



50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL REPORT

1967



2017

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Board Chair

Michèle Taylor
Vice Chair

R. Mitchell Wickham
Vice Chair

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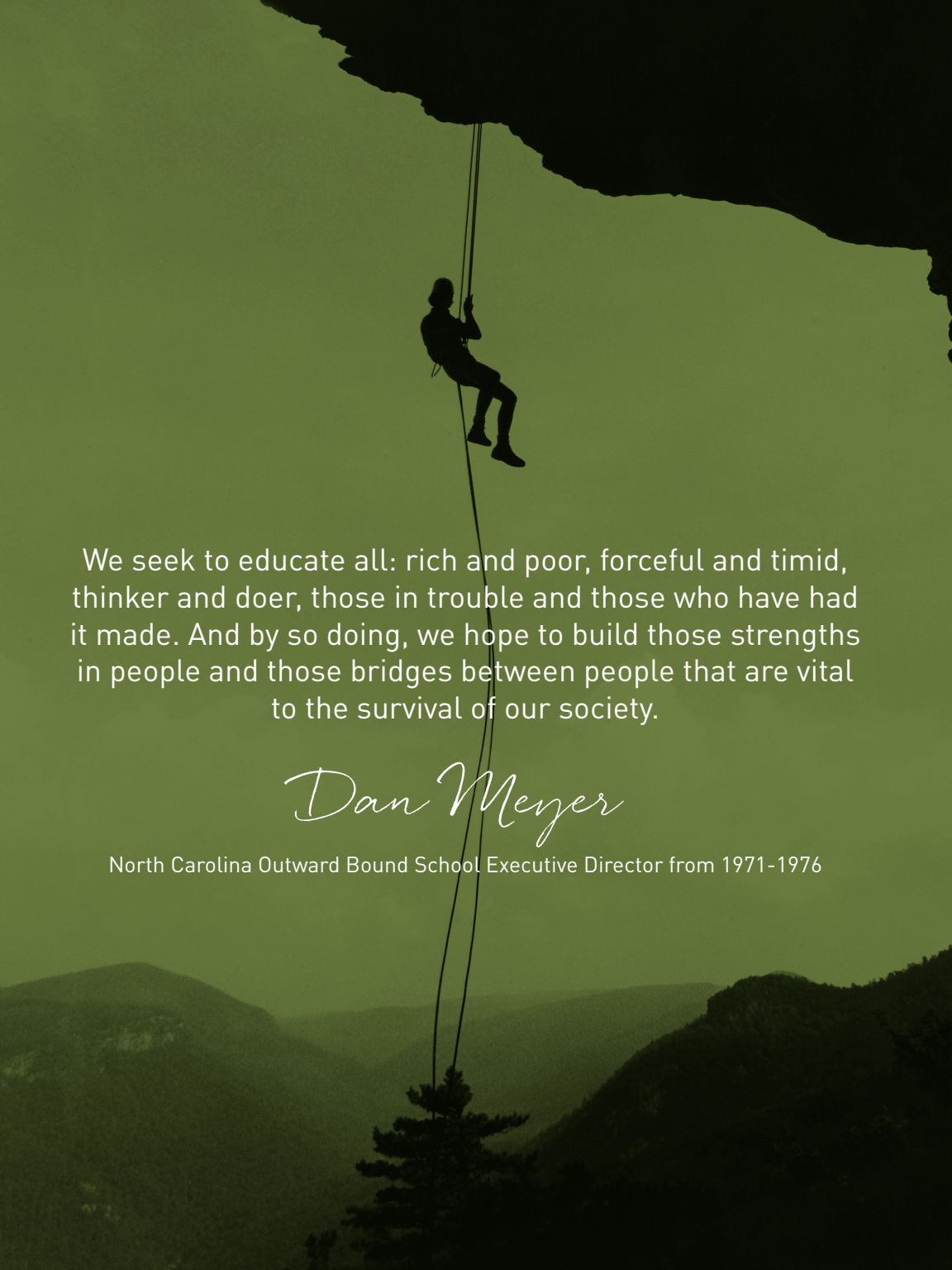
Aram Attarian
Susan R. Buckley
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Matthew Gould
James A. Gray III
Kay R. Hagan
David P. Hardy
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W. States Lee IV
Henry D. McHenry, Jr.
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J. Kenton Richards
Jose Ruiz
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Robert M. Schwartzberg
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Nathaniel G. Vish
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Patricia Woodson

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Marjorie B. Buckley
Roddey Dowd
Scott B. Perper
Nelson Schwab
Marjorie H. Whittaker

Honorary Directors

John C. Huie
Dan Meyer



We seek to educate all: rich and poor, forceful and timid,
thinker and doer, those in trouble and those who have had
it made. And by so doing, we hope to build those strengths
in people and those bridges between people that are vital
to the survival of our society.

Dan Meyer

North Carolina Outward Bound School Executive Director from 1971-1976



Dear Friends,

North Carolina Outward Bound School is 50 years old. What an incredible honor it is to serve the School in this milestone year. The School's remarkable story has been written by its founders, along with all the staff, board members, students and friends who led NCOBS into becoming an organization that remains resilient, enduringly relevant and steadfast to its original purpose. We celebrate and cherish this legacy, and we honor all those who came before us.

Our motto, "to serve, to strive and not to yield," has characterized the spirit of our School and its people from the start. With unwavering commitment to serve, we have grown from providing courses for a few hundred young male students in 1967, to serving 4,891 students last year, from all walks of life. Those now include women, adults, veterans, educators and corporate groups. In addition, we have greatly

expanded our program area to include the Outer Banks, Atlanta, the Everglades and Central Rivers of Florida, and Patagonia.

