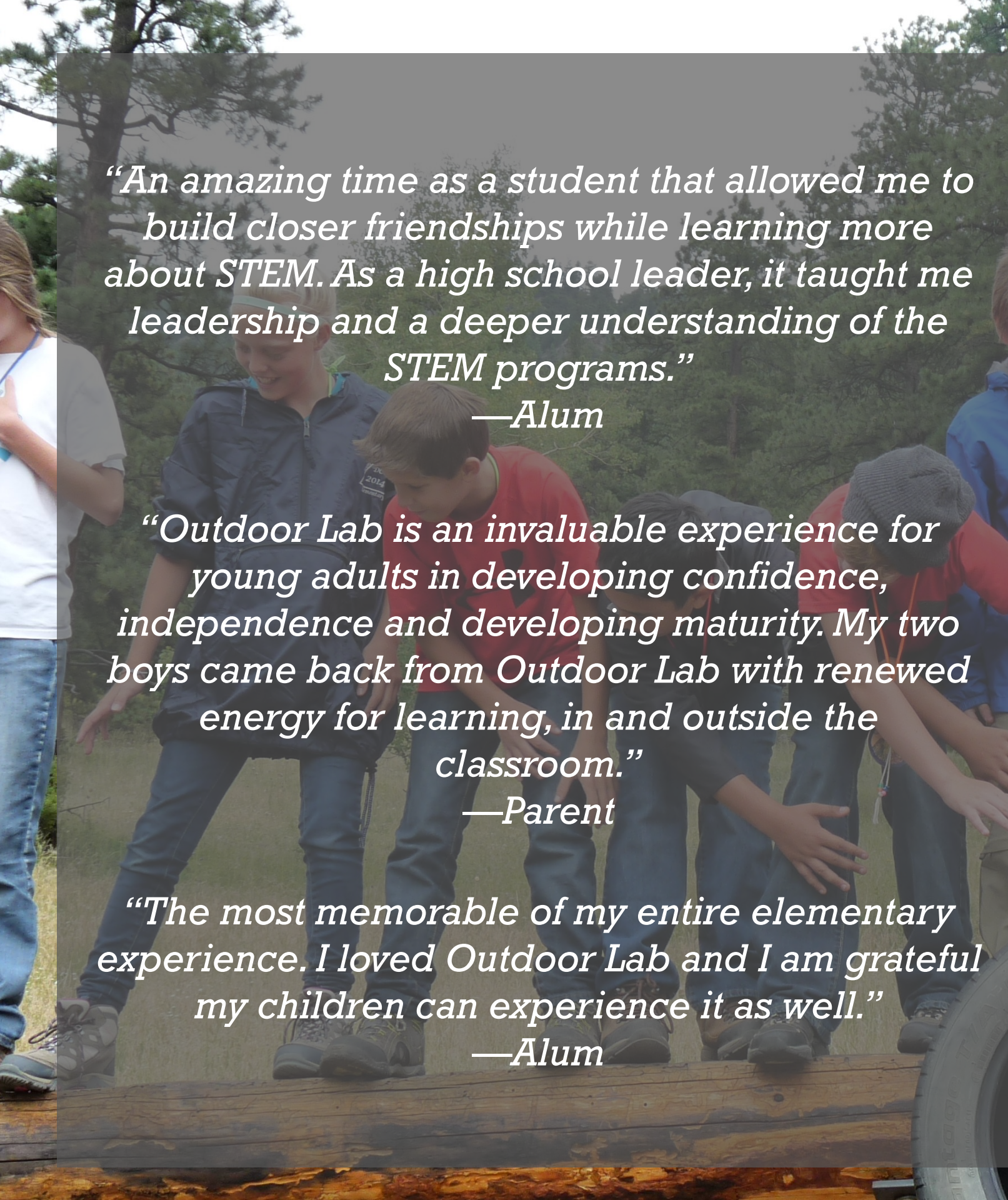




ANNUAL REPORT
2015-2016



“An amazing time as a student that allowed me to build closer friendships while learning more about STEM. As a high school leader, it taught me leadership and a deeper understanding of the STEM programs.”

