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**INSIDE OUR 2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

**AMERICAN CANYON COMMUNITY & PARKS FOUNDATION**

www.acparks.org

Published: April 2023
Dear Friends,

2022 was an exciting year in many ways. As Covid restrictions eased, communities across the globe eagerly gathered outdoors ready to socialize and reconnect. At ACCPF we celebrated by bringing back pre-Covid programs and expanding with new initiatives to connect community and nature in meaningful ways.

One of the most meaningful opportunities was the expanded Heart Your Parks public art program. Over 40 artists from throughout the region expressed their connection with nature by painting a large plywood heart or frame. These beautiful pieces were on display in American Canyon parks and trails during the month of February. They showcased the incredible talent of our local artists and encouraged a deeper connection to nature for the entire community. **We estimate over 2,000 people visited the art pieces, which drew attention to American Canyon's beautiful parks and trails, and supported thousands of healthy hours outside.**

Our board and staff are keenly aware of the need for our youth to spend time in nature and discover career paths in outdoor sciences. With that understanding we developed the Watershed Explorers Pilot Program. **Last year 155 fourth and fifth graders experienced the Wetlands as young scientists, taking curriculum concepts from the classroom and putting them to real-life use at Wetlands.** We are incredibly proud of this program and look forward to serving every 4th grader in American Canyon in 2023. It is our duty to help kids connect with nature so that they grow to respect, love, and protect it. The American Canyon Wetlands is a science-rich backdrop for hands-on learning and meaningful outdoor experiences.

Heart Your Parks and Watershed Explorers are just two examples of the creative and authentic ways that we bring nature and community together. In the coming year, we are excited to unveil the "Outdoor Connection", a state-of-the-art trailside learning center. This mobile unit will allow us to expand partnerships with schools and community programs. In addition, we continue the development of the Napa River Ecology Center project, a regional home for environmental education.

Each and every day we are grateful for the support of our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters. A heartfelt thank you from our family to yours, we look forward to another exciting year of nature and community.

Janelle Sellick
Executive Director, ACCPF
## Our Impact

### 2022 by the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Play team volunteers contributed</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer hours</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Your Park artists</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours in meaningful nature exercises</td>
<td>3,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watershed Explorers students</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community events</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curiosity Kids meetup hours outside</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy hours outside</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship support</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants in Heart Your Parks &quot;Heart Walk&quot;</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

2022 EXECUTIVE BOARD
Raffi Boloyan, President
Sean Hughes, Vice President
Crystal Mallare, Treasurer
Gladys Milligan, Secretary

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Cathy Margolati
Patricia Oro
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Jeff Nichelini
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Joy Hilton, Education Programs Director
Andrea Long, Community Programs Director

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Kenneth Leary
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Kristen Gutierrez
Cathy Dacanay

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Elaine Boloyan

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Kurtis Bales
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Juliana Becerra
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Penny Bellotti
Geoff Belyea
Dolores Benjamin
Chris Benz
Sindy Biederman
Millie Binz
William Birmingham
Sheri Blades
Dorothy Blake
Aida Boloyan
Elaine & Raffi Boloyan
James Bondoc
Sophie Borgeaud
Greg Bouillerce
Karma Brazell
Phil Brazell
Deb Brill
Stephen Brook
Wendy Bruce
Tami Buck
Ted Buck
Nathell Buford
James Bui
Bill Burrage
Erik Burrow
Kristian Cabuago
David Campbell
Elizabeth Celaya
Josita Chaparro
Pam Chappell
Nicholas Cheranich
Charlotte Chiolero

thank you for your support
CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