In the last 50 years we have also overcome financial obstacles and refined a strong, long-term plan for sustainability. We have achieved a significant goal for the first time this past year—set forth at our 25th Anniversary—to scholarship 50% of our students. And thanks to the generosity of generations of NCOBS friends who contributed to the 50th Anniversary Enduring Impact Campaign, our endowments now exceed \$15.8M. These funds will be instrumental in accomplishing our top priorities in the decades to come.

So many of our 168,541 alumni speak of the transformational effect of NCOBS on their lives. They discover they are far more capable than they thought. They believe they can overcome challenges and accomplish anything. They experience a shared humanity with their crewmates—no matter how different they may be—that stays with them forever. The importance of the work of our exceptional instructors, supporting students of all ages to discover these lessons, has never been greater. Our work has never been more relevant.

As an organization, we have discovered these same lessons. With our ever-expanding crew of board members, staff, students and friends, we do not yield. Together we have faced adversity, discovered our strengths, and honed our program delivery to serve our mission ever more effectively.

It is a privilege to stand with you now, upon the shoulders of generations of NCOBS crewmates, to carry forth this legacy with the deepest conviction in the strength of our School and the value of what we provide. NCOBS is thriving today because of the positive difference it continues to make in lives, schools and communities. It is our people who make this difference happen. It always has been.

With deepest gratitude for your contributions to the School, and with excitement for our journey ahead,

Whitney H. Montgomery
Executive Director



WE SERVE

SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS

Outward Bound Atlanta

A wide range of leadership development and team building programs for groups of Metro Atlanta elementary, middle and high school students delivered in Atlanta and in the North Carolina mountains

1,795 students | 2,906 SPDs

Educators Initiative

Year-long professional development program for traditional, public, charter and independent school teachers that positively impacts classroom culture and curriculum through wilderness, classroom and online components

46 students | 368 SPDs

Unity Project

Wilderness-based high school program, with a school-based follow-up component, to empower young people of diverse backgrounds to become compassionate leaders of social change

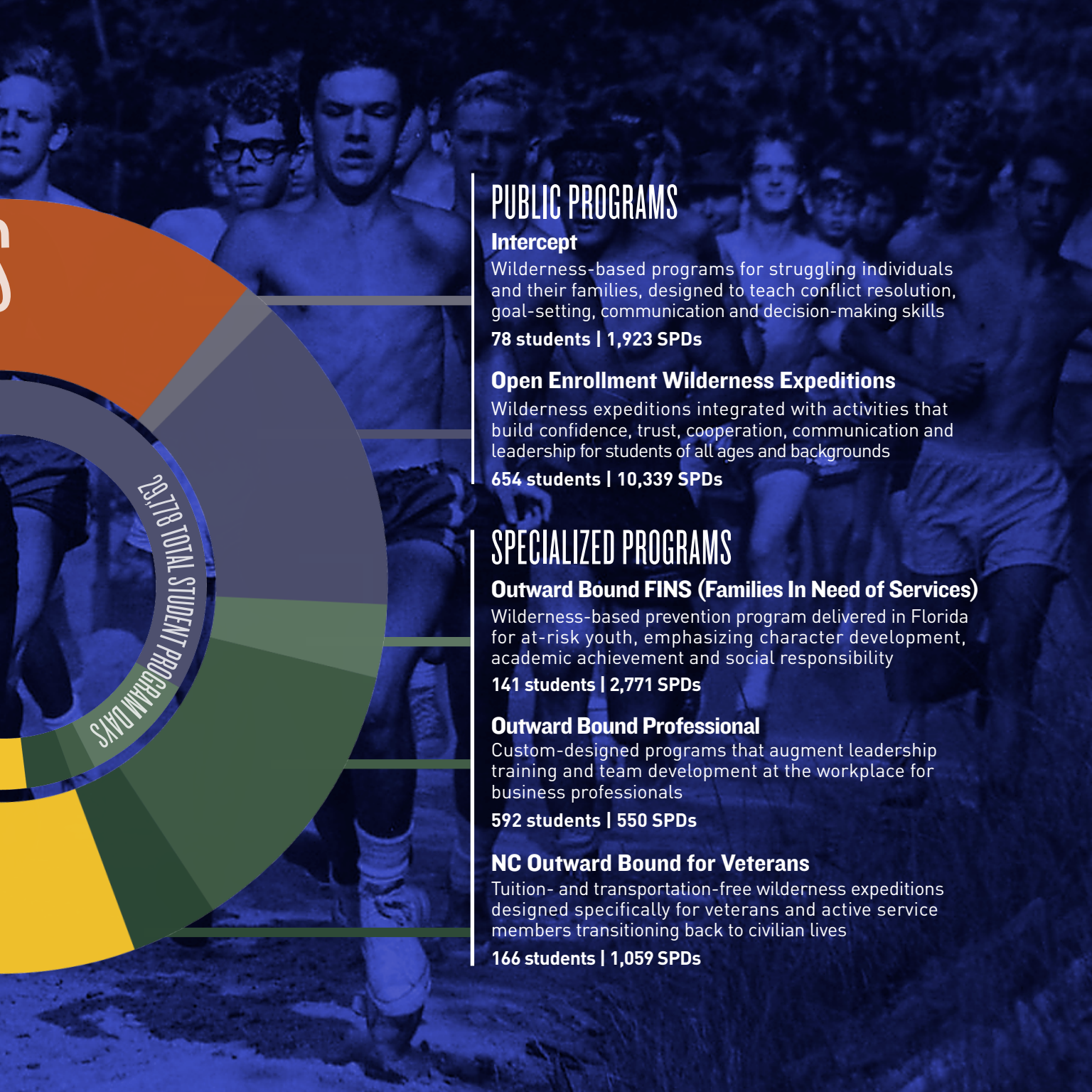
69 students | 463 SPDs

Group Education Programs

Short (4-7 day), wilderness-based, self-pay courses customized for intact groups from public and independent secondary schools, colleges and universities