—Alum

“Outdoor Lab is an invaluable experience for young adults in developing confidence, independence and developing maturity. My two boys came back from Outdoor Lab with renewed energy for learning, in and outside the classroom.”

—Parent

“The most memorable of my entire elementary experience. I loved Outdoor Lab and I am grateful my children can experience it as well.”

—Alum



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

35

Interns

1,000

High School Leaders

91

Schools Attend
Outdoor Lab

5,745

6th Grade Students

The Outdoor Lab Foundation closed out our 13th year supporting, sustaining and advocating for the Outdoor Lab Schools in Jefferson County. In the 2015-2016 year, our goal was to help students achieve stewardship of themselves, others and the world around them. We take seriously our role as the champion of Outdoor Lab and continue to evolve our community outreach, development and program support to meet the needs of these two historic and unique schools. The pages that follow highlight our efforts over the past year and set the stage for what's to come. To our numerous supporters, donors, sponsors, volunteers, staff and friends who made our programs, initiatives and events possible – THANK YOU. You are our champions and we look forward to working together in the coming year!

Shannon Hancock

Executive Director

NEWS & NOTEWORTHY EVENTS OF 2015-16

- Donors made sure that we have the funding and support necessary to construct two brand new Aquaponics Greenhouses at both school sites. These greenhouses will provide the location and equipment needed to launch the new Stewardship & Sustainability Program for the 2016-17 school year. Please see page 11 for more information and how you can help.
- Each site added another full time this year and we secured funding for these positions for next school year. This helps to enhance the student learning process and ensures that their experience is hands on for the students during the week.
- Because of generous donors like you, the intern program grew as the sites hired on college students who were nearing the end of their college education. These more experienced interns are able to provide more knowledge to the students throughout their semester at the sites. The Outdoor Lab Foundation will need your help in 2016-17 funding the intern program, as we are the main source for funding this program.
- We partnered with Historicorps and the district to do much needed architectural and structural renovations to the historic Dodge Lodge at Mount Evans to keep this incredible landmark at its best. Designed and built by John "Jock" Spence, a Scottish carpenter, this building has been an icon to the Outdoor Lab program for more than 55 years.
- We retired our annual gala to focus all of our time on celebrating Outdoor Lab through **After Dark** as our main fundraising event. Our goal is to help the community feel more connected to Outdoor Lab. We do this through smaller, intimate learning events that showcase different sides of the Outdoor Lab experience.
- 1,767 6th grade students received tuition assistance thanks to the Labs Card program.
- We moved our office thanks to a generous donor, and hired new staff member, Katie!



OUTDOOR LAB FOUNDATION

Mission:

“To increase community and business involvement in support of the Jefferson County Public Schools, Outdoor Education Laboratory Schools.”

Vision:

“A non-profit foundation providing ongoing support to the Jefferson County Public Schools, Outdoor Education Laboratory Schools, and the commitment to experiential learning, stewardship, and historical preservation; for now and into the future.”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Pictured left to right:

Front row: Barry Wiebe, Sally Armitage, Shannon Hancock (Executive Director), Kathy Weiss (Co-Vice Chair), Sue Shucard (Secretary), Becky Bunn

Back row: Rod Wagner, Alex Campbell (Co-Vice Chair), Josh Timon (Chair), Jürgen Schlieman (Treasurer), Mark Fitzgerald

