Will Outdoor School Lose Its New Funding?
Your Support is Critical to Success

Right now, the number one priority for Friends of Outdoor School is securing full state funding for Outdoor School in the 2019-2021 budget cycle—but this funding is far from guaranteed.

Thanks to your advocacy and donations, Senate Bill 439 and Measure 99 passed, which approved the needed funding. However, due to the budget crisis the Legislature only allotted about half the amount promised by Measure 99.

Friends of Outdoor School is once again hiring a lobbying team. These experts will monitor the 2018 legislative session, educate state lawmakers about the positive impacts of Outdoor School, and fight for full funding.

We’re working with Outdoor Schools around the state this school year to host private tours for local legislators. Please contact Kim Silva at kim@friendsofoutdoorschool.org if your program would like to become involved.

During the coming months, we’ll let you know about opportunities for you to tell your legislators how much Outdoor School means to you and why it should be fully funded beginning in 2019. Your advocacy matters!

Now, you are the key to securing the full $44 million in funding by the 2019 school year. Paid for in part by your generous donations, it’s a real possibility: lawmakers could revoke funding if the rollout of the program is not a success. We’re providing OSU Extension with needed resources and expertise as they develop and implement the program. In addition, we’re giving program providers and camp facilities the support they need to deliver effective, well-run Outdoor School programs.

Sincerely,
Kim Silva
Executive Director

Your Board of Directors

Dave Eshbaugh, President
Chief Development Officer, Oregon College of Oriental Medicine
"Nature, wildlife, birds, and science have been a part of my life from a very young age. I serve on the board because I think everyone deserves the opportunity to have the same kind of life-transforming experiences."

Jen Grube
Director, Philomath Outdoor School
"I am passionate about outdoor learning opportunities for students. I am excited to continue that advocacy as a FODS board member."

Jennifer Satalino, Secretary & Treasurer
Exec. Director, The College Place
"My career has been dedicated to bringing equitable educational opportunities to all, and Outdoor School embodies this ethos."

Andy Lindberg
Director of Programs and Facilities, Camp Namau
"I’ve experienced firsthand the benefits ODS offers, and there’s no better organization than Friends of Outdoor School for statewide ODS advocacy."
Camp Tamarack: How One Camp’s Vision—and Your Support—Brought Outdoor School to Central Oregon Kids

Before Camp Tamarack began their ODS program four years ago, kids from the greater Bend area didn’t have a local ODS option, and a mere quarter of the region’s students attended ODS.

Fast-forward to the 2016-2017 school year, when almost 98% of Central Oregon elementary school students, from 31 public schools, joyfully boarded buses headed to Camp Tamarack. The camp also has continued to increase their number of high school Student Leaders, to more than 300.

This year, Camp Tamarack is scheduled to add at least three new public and private schools to their roster!

“This place has actually molded what I want to do with my life,” said Student Leader and high school senior Elizabeth (“Firefly”). “Coming out here, I’m thinking I want to be someone who works with special needs kids. It’s opened my eyes up to what I’m passionate about.”

“It creates this safe bubble that some kids—high school, fifth-graders, sixth-graders—don’t have,” said Assistant Director Lauren "Otter" Rodgers.

Columbia Employees Run for ODS

As the July date for Columbia Sportswear’s 2nd Annual Employee 5K Run approached, Jeff Tooze had an idea: Why not use the event to raise money for a worthy charity?

So Tooze, Columbia's Vice President of Global Customs & Trade, convinced his fellow VPs to kick in $300 each, with Columbia agreeing to match all donations at 100%. The department with the fastest average run time would win rights to designate the charity of their choice.

Tooze's department won! They immediately named Friends of ODS as their nonprofit.

“We chose [Friends of ODS] because Outdoor School directly relates to Columbia’s mission of supporting outdoor education and conservation efforts in the community,” said Tooze.

With Columbia executives providing about $3,000 plus a 100% corporate match, Friends of ODS will receive as much as $6,000 in donations!

Thank you, Jeff Tooze & Columbia!
Dr. Elliott Brings Experience, Commitment to Outdoor School
Get to Know Your New OSU Extension ODS Program Leader

If you ask Dr. Kristopher Elliott why he’s excited to jump into his new position as the Oregon State University Extension Outdoor Program Leader, he’ll tell you that the outdoors has always been in his blood. Growing up in a small farming community in Northern California, his earliest memories are of the outdoors, including many family camping trips.

The connection between science and the outdoors truly came into focus for Kris after experiencing outdoor education field trips during elementary school. A passion was born, and she’s remained engaged in the outdoors in both his personal and professional lives ever since.