1,350 students | 9,399 SPDs

4,891 TOTAL STUDENTS



PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Intercept

Wilderness-based programs for struggling individuals and their families, designed to teach conflict resolution, goal-setting, communication and decision-making skills

78 students | 1,923 SPDs

Open Enrollment Wilderness Expeditions

Wilderness expeditions integrated with activities that build confidence, trust, cooperation, communication and leadership for students of all ages and backgrounds

654 students | 10,339 SPDs

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Outward Bound FINS (Families In Need of Services)

Wilderness-based prevention program delivered in Florida for at-risk youth, emphasizing character development, academic achievement and social responsibility

141 students | 2,771 SPDs

Outward Bound Professional

Custom-designed programs that augment leadership training and team development at the workplace for business professionals

592 students | 550 SPDs

NC Outward Bound for Veterans

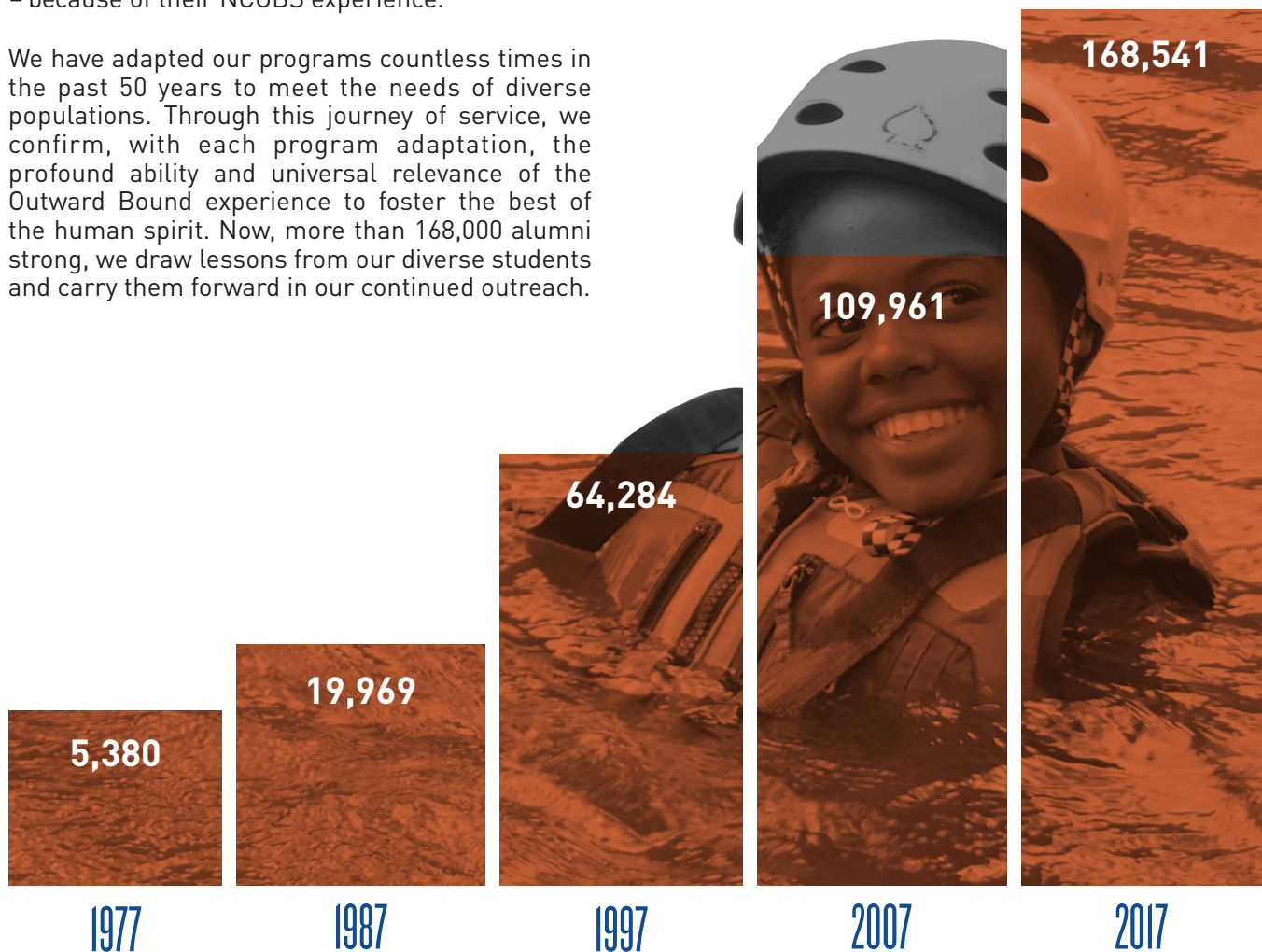
Tuition- and transportation-free wilderness expeditions designed specifically for veterans and active service members transitioning back to civilian lives

166 students | 1,059 SPDs

ALUMNI

Our alumni are high potential youth, educators, corporate managers, college students, military veterans, struggling teens, and adults from all walks of life. They are better equipped to participate in their communities as responsible citizens – whether at home, at school, or in their neighborhoods – because of their NCOBS experience.