Not Pictured: Jeff Brekke, Brian Sipes, Scott Charter, Bo Riley

FOUNDATION STAFF



Shannon Hancock

Executive Director



Katie Evereth

Marketing & Development Manager



Stephanie Ferguson

Events & Marketing Specialist



Leah Roche

Program & Finance Officer

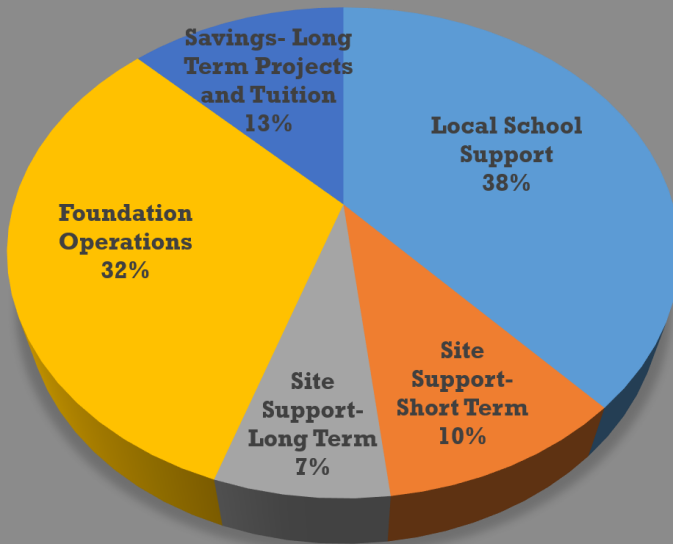
What is Outdoor Lab?

Outdoor Lab has been enriching the lives of 6th grade and high school students in Jefferson County for more than 59 years. Located in the mountains of Colorado, Mount Evans and Windy Peak Schools give ALL students the opportunity to explore and experience subjects such as earth science, wildlife biology, astronomy, and geology in a unique mountain setting. By engaging the students in problem solving, team building, decision-making and social interaction, the Outdoor Lab program helps to prepare Jeffco students for successful futures. Every student is given an opportunity to attend, regardless of physical or mental ability or ability to pay. High school students return as leaders to help teach the program and have their own unique experience.

What is Outdoor Lab Foundation?

The Outdoor Lab Foundation was established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in 2003 to ensure the preservation and contribution of the Outdoor Lab program. The Foundation forges relationships with businesses, community, and non-profit organizations to fund the Outdoor Lab Schools. It is through relationships with all interest groups that the Outdoor Lab Foundation plans to sustain this program that will continue to inspire future youth as they become our scientists, teachers, engineers, business leaders and thinkers of tomorrow.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



2015-2016 Expenses

Local School Support	\$335,840.94
Site Support-Short Term	\$87,750.004
Site Support-Long Term	\$61,576.50
Foundation Operations	\$283,765.82
<u>Savings (Long Term Projects & Tuition)</u>	<u>\$110,597.71</u>
TOTAL	\$879,530.97

2015-2016 Assets

Total Reserved Funds	\$(320,161.75)
Total Assets Less Reserves	\$563,187.95
Endowments (Permanent Reserve)	\$51,647.40

“Nothing Jeffco schools has done or can do that could outdo what Outdoor Lab teaches. every child should have this experience totally worth every penny and more. I loved it enough that two of [my] seven children are teachers.” –Parent



2015-2016 BY THE NUMBERS

The Outdoor Lab Foundation would like to thank the following companies and organizations who helped secure grants in 2015-16:

Golden Civic Foundation
Credit Union of Colorado Foundation
Level3 Communications
Lockheed Martin
City of Wheat Ridge
City of Lakewood
Walmart
Wells Fargo

A special thank you to the following individuals and businesses who contributed significant gifts in 2015-16:

8z Real Estate	King Soopers
Alex Campbell	Louise Colvert
American Zang Education Foundation	Mark & Annamarie Sunderhuse
Avout Corporation	Matt & Erin Sampson
Betsy Omohundro	Michael McCarron
Breckenridge Brewery	Nancy Reisher
Chris Ising	Pat McHenry
Cliff Buatshe	Patrick Lana
Darcie Weiser	Point B
David & Jean Bretzlauf	RNDC
Enduring Resources	Rod & Kim Wagner
Evergreen Rotary	Sipes Architects
Firstbank	Sondra Kellogg
Jeff & Sharon Brekke	Vicki L. Hall
Jennifer Hamilton	Wells Fargo
Karen Cravens	Whole Foods Market

