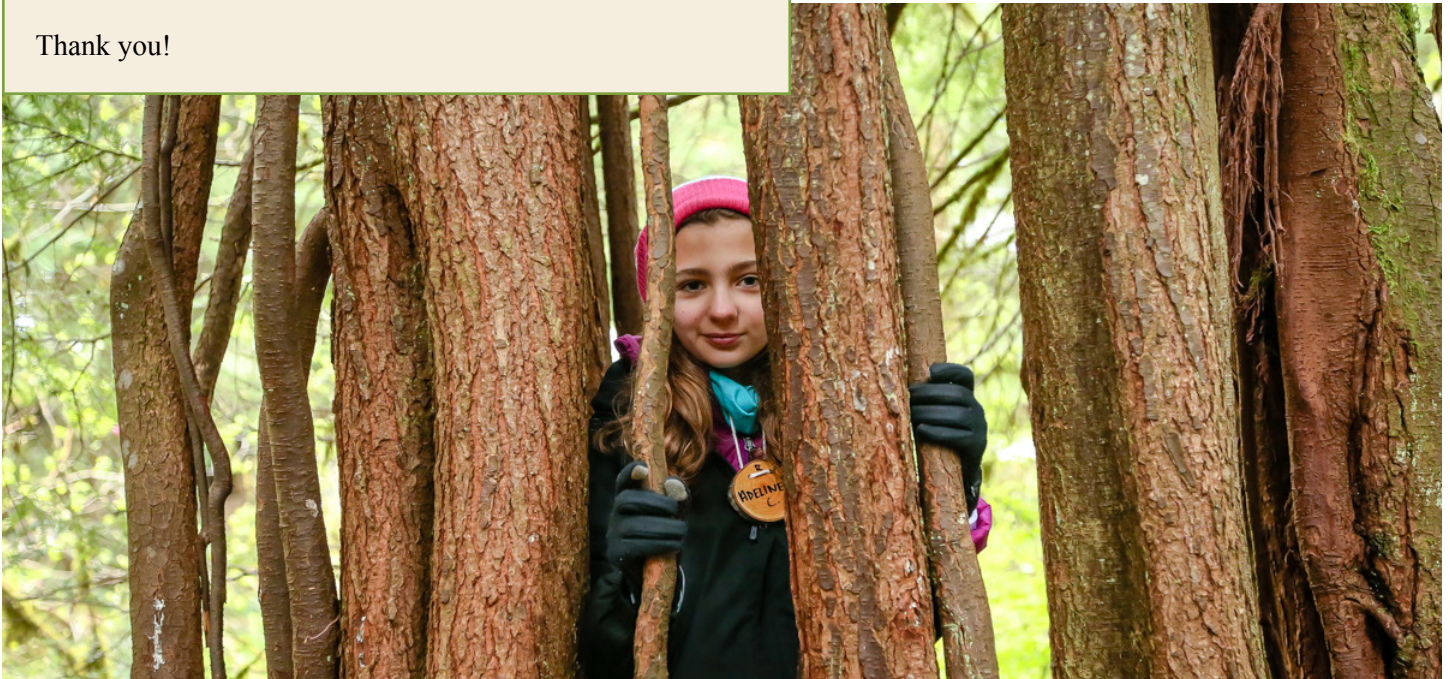
Now, because of their unwavering vision, faithful investment, consistent participation, and tireless advocacy for Measure 99 funding, ODS is part of the Oregon state budget and is fully funded in the 2019-2021 budget biennium!

We offer a deep and sincere THANK YOU from the ODS community for this incredible gift - a gift like no other, a dream for many decades - funding for a full week of ODS for EVERY Oregon 5th or 6th grade student!

Thank you!

*"Friends of Outdoor School is an essential partner for Gray Family Foundation in our efforts to connect youth across Oregon to meaningful experiences in the outdoors. As a partner in supporting the passage of Measure 99 and its ongoing implementation, Friends of Outdoor School consistently brings a unique combination of expertise and energy to our shared efforts."*

***-Gray Family Foundation***



We would like to thank the following ODS programs, sites, and partner organizations for their continued dedication and support of Oregon ODS.