We have adapted our programs countless times in the past 50 years to meet the needs of diverse populations. Through this journey of service, we confirm, with each program adaptation, the profound ability and universal relevance of the Outward Bound experience to foster the best of the human spirit. Now, more than 168,000 alumni strong, we draw lessons from our diverse students and carry them forward in our continued outreach.





celebrating DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Diversity is the medium in which our methodology works best. When compassion, respect, and understanding are awakened among a diverse crew of individuals, we are all awed by the simple truth of our shared humanity. This shared experience surmounts all differences, whether of gender, race, politics, religion, or socioeconomics. Together we gain insight and build bridges that last far beyond the Outward Bound experience.

As we progressed along our journey, a bond that could not be broken started to form. We laughed together, we cried together, we played together, and struggled together. We worked as a team to overcome things we never thought we could overcome. We shared memories and experiences that we thought we would never tell. All of this happened because of trust. It was amazing how much we actually trusted each other. It was one of the best feelings that I have ever had.

Kenneth

North Carolina Outward Bound School Unity Project Alumni

an historic journey INSTRUCTOR JOURNAL

Our educators are extraordinary. Since the School's founding, NCOBS field instructors have embodied a passion for teaching experientially, a love of the wilderness, a broad array of skills, and a belief that Outward Bound can invoke a better version of ourselves. Many of our earliest instructors were pioneers in the field of outdoor education. Today, some of the most experienced people in the profession work for NCOBS.

1971: The First NCOBS Course for Women

On day five or so (after we completed our first expedition on Shortoff, which had some grueling steep bushwhacking passages through rhododendron), Tracey announced she was going to leave the course. In the cabin that night she told us she was holding the group back, which was not true! What was heartwarming to hear was how the girls described that they had become a solid group and she was an integral member. Each revealed their own concerns about themselves, and expressed the reasons why they needed to stay together (OB's magic in real time).

By 1:00 a.m. I assessed that we had reached the point of not being able to hear any more. I asked each person to reflect on what they shared and to meet me at 6 a.m. at the top of the road for morning run. Well, I still get goosebumps writing this part: I didn't know if Tracey would show, but she did and she had that glow one can see in the photos ever since. She said that if so many others believed in her, how could she leave?

Arlene Ustin, Instructor, 1971-1978

1966

Watts Hill, Jr. [Chairman of North Carolina State Board of Education] sends an article about Josh Miner (founder of Outward Bound in the USA), from the *Princeton Alumni Weekly*, to George Esser (Executive Director of the North Carolina Fund.)



Esser shares the article with the Fund's Director of Special Projects, Jack Mansfield, who passes the article to his assistant, Marjorie Calloway (Buckley.)

1965

Marjorie conducts a feasibility study for an Outward Bound program in NC. She begins visiting other US Outward Bound schools. Eventually a decision is made to develop a school in NC separate from the work of the NC Fund.

Colorado Outward Bound friends, Herb Kinney and Dave Mashburn, show Marjorie and Jack Mansfield, a place in the Linville Gorge called Table Rock. They later lease this land from the US Forest Service for the iconic Table Rock Base Camp.



1966

NCOBS is incorporated as a private, non-profit, educational institution.

First meeting of an expanded NCOBS Board of Directors; Board approves Table Rock as the site for NCOBS.



Outward Bound USA grants NCOBS its charter.

Official ground-breaking for the Table Rock Base Camp with assistance from Deputy Regional Director, USFS, R.C. Ericksson.

1967-1969

NCOBS' official dedication led by Mrs. Emma Clark, US Postmistress of Jonas Ridge, NC at Table Rock; Table Rock serves as the School's first base camp.

First four crews, all-male, known as NC-1, begin their 26-day course at Table Rock

First Outward Bound Professional Program for the Jewel Box Corporation.

First scholarship recipients attend courses.

Rock Climbing Program designed.

First coed crew.

2014: "The Flawless Crew"

Ten young women, ages 14-16, met at the Asheville Airport and embarked on a 22-day challenge where they would backpack, canoe and climb their way through the forests of western North Carolina. This crazy combination of all-star ladies came together to support each other as if they'd known each other forever. They shed tears with each other and shared stories about the female heroes in their lives. Despite their initial skepticism that they could do this without boys, they carried all of the same heavy gear that every Outward Bound crew carries. They painted the warehouse at the base camp all on their own. They sang while they hauled their food up into a tree to keep it away from critters. They taught each other to swim so they could go whitewater canoeing.

By the time they reached the end of course, these women were more afraid to leave the woods than they were to be in them, because here in the woods, they had their girls with them. But they returned to the world stronger for the relationships they had built and for the power they had found within themselves. They returned loving their lives and their families even more than they had before, thanks to the contrast of having lived for so long without them. They returned knowing they would always have the love of their instructors and their crew behind them.

Lindsay Ward, Instructor, 2010-Present



By 1970, NCOBS had served a total of 444 students

1970-1972

Whitewater component introduced as course element.

First course for women.



Caving introduced as a course element.

First course for educators provides professional development training in experiential learning for classroom teachers.

First courses for college students.

1973-1974

First Group Education Programs (GEP) provided to serve schools, colleges and groups by bringing Outward Bound courses to the classroom by way of wilderness programming.

NCOBS main office established in Morganton, NC.

First course offered in the Florida Everglades - 26 days of canoeing, backpacking and service.