40.4%

Of students on free & reduced lunch

\$1,379,345.21

Donated since 2011

9,958

Total card users

411

Students earned 100% of tuition

LAB CARDS PROGRAM

A huge thank you to King Soopers and Safeway for their continued support through our Lab Cards Program. The program finished strong this year with a total of **\$296,840.94** donated to local Jeffco schools for Outdoor Lab student tuition support! In all, since this program began in 2011, it has accumulated **\$1,379,345.21** in donations from King Soopers and Safeway to support our families and local Jeffco schools cover the cost of Outdoor Lab tuition.

During the 2015/2016 school year:

- **1,767** participating 6th grade families
- **23%** (411) donated 100% of their student fee
- **50%** (884) donated 50% or more of their student fee
- Average donation per 6th grade student was **\$161.48**
- Average donation to each participating Jeffco school was **\$3,335.29**
- **89** schools participated in the Lab Cards Program
 - 57 schools received donations of \$1,000+
 - 24 schools received donations of \$5,000+
 - 5 schools received donations of over \$10,000
- **2,707** PreK-5th grade families are already using cards to support their local school



WHOLE FOODS MARKET SCHOLARSHIP

Thank you to Whole Foods Market for their donation of **\$7,350** to the Foundation through their bag credit program that ran throughout the school year. Ten Jeffco schools participated and received a portion of the scholarship funds to put towards student Outdoor Lab tuition.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2015-2016 SUPPORTERS