### PROGRAMS & ODS SITES:

- Magruder
- Arrah Wanna
- Boy Scouts of America-Cascade Pacific Council
- Girl Scouts of Oregon and SW Washington
- Camp Lutherwood
- Camp Namanu
- Camp Collins
- Camp Tamarack
- Mt. Adams Institute
- Bar M Ranch
- Camp Elkanah
- Camp Howard
- Camp Angelos
- Canby Grove
- Camp Kuratli
- B'nai B'rith Camp
- Camp Tadmor
- OMSI Outdoor School
- Klamath Outdoor Science School
- Trackers
- Portland Audubon Society
- Mazamas
- Westwind
- Triangle Lake Center
- Camp Angelos
- MESD Outdoor School
- Oregon Forest Resources Institute
- Camp Fire Wilani
- Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center
- The Crest at Willow-Witt
- Pacifica
- Siskiyou Field Institute
- Southern Oregon University EE Masters Program
- Camp Waskowitz (Washington)
- Havenroot/Ecotone (Wilani)
- Calapooia Watershed Council
- Baker City ODS
- NWRESO Outdoor School

### CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS:

- Ater Family Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
- Bonnie and Peter Reagan Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
- Cambia Health Foundation
- Chinook Book
- Chris Kopet
- City of Portland Water Bureau
- Clarity Innovations
- Columbia Sportswear
- Denise Carty & Roger Brown Family Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
- East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District
- Elizabeth Wakeman Henderson Charitable Foundation
- Emily Georges Gottfried Fund of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation
- Evans Runyan Family Foundation
- Gray Family Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation

- Greg & Allison Fredette Donor Advised Fund of MRG Foundation
- Henry & Mary Warden Foundation
- Hopworks Urban Brewery
- Intel
- James Cash Penney Grant Program
- JR Johnson Inc
- Kaiser Permanente
- Kroger
- Les Schwab
- Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
- Mary McKinney Ezell and Flay Ezell Fund of the Wentworth Foundation
- MESD Education Association
- Metro
- Ned & Sis Hayes Family Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
- New Seasons Market
- OCF Joseph Weston Public Foundation
- OnPoint Community Credit Union
- Oregon Community Foundation
- Oregon State University Extension
- Organically Grown Company
- Portland General Electric
- Portland Golden Dragons Paddling Club
- Robert D & Marcia H Randall Charitable Trust
- Stack Technical Services
- The Kniskern Watson Charitable Fund
- The Shadow Funders, Inc
- The Shauna M. & Kevin B. Flanigan Family Foundation
- The Sherpa Group Two
- The Standard
- Tom Dwyer Automotive Services
- United Way of the Columbia-Willamette
- Van Evera & Janet M Bailey Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
- WCR/Economy Data Foundation (HKM Fund)
- Winco Foods Foundation Inc

### PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:









- 1% for the Planet
- Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
- Audubon Society of Portland
- Caldera
- Earthshare Oregon
- Ecology in the Classroom & Outdoors
- Environmental Education Association of Oregon
- Leach Botanical Garden
- Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
- No Child Left Inside
- Portland Metro STEM Partnership
- Portland State University
- The College Place Oregon
- The Intertwine
- The Mazamas
- The Nature Conservancy
- Tryon Creek State Natural Area / Friends of Tryon Creek
- Wind & Oar Boat School

# WHAT'S NEXT



I hope you are as excited as we are about the progress that the Outdoor School community has made for students in Oregon over the last two years. Our networks are stronger and more organized, our statewide program is established, our advocacy is activated, and, most importantly, more students than ever before are attending Outdoor School!

Over the next two years, we will continue to work hard for Oregon kids by:

-  Understanding how statewide ODS is impacting students and the community, in order to better articulate the benefits of the program.
-  Exploring how to reduce barriers to ODS participation and promote equitable access by helping schools and program providers analyze attendance, outreach efforts, high school volunteer involvement, and programming through an equity, diversity, and inclusion lens and helping build relationships to support the goals of full inclusion.
-  Telling the high school volunteer “story” to people who may not know, spreading the word about working with these students and the leadership opportunities inherent in such service.
-  Collecting and sharing stories, experiences, and insights from community members statewide that will build long-term support for Oregon’s ODS programs.
-  Continuing to support Extension to implement the statewide Outdoor School funding program as envisioned by the larger Outdoor School community.
-  Creating a tool to help ODS sites determine an appropriate fee schedule for hosting ODS at their locations.
-  Hosting a Programs and Places Network gathering in January 2020 to help ODS programs and sites begin to work together to build a strong and effective statewide ODS system.
-  Hosting Outdoor School Community Network gatherings around the state.



**THANK YOU** for your incredible generosity to Friends of Outdoor School and Oregon students!  
We are deeply grateful for your confidence, commitment, and trust.