NCOBS begins year-round programs.

1975-1979

Green Cove Base Camp established in Otto, NC.

First Alumni course which included caving, whitewater, climbing, and parachuting (This would be the first and only time parachuting is offered.)

First Women Over 30 course.

First road bicycling course.



First semester course for college students.

First coed, adults-only course.

SCHOLARSHIPS

At NCOBS, we believe Outward Bound is for everyone. Our goal is to make the experience accessible to as many motivated students as possible. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we provide scholarships for students from all backgrounds so they may attend a course. In fiscal year 2017—our 50th year of serving students—NCOBS achieved the aspirational goal set forth by our founder, Marjorie Buckley, to offer scholarships to over 50% of all NCOBS students.



ACCESSIBILITY

Over half of all the students (51%) who attended an NCOBS course in 2017 did so with the help of financial aid and scholarships. This includes the following:

- » 100% of military veterans
- » 100% of high school students from Atlanta and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Schools
- » 57% of teachers enrolled in our Educator's Initiative
- » 23% of students from Public Program courses



INVESTMENT

Thanks to our donors and partners, NCOBS was able to invest over 20% of our total expenditures for the organization in Fiscal Year 2017 — or \$1,978,261 — directly into putting scholarship students on course.



DIVERSITY

Cultural, economic, gender, and racial diversity exponentially enriches the Outward Bound experience for every student in the crew. In Fiscal Year 2017, 79% of NCOBS crews contained scholarship students, offering students rich opportunities to see the world from a different perspective.

By 1980, NCOBS had served a total of 7,161 students

1980 - 1984

Alumni service expedition to Machu Picchu, Peru.

First Family course.

First Going Beyond Course for ages 55+.

Canaanland Base Camp leased in NC.

Summer Scholarship Literacy Program for South Bronx students begins.

Kurt Hahn Leadership Center opens at Table Rock Base Camp, offering intensive workshops for outdoor educators and classroom teachers.

1980 - 1986

Canaanland Base Camp closes.

Cedar Rock Base Camp established in the Pisgah National Forest, NC.

NCOBS begins urban programs in Atlanta, GA.

Residential Leadership Program (RLP) for staff begins.



1987 - 1989

Everglades Base Camp purchased at Sunset Island in Everglades City, FL.

International programs to Costa Rica begin.

First Instructor Development Program developed to give students experience in outdoor education.

First NCOBS Veterans Program delivered to support US veterans transition home.

First mountain biking course.

NCOBS begins running Group Education Programs in the Everglades.

By 1990, NCOBS had served a total of 24,180 students

serving those who serve OUTWARD BOUND VETERANS PROGRAM

North Carolina Outward Bound School has been offering tuition-free wilderness expeditions to military veterans since 1988. Using the time-tested Outward Bound process, these programs allow veterans to test their limits in an atmosphere of camaraderie, challenge and adventure. By building on existing skills and qualities developed during military service—integrity, collaboration, work ethic, self-discipline and the ability to adapt to dynamic situations—NC OBS Veterans Programs put veterans back in touch with their strengths and aptitudes so they can begin to work through their obstacles and realize their full potential.

Before I went on course, I honestly felt like I had little purpose in life anymore. I would wake up depressed and lack the motivation to do anything. I felt unhealthy. I ended up going on the Outward Bound Veterans course with a group of fellow Marines from my hometown. The experience itself helped give us a break from the stress of our everyday lives and provided us with the opportunity to connect as brothers and friends on a higher level. I finally feel like I have my life back.

Kevin

US Veteran and North Carolina Outward Bound School Veterans Alumni

1990-1991

High ropes course at Cedar Rock Base Camp completed.

Washington DC Scholarship Program established.

Greensboro Scholarship Fund established.

Atlanta Outward Bound Center opens.



Outer Banks sea kayaking programs begin in North Carolina.

1992-1997

25th Anniversary celebration in Charlotte, NC.

25th Anniversary Campaign raises \$6.2 million.

Arthur M. Blank Headquarters opens in Asheville, NC.

Unity Program developed to foster tolerance and respect among young people.



Greenville, SC Scholarship Fund developed.

Raleigh/Chapel Hill Scholarship Fund established.

1992-1999

Philadelphia Scholarship Fund developed.

Asheville Scholarship Fund established.

Mountaineering courses begin in Patagonia.

First kayaking expeditions in the Bahamas.

Women of Courage Program begins for survivors of abuse.

By 2000, NC OBS had served
a total of 72,332 students

ENDOWMENTS AND SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Endowments and scholarship funds sustain our scholarship outreach and general operating support. Proceeds from NCOBS endowments represented 51% of our total scholarship support in 2017. They are a wonderful way to honor a loved one and ensure that deserving students continue to be able to attend our high quality programs. You may create an endowment with a minimum of \$25,000 that can be paid over five years. To learn more, contact Dan Leroy, Director of Development, at (828) 239-2103 or dleroy@ncobs.org.