Abigail Page	Danielle Watkins	Jennifer Larsen	Linda Ives	Richard Williams
Adele Willson	Darell Kampff	Jennifer Moore	Louis Karahalios	Rick Bruno
Alex Campbell	Dave Miller	Jennifer Pennell	Louise Colvert	Robb & Kari Gneiser
Alexander Marquess	David & Jean Bretzlauf	Jennifer Richardson	Lydia Willson	Robert Kortz
Alice Madison	David Aparicio	Jeremy Hakes	Marcie Miller	Rochelle Gatt
Alisha Lindsey	David Armitage	Jeremy Parker	Margaret O'Keefe	Rod & Kim Wagner
Alison Bodor	David Epp	Jessica Carney	Marianne Hawker	Roger Pool
Amie Baumer	David Harris	Jill Fellman	Marianne Temple	Roma Novakovich
Amy Terry	David Stumm	Joan Ball	Marilyn Jones	Ron Dunsmore
Ann Hoy	Dayna Ashley-Oehm	Joel Jones	Marilyn McMahon	Roxanne Kochevar
Ann Rawson	Debbie Lee	John Cornely	Marilyn Waterhouse	Roxanne Swoboda
Anne O'Sullivan	Deborah Carpenter	John E. Litz	Marilyn Wood	Ruth Chapin
Anne Smith	Deborah Huntsman	John Franz	Mark & Annemarie Sunderhuse	Ryan Abdelnour
Anne Stavig	Debra Bergman	Josh Timon	Mark & Shannon Fitzgerald	Ryan Lucas
Arthur Weiss	Debra Leonard	Judith Ross	Mark & Candice Ferguson	Sally Armitage
B Quaa	Debra McClure	Judy Guden	Marlene & Joe Drew	Sally Blanchard
Barbara Fuller	Dena Rosenberry	Judy Turner	Marsha F. Young	Sam Palamara
Barbara Steveson	Diane Bergeron	Julia George	Marsha Manning	Sandra Alexander
Becky Bunn	Doreen Steele	Julia Vanek	Marvin Felton	Sandy Schissler
Betsy Omohundro	Douglas Ziegler	Julie McCue	Mary A. Grosshans	Sarah Moscatel
Betty Graebner	Edward Z. McIlvain	Jurgen Schlieman	Mary Ann Dimand	Scott Charter
Blanche Kapushion	Edwin Steinbrecher	Karen Cravens	Mary Ann Larsen	Shanda Douglas
Bo Riley	Elizabeth Perez	Karen Newcomm	Mary Litwiler	Shane Matthews
Brad Ramming	Elizabeth Treichler	Kate Kingsley-Taylor	Mary Scheppers	Shannon Hancock
Brad Surratt	Ellen Winslow	Katherine Roboff	Mary Stahl	Sharon McDaniel
Brenda Freeburn	Emily Vera	Kathleen Doyle	MaryLou Golding	Shelly Catterson
Brenda Jansen Belrose	Eric Johnson	Kathleen Gorove	Matt Lausten	Sherri Turnipseed
Brenda Simon	Eric Thompson	Kathleen Sawada	Matt Sampson	Sondra Kellogg
Brian Davis	Francie Wyatt	Kathleen Sloan	Meghan Wisell	Stacy Young
C. Michael Litzau	Gay DelDuca Barkman	Kathy & Bob Weiss	Meredyth Armitage	Stephanie Ferguson
Candace Piccone	Gerald Shin	Kathy D. Plomer	Michael McCarron	Sue Osborn
Candace Tomlinson	Greg Sherwood	Katie Evereth	Michael Stepek	Sue Shucard
Cara Olivenza	Gregory Garland	KC Butler	Michele DeAndrea-Austin	Susan Gadpaille
Carl Dahl	Gregory Lauer	Kelli Shuter Cessna	Michele Wright	Susan Schiff
Carl Kantner	Gwen Laine	Kellie Ritter	Michelle Winzent	Susanne Jesch
Carol Kiernan	Hannah Holt	Kelly Jo Briggs	Mike Pate	Suzanne Blankenship
Carolyn Alexander	Heather Rutledge	Kenneth Witt	Nancy Reisher	Suzanne Collings
Carolyn Knapp-Nelson	Heidi Juran	Kent Holliway	Nancy Spawn	Suzanne Ghais
Carolyn Norblom	Helen Peterson	Kent Micho	Nikki Hennis	Tamara Story
Catherine Armitage	Holly Sprackling	Kim Dickelman	Paige LeBlanc	Tammy Weatherly
Charles Robinson	Jake Cummins	Kim Gilbert	Paige Maslow	Teresa Van
Cheryl Reebergh	James Rudolf	Kirstin Sulzberger	Palmer Peterson	Theresa Sager
Cheryl Werner	Jane Goff	Kristi James	Pamela Schmidt	Theresa Shelton
Chris Blakeslee	Janet Farrar	Kristin Guin-Grosse	Pat McHenry	Thomas Abbott
Chris Ising	Janna Six	Kristin Walters	Patricia Chamberlain	Tiffany Wilkerson
Chris Rapp	Jared Caruso	Lanny Dunham	Patrick Lana	Tim Keyes
Christine Moreland	Jason Guerrero	Larry Hoffer	Penelope Currier	Timothy Scott
Cliff Buatshe	Jason Reinke	Laura Asbell	Pete Pittman	Tina Siegrist
Colleen L. Hope	Jean Bretzlauf	Laura Carpenter	Peter & Darcie Weiser	Tracy Stuth
Craig Piper	Jeff & Sharon Brekke	Laura Chairez	Phyllis Sjogren	Tricia Broderick
Cynthia Willey	Jennie Ridgley	Laura Levi	Rafael Maestas	Veronica Goodrich
Dan Cohan	Jennifer Baber	Laura Parrado	Randy Massey	Vicki L. Hall
Dan McMinimee	Jennifer Friednash	Laurel Ostberg	Rebecca Blank	Victoria Okeson
Dan Merritts	Jennifer Fugita	Layle & Barbara Robb	Rebecca Crozier	Vince Nicoletti
Dana Miller	Jennifer Gates	Leonard Nelson	Reed Ayers	Vivian Burrows
Dana Rinderknecht	Jennifer Hamilton	Leslie Light	Richard Gobon	William Ernstrom
Daniel Snare	Jennifer Hegerle	Linda Graham	Richard Matkins	Zachary McFarland

2015-2016 EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Open House

September 18, 2015

Windy Peak Outdoor Lab and Mt. Evans Outdoor Lab

Once a year, the schools open their sites up to the public to get a tour of the property, enjoy lunch, and meet the staff before their child attends the program. This year, we also included a groundbreaking ceremony at Mount Evans for the upcoming greenhouse project for our generous donor, Rod Greiner.