Kris is a proud alum of Oregon State University, where he completed his PhD in science education. While there, he served as an agricultural sciences instructor supervising student teachers across the state. This experience introduced him to Oregon’s vast geographic diversity and its wide range of educational settings.

Kris comes to us most recently from Tennessee, where he served as Director of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) for Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools.

"When I first heard of the (ODS Program Leader) opening, I immediately connected with the program’s mission," Kris said. "It aligns with my passion for the outdoors, science, and student success. Outdoor School brings so many important pieces together for youth, and the connections students make during just a week of Outdoor School will be a lasting foundation for them throughout their lives."

If you thought a cross-country move and taking the helm of the Outdoor School program were the only exciting changes in Kris’ life, we have more news for you: On Sept. 23rd, he was married! Kris and his new husband consider the outdoors their "second home" and enjoy an active, fit lifestyle, including hiking, camping, kayaking and snow skiing. They also love to travel as often as possible. The two are making their new home in Corvallis, near the OSU campus.

For more information, visit:
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/outdoor-school

To be added to the OSU Extension program email list, send your name to:
outdoorschool@oregonstate.edu

“I’m excited to be back at OSU and working on the OSU Extension team!” said Dr. Kris Elliott, OSU Extension’s new Assistant Director of Outreach & Engagement and Outdoor School Program Leader.
Adventure WILD! Grows, Thanks to You!

Summer 2017 was the sixth and biggest year yet for Adventure WILD! Summer Camp (adventurewild.org), hosted by the Mazamas and a benefit for Friends of ODS.

For the first time, all but one of the camp weeks was filled to their 40-camper capacity. Thank you to the many parents in our ODS family who enrolled your kids!

Molly “Hopper” Mosenthal fit right in as the new Camp Manager, bringing her positive energy and deep camp experience to the team. The Mazamas staff knew she was a keeper, and recently hired Molly full time as their Youth Programs Coordinator. You’ll see her again next summer, when she returns as head of Adventure WILD!.

Also joining the staff was a guest Counselor-in-Training: 20-year-old French exchange student Hugo Ribera. Hugo’s energy and fun antics were a great hit with the campers, as he carefully stalked squirrels (not found in his region of France) and schemed with a camper to make the camp’s tallest erupting volcano.

Week 5’s unexpected combination of an unprecedented heat wave and unhealthy air quality (due to Canada’s forest fires) meant several days of carefully planned curriculum had to be scrapped. Staff members quickly adjusted to include calm, indoor activities that kept everyone cool and breathing easy.

By popular demand, the special Thursday day trip to Mazama Lodge on Mount Hood was expanded from one week to three weeks! The kids loved discovering native animals and plants, building shelters, hiking creekside trails, birdwatching, and more.
An Outdoor School Story

"I’m Brianna and a great reason for fifth graders to go on an overnight is because some kids aren’t able to be outdoors in a camping environment mostly because (a) they couldn’t afford it or (b) they don’t have time.

Being outdoors is not only fun but experiencing learning about animals, plants, and rare lifecycles is a very important and almost life-changing experience. Several kids can’t even imagine what we did on our overnight for a fun activity. We learned more in three days about marine life than we did about angles and shapes in month. Our brains were full of marine lifecycles, animals, and plants around the ocean life area. We had a lot of fun on our overnight, and we came back full of information that I don’t think any of us will forget."

~ Brianna A.
## Upcoming Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td><strong>Chinook Book fundraiser ends!</strong> Download the mobile app at: chinook.co/friendsofoutdoorschool (60% of the $15 cost is donated to us!)</td>
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<td>Oct. 16-17</td>
<td><strong>Oregon Outdoor Summit:</strong> outreach.oregonstate.edu/initiatives/summit17</td>
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<td>Nov. 14</td>
<td><strong>Deadline for school districts to submit applications for ODS funding:</strong> extension.oregonstate.edu/outdoor-school</td>
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<td>Dec. 5</td>
<td><strong>2nd Annual Outdoor Trivia Night!</strong> Buy discounted presale tickets:** donate.friendsofoutdoorschool.org/trivia</td>
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<td>Jan. 15</td>
<td><strong>Deadline to submit a Request for Letter of Interest (RFLOI)</strong> for Gray Family Foundation’s Outdoor School planning grants:** grayff.org/funding_category_cpt/outdoor-school</td>
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For more information, contact Kim Silva at Kim@FriendsOfOutdoorSchool.org or 503-257-1774  
www.FriendsOfOutdoorSchool.org