American Veterans Endowment
Ann R. Baruch Endowment for Philadelphia Scholarships
Blank Enhancement Endowment
Richard Bowles Memorial Endowment Fund
R. E. F. Buckley Endowment Fund
Burke County/Phifer/Haworth Endowment Fund
Kevin Chynoweth Memorial Endowment Fund
Annetta J. and Robert M. Coffelt Jr. Endowment
Rhea Elliott Cooper Scholarship Endowment
B. Dalton Endowment Fund
Rufus M. Dalton Scholarship Endowment
Ecology Wildlife Scholarship Fund
Field Staff Support Fund
James M. Galbraith Memorial Endowment Fund
GlaxoSmithKline Endowment
Gray Wolf Scholarship for Western North Carolina
Mark E. Headen Endowment
W. R. Hearst Endowment Fund
John C. Huie Educator's Endowment
Thomas James Educational Endowment
Andrew Jitkoff Memorial Endowment Fund
Elizabeth (Libby) Jones Memorial Endowment Fund
Hugh Jones Jr. Family Endowment Fund
Ben Lenett Scholarship Endowment
Leydic Endowment Fund
Travis Lizotte Endowment Fund
Louis McGuinn Memorial Endowment Fund
Baxter H. Miller Memorial Endowment Fund

Royce Ratcliff Memorial Endowment Fund
Ellie Raynolds Memorial Endowment Fund
Reader's Digest III Endowment Fund
Gray Schell Endowment Fund
Schwab Endowment Fund
Ginger Simms Leadership Fund
Stetson Endowment Fund
Sulzberger Endowment
Unity Endowment
John Webster Four Pillars Endowment
Virginia Worden Expeditionary Learning Endowment
Zeke Zeliff Endowment for Leadership through Service

Scholarship Funds

Dave Genova Memorial Fund
Ryan Glass Memorial Scholarship Fund
Stephen Hicks Scholarship Fund
Jubilee Scholarship Fund
New York City Scholarship Fund
Sloan Memorial Fund

Operating Funds

The Jacob Peach Memorial Fund

2000 - 2004



Girls On the Move Program created to empower young women.

NCOBS remains an independent school during the national Outward Bound schools consolidation movement.

"Breaking the Ice" — the Palestine-Israel Unity Program begins.

Green Cove Base Camp closes.

2006 - 2012

Educators Initiative Program begins, offering year-long teacher development programs.

Unity Program begins in Charlotte, NC.

Families In Need of Services (FINS) Program for Florida at-risk youth adopted by NCOBS from Outward Bound USA.

Scottsmoor and Key Largo, Florida Base Camps added to NCOBS facilities.

2013 - 2017

Intercept courses for struggling youth begin in the NC mountains.

Little Warriors Program begins serving children of fallen Naval Special Warfare Development Group operators.

American Explorers Youth Leadership Program for Metro-Atlanta students begins.

Pathfinder courses begin serving young adults who seek to set goals and find direction for their future.



NCOBS hosts the Outward Bound International World Conference.

NCOBS Educator's Initiative Program named "Outstanding Program of the Year" by Outward Bound International

NCOBS launches 50th Anniversary celebration and the *Enduring Impact Campaign*.

Discover More

Learn more about the School's history on our interactive history website:
www.ncobs.org/story

PROGRAM PARTNERS AND CLIENTS

Learn more about our programs and how your organization or school can become a partner by contacting Richard Blomgren, rblomgren@ncobs.org, (828) 239.2140.

Outward Bound Professional Clients

American Leadership Forum
- Charlotte, NC Chapter
American Leadership Forum
- Waccamaw, SC Chapter
Baby & Company
Boston Consulting Group - Chicago Office
Cannon School
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
Charlotte Country Day School
Cox Enterprises Inc. (Cox Leadership Program)
Cox Enterprises Inc. (FORGE Program)
Delta Air Lines
Duke University LeaderShape
Hidden Brook Communications
Jones Day
Leadership Atlanta
Leadership Sandy Springs
Liberty Fellows
Summer Principals Academy
The College School
University of North Carolina
-Kenan Flagler Leadership Immersion
University of North Carolina
- Kenan-Flagler Business School
Waste Industries USA, Inc.

Educational and Community Partners

Agents of Change, FL
Agnes Irwin School, PA
AG Middle School, NC
American Explorers, GA
Appalachian State University, NC
Atlanta Public Schools, GA
Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, MD
Boys and Girls Club of Metro Atlanta, GA
Boys' Latin of Philadelphia Charter School, PA
David W. Butler High School, NC
Camp Coleman, GA
Camp Judaea, NC
Cannon School, NC
Canterbury School, FL
Cape Fear Academy, NC
Capital City Public Charter School, DC
Center College, KY
Charles D. Owen High School, NC
Charles. R. Drew Charter School, GA
Charlotte Latin School, NC
City Kids Wilderness Project, DC
Community Academy of Philadelphia
Charter School, PA
Creative Learning Academy, FL
Isaac Dickson Elementary School, NC
Donegal High School Experiential Education
Program, PA
Episcopal Academy, PA
Episcopal Day School, GA
Clyde A. Erwin High School, NC
Evergreen Community Charter School, NC
Franklin School of Innovation, NC
Freire Charter School, PA
Georgetown Day School, DC
Gilbert High School, SC
Hawthorne School of Health Sciences, NC
Highland School, VA
Horace Mann Elementary School, DC
Independence High School, NC
Irmo Middle, SC
Lab Atlanta (The Lovett School), GA
LaGrange College, GA
Lead Academy, SC
Mt. Vernon School, GA
Montessori School of Anderson, SC
Multi-Cultural Academy Charter School, PA
Myers Park High School, NC
North Carolina Wesleyan College, NC
Palmer Trinity School, FL
Porter Gaud School, SC
Purpose Built Schools, GA
Pyle Middle School, MD
Ransom Everglades School, FL
River Bluff High School, SC
Riverdale Country School, NY
Saint Andrew's School, FL
Saint Catherine's School, VA
Saint Christopher's School, VA
Saint Mary's School, NC
Sampson Middle School, NC
Savannah Country Day School, GA
South Mecklenburg High School, NC
Summer Search
Tandem Friends School, VA
The Exploris School, NC
The Field School, Washington DC
Tracy Family Foundation, IL
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC
- School of Education (MEDX)
- Student Government
Valley Springs Middle School, NC
Warren Wilson College, NC
William Jewell College, MO