After Dark

September 26, 2015

Evergreen, CO

Our annual fundraiser, After Dark grossed over \$95,000 and featured live music from Mount Evan's very own Jason Harding and his band, Original Recipe, and the 6 Million Dollar Band, as well as delicious food from Moe's Original Bar B Que, signature cocktails and yard games for everyone to enjoy!

Girls in STEM

March 10, 2016

Leopold Bros. distillery

Business leaders, educators, and politicians enjoyed a scientific distillery tour and great networking at this event to discuss the growth of STEM careers and what our community is doing to support girls as they pursue their passions in the sciences.



A 60TH ANNIVERSARY GIFT TO OUTDOOR LAB: GREENHOUSE CLASSROOMS

Outdoor Lab is an essential 60 year old education program in Jefferson County that teaches students a love of science in the Colorado wilderness while establishing a sense of stewardship of themselves, others and the world around them. Program leaders at the sites identified stewardship and sustainability as the next learning piece in the student journey. This new program will teach students about the lifecycle of edible plants, the energy used in the growth process, healthy eating, and the importance of returning nutrients to the soil through a composting program.

This program is an important educational element that will push the Outdoor Lab schools to initiate a 'living lab' atmosphere on-site, where the students will engage in lifecycle processes and make meaningful contributions to various processes. Students gain a sense of ownership over the work they do during their week they are at the lab.

The greenhouses themselves are sustainable classrooms and growing structures that are aesthetically complimentary to the historical elements of Mount Evans and Windy Peak while incorporating concepts of sustainable architecture and design. Each building itself will be expandable, allowing the program to grow as needs increase. The design of the buildings will also be an example of architecture that is appropriate to the high altitude environment. The greenhouses will be utilized by students all week during the Outdoor Lab experience. They will have a generous southern exposure for optimal growth and stunning views of the Colorado Mountain landscape.

The Stewardship and Sustainability curriculum will be added to the 2016-17 school year. Be sure to stop by the sites during our Open Houses on September 17, 2016!

Thank you to the following individuals and corporations who made the greenhouses a reality:

- Sipes Architects
- American Zang Education Foundation
- Enduring Resources
- Alex Campbell
- **GeoTech**
- **Engineers**
- Sooper Givers



MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OUTDOOR LAB

Sooper Givers

Outdoor Lab Sooper Givers are a group of people that use a King Soopers and/or Safeway card to support the Outdoor Lab program through the general fund. We are so thrilled to continue receiving your support! As a Sooper Giver you will receive quarterly updates on contributions thanks to your card loads and be eligible to win fun prizes.

Sooper Giver donations are helping the Foundation kick off the new greenhouse program with all the essential curriculum and materials needed to teach students about sustainability. These buildings will house programming on the life cycle of plants, the energy used in the growth process, healthy eating, composting, and more.

Colorado Gives Day

Tuesday December 7th, 2016 is Colorado Gives Day! Create your fundraising page today! Look for information on individual and corporate challenges in our newsletters, website and on social media.

Events

Be sure to check our website and social media pages for up to date information about our events! After Dark 2016 is on September 24, 2016 and will feature a fantastic night of live auctions, dinner, drinks and dancing! Buy your ticket today at outdoorlabfoundation.org/events

Monthly Giving

Monthly Giving is an easy way to support OLF every month! Please consider a recurring gift of \$10, \$15 or even \$20 each month to help support the impact of current programs and the growth of new ones for the coming years. Your automatic donation is safe, secure and easy. You set the date in which you would like your gift to be processed by the Foundation, and can change the amount at any time. Your monthly gift isn't just essential to the 6th grade students; it's the cornerstone for all younger Jefferson County children. You help these kids know that by the time it is their turn to attend the program, it will be there for them to change their lives.