By its 50th year, NC OBS served
a total of 168,541 students

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Fifty years since first opening our doors in 1967, North Carolina Outward Bound School's finances are as strong as ever. This financial stability is rooted in our devotion to sustainable growth, prudent fiscal management, and to the continued generosity of our alumni and friends. The School's endowments now exceed \$15.8M, thanks in part to the extraordinary success of the 50th Anniversary Campaign, which generated nearly \$7M in new endowment funding. These long-term investments will fuel NCOBS' continued commitment to scholarships and our staff for the next five decades and beyond.

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Cash and equivalents	\$4,543,853
Contributions and grants receivable	\$2,072,380
Property and equipment	\$1,822,418
Long-term investments	\$15,317,907
Total Assets	\$23,756,558

Liabilities And Net Assets

Liabilities

Current liabilities	\$1,608,086
Long-term liabilities	\$1,639,525
Total liabilities	\$3,247,611

Net Assets

Unrestricted assets	\$(725,060)
Temporarily restricted assets	\$9,864,452
Permanently restricted assets	\$11,369,555
Total Net Assets	\$20,508,947

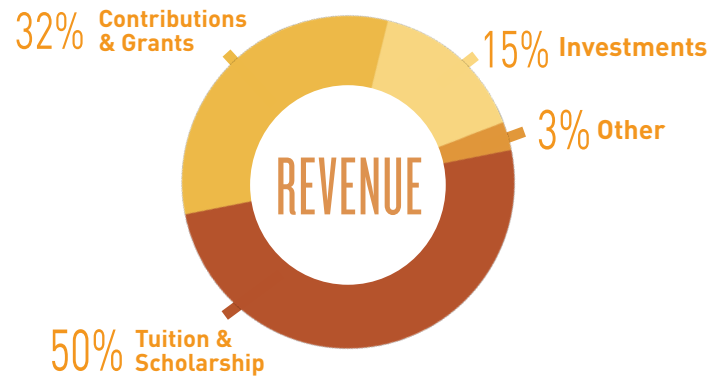
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$23,756,558
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Year Ended March 31, 2017

Statement of Activities

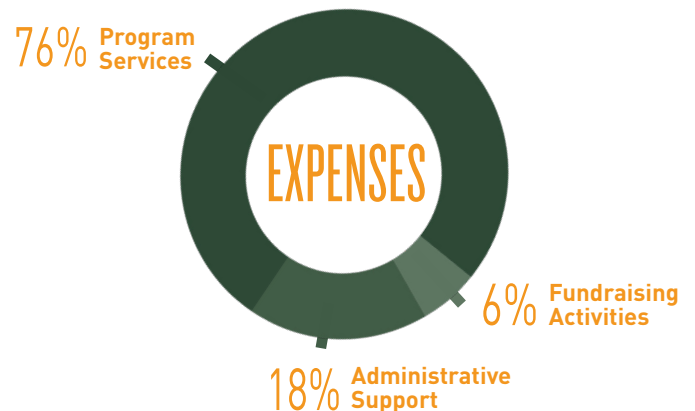
Support and Revenue

Tuition & Scholarships	\$5,197,234
Contributions & Grants	
Contributions	\$2,558,005
Federal & State Grants	\$735,619
Total Contributions & Grants	\$3,293,624
Investments	\$1,572,864
Other Revenue	\$284,727
Total Support & Revenue	\$10,348,449



Expenses

Program Services	
Program Delivery	\$4,941,670
Program Administration	\$1,150,874
Student Services	\$460,400
Total Program Services	\$6,552,944
Supporting Services	
General & Administrative	\$836,140
Marketing	\$671,430
Total Support & Services	\$1,507,570
Fundraising Activities	
Development	\$516,176
Total Expenses	\$8,576,690



Year Ended March 31, 2017



an historic journey **INSTRUCTOR JOURNAL**

The Best Summer Ever

It's really difficult to wrap my arms around the fact it has been almost 50 years since my Outward Bound days at the base of Table Rock. Starting out as a Sherpa, it was truly the best of times since the wellbeing of each crew member seemed to be placed squarely on the shoulders of others — yet, by setting and leading climbs, we were trusted enough to assume the ultimate responsibility of a student's life. I still consider it the best summer I have ever spent because of the great people I had the chance to work with, the new skills I acquired, and the opportunity to explore new boundaries for myself.

Then, of course, there were the myriad opportunities that each successive summer brought. While I followed the traditional career progression for an NCOBS staff member — from a Sherpa, to an assistant instructor, to an instructor — my “growth” path was anything but typical. I was fortunate enough to be offered the opportunity to use some other skills, such as photography and filmmaking, which in turn led to the first photo essay book on Outward Bound entitled *To Know by Experience*, and to the first promotional film. When NCOBS needed a better backpack, it gave me the opportunity to design and manufacture an initial order of 80 rucksacks, which in turn gave rise to Madden Mountaineering and my future direction in the outdoor industry.

The main take away from my experience at NCOBS is simply a manifestation of Kurt Hahn's basic quote, “There is more in us than we know. If we can be made to see it, perhaps for the rest of our lives we will be unwilling to settle for less.” NCOBS provided me with a foundation of skills and self-confidence, it gave me the opportunity to see what lies within myself, and it ultimately defined the direction of my path forward in life.

Dan Madden, Instructor, 1970-1973

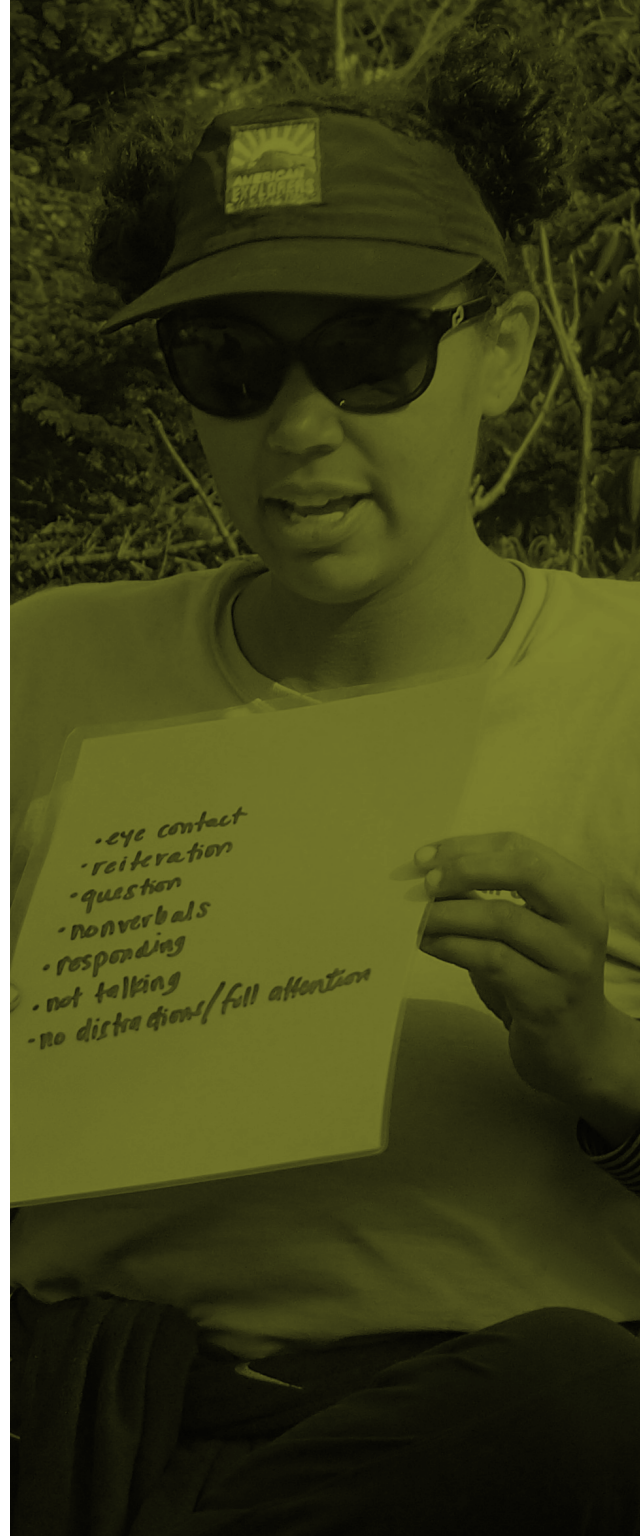
Tapping Greatness

Above all, it's the unique staff-student relationship that compels me to return to work at NCOBS year after year. Our students show up ready to learn, engage, and step outside their comfort zones. As staff, we show up ready to challenge, stir awareness and mitigate risk in order to reveal to young people their own capabilities.

As rewarding as this relationship can be, working as an Outward Bound instructor has its own set of challenges. It is hard to miss out on birthdays, weddings and daily interactions with friends and family. It is hard to consistently and creatively lead students into creating healthy, compassionate communities in the forest when there exists such a strong need for consistent and creative leadership in my local community, in my state, in my country.

For me, I am able to co-exist in both the forest and urban communities through courageous conversations. These conversations revolve around what it means to be a person of color working and living at the North Carolina Outward Bound School. The ability to express myself in the safety of my NCOBS staff community has allowed me to claim my worldly identity while simultaneously delving into the hard work of changing lives. It has also equipped me to create similar safe spaces for my students to discover and express their truest selves on course. Only then can they fully tap their unrealized potential for greatness.

Miah McClinton, Instructor, 2013 - Present



- eye contact
- reiteration
- question
- nonverbals
- responding
- not talking
- no distractions/full attention

Thank You

North Carolina Outward Bound School, once again, received outstanding financial support from individuals and private foundations in 2017, including generous contributions to the 50th Anniversary “Enduring Impact” Campaign from hundreds of NCOBS alumni, current and former staff members, and other friends. On behalf of future generations of NCOBS students and staff, thank you for your extraordinary support. *(Campaign donors are marked by an asterisk in the list below.)*

Summit Society—\$25,000 +

Alex Lee, Inc.*
Anonymous*
Bernard and Holly Arghiere*
The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation*
Ann R. Baruch*
Amos and Kimberly Beason*
Franklin and Jan Blackford*
Marjorie B. Buckley*
Walter and Susan Buckley*
The Community Foundation of South Georgia*
The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina*
The James M. Cox Foundation*
James and Mary Helen Dalton*
Karen and Rufus Dalton, Jr.*
Rufus M. Dalton*
The Dickson Foundation*
The Dowd Foundation*
The Ecology Wildlife Foundation*
Virginia Ford*
The Glass Foundation, Inc.
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