Annual or Individual Giving

Your donation makes a difference any time of year! It doesn't need to be at a specific event or on a certain day. We need your support at any time.

3000 Youngfield St, Suite 167
Wheat Ridge, CO 80215

www.outdoorlabfoundation.org/donate

To sign up for our Monthly Giving or Sooper Giver program or to make a donation, please do so at www.outdoorlabfoundation.org/donate or call us at 720-403-8241.

SPONSOR THANK YOU'S

Thank you so much to the following corporations whose ongoing support has continuously helped influence the lives of Jeffco students:

8z Real Estate
Avout Corporation
Breckenridge Brewery
Chipotle
City Street Investors
Cloudnexion
Enduring Resources
FirstBank
Golden Services Fundraising Solutions
Intermountain Rural Electric Association (IREA)
KD Kanopy
King Soopers
Leopold Bros
Lockheed Martin
Moe's Bar B Que
Point B
Republic National Distributing (RNDC)
Safeway
Silver Bullet
Sipes Architects
Soopers Credit Union
Spring 44
Tall Grass Spa
Teammates
Whole Foods Market

2015-2016 VOLUNTEERS

We rely heavily on the support of our volunteers, whether the work is administrative, building a trail or helping to plan a successful event. Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers this past year! You made a huge difference and we are so appreciative of all that you do.

Ryan Abdelnour	Stephanie Estrella	Cara Olivenza	Courtney Strother
Bekah Anderson	James Figg	Kelani Olsen	Brad Surratt
Sally Armitage	Mark Fitzgerald	Nick Ophaug	Molly Syzmanski
Hannah Armstrong	Shawna Fitzler	Mike Pate	Anna Taylor
Marina Ayala	Angela Geier	Raelynn Perry	Josh Timon
Marisa Barslund	Allen Gregory	Erin Peters	Ryan Trujillo
Kiersten Bates	Kassie Gunn	Josh Quantanilla	Carol Veldboom
Steven Bossman	Matt Hancock	Sam Ripley	Meighan Wanasz
Brian Bowman	Michele Hillam	Kim Roberts	Abbey Watkins
Janice Brake	Tyler Houston	Marcus Rusk	Kathy Weiss
Becky Bunn	Kelly Jo Briggs	Aleia Schaum	Emily Weiss
Vanessa Caniff	Andrea Kim	Mary Scheppers	Bob Weiss
Brett Cohen	Annie Lupfer	Jess Schnittka	Lisa Wessell
Logan Coy	Jeremy Martinez	Sheri Shade	Thomas Willson
Amy Dietrich	Marilyn McMahon	Sue Shucard	Jessica Wilson
Bridgett Durfey	Amber Munoz	Darla Shueppert	Chris Woods
Michelle Escherman	Marilee Musk	Ashley Stenzel	Jacob Zimmerer



And a special thanks to Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) for being such great partners and helping us to repair a section of trail that suffered from significant erosion problems and needed to be made more sustainable to withstand future damage. Between the two trailbuilding days, VOC brought 67 volunteers who provided 470 hours of hard work to complete over 1600 feet of new trail for the students to enjoy!

Dust off your boots. Get ready to dance.

SEPT. 24 / 4-10 PM



AFTERDARK

FOOD, MUSIC & FUN AT THE LUCKY PENNY RANCH

— buy tickets at —

OUTDOORLABFOUNDATION.ORG

EARLY BIRD: \$85 | GENERAL: \$100 | VIP: \$125

"It kind of all made it all come together for me - I viewed science as science, math as math, etc. Outdoor Lab showed me how the subjects intertwined and were actually all relative to each other. Outdoor Lab was the first time I was away from home. It was a scary thought - but it was all very painless and I learned so much. Not only scholastically but about my own self." -Alum



3000 Youngfield St, Suite 167
Wheat Ridge, CO 80215
720-403-8241