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Perry Clark Nicholas Hamati Barbara Long Anne Payne
Kari Cluney Faya Hamid Erika Lubensky Irma Perez
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Carolyne Commander Robert & Tammi Haney Joy Malinowski Richard Peterson
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Damon Conley Bill Harper Andrea Phelps
Brent Cooper Celina Harper Bill Phelps
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Theresa Corey Jerry Heikura Pamela Phillips
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Marion Cruz Victoria Hernandez Michelle Marin
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Megan Dameron Jason Holley Brian Mascia
John Datlen Daren Horner Betsy Masterson
Randy Davis Tara McClinton Horner Nicole Mauldin
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Connie Denning Christopher Huang Kimberly McDonald
Darrell Etten Mai Huang Terrence McGrath
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Jaime Gallegos Brenda Knight Denise Mortimore
Taifi Gaskins Fary Koh Andrea Mozolic
Chris Geilfuss Mandy Ung Laakso Elizabeth Munk
Shelia Gentry Jennifer Lacap Joseph &
Jason Giannini Melanie LaForteza Nancy Nabynski
Guy Goodacre Zita Latona Derek Nelson
Jeanette Goyetchie Ray Laymon Gian Nelson
Rick Greenberg Mandy Le Shanda Neumeier
Ryan Gregory Barton & Kasama Lee Amit Nischal
Gina Griggs Lisa Levee Arvind Nischal
Laura Grijalva Rebecca Lemos Maria Ojeda
Kristen Gutierrez Violeta Leslie Diana Oliviano
Mario Gutierrez Barbara Li Melissa Ortiz

Thank you!

Erica Ahmann Smithies
Felicia Sousa
Mary Sousa
Mick Stangroover
Carol Strausborger
Carrie & Curtis Strohl
Ashley Susa
Eleonor Taaca
Jessica Thomason
Scott Thomason
Congressman Mike Thompson
Tom Thornton
Martha Tripp
Jen Trumpp
Louis Tumolo
Jessica Tuteur
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Chris Wendell
Tonya West
Melissa Weyant
John Wojtas
Fanny Woo
Cecilia Wyant
Chris Yepsen
Kevin Zeigler
Heidi Zipay
Valerie Zizak-Morais

Mike
In 2022 we expanded several programs which highlighted the connection between community and nature. These programs focused on educating and creating community for our youth along with the support of our Teen Play Team volunteers.

**Watershed Explorers**

*Environmental Education*

- Gets students out of the classroom and into Wetlands for hands-on learning
- Enhances 4th grade science curriculum
- 130 students participated in 520 hours of Environmental Education
- Exposes students to environmental science careers
- Creates enthusiastic learners

**Teen Play Team**

- Year-round volunteer/mentor program
- 28 local high school students participated in 2022
- Teens develop leadership, event management, and mentor skills
- Engages our youth with the community
IN THE COMMUNITY

Community Trail Programs

Coffee Mornings
A treasured ACCPF tradition returned with four in-person free coffee pop ups at Wetlands Edge Trail in 2022. With generous support from the Napa Junction Starbucks, ACCPF encouraged 450 neighbors and members to get outside with free coffee, conversation, trail maps, rock painting and dog treats.

Earth Day Walk & Talk
Part sunset stroll at Wetlands, part climate change impact presentation, more than 75 people and five partner organizations joined forces to create a “progressive” hike featuring engaging conversations about climate change & what we as individuals can do mitigate the impact.

Community Education Hikes
Newell Fire Recovery Hike & Beginning Birding - The popular Wild AC lecture series received a facelift in 2022 with the introduction of Wild AC Hikes offered in partnership with Napa County Resource Conservation District and Napa-Solano Audubon Society. More than 100 participants participated in the two hikes - the spring Newell Fire Recovery Hike and the fall Wetlands Beginning Birding Hike.
IN THE COMMUNITY

Heart Your Parks
- Partnered with over 40 local artists
- Over 2,000 visitors viewing the public art display
- Highlighted American Canyon’s parks and trails
- Helps the community connect with nature through art

This public art celebration of nature & community expanded in 2022 to include 45 artists including one student artist from each of the American Canyon elementary and middle schools. Hearts were displayed in 18 different parks & trails during the month of February and visited by thousands of admirers from across the Bay Area.

12th Annual Reindeer Run 5k/10k
- Community members ran or walked over 825 miles
- Free youth registration supports healthy families
- Beautiful Wetlands course highlights American Canyon’s natural beauty
- Over 560 registered from 22 cities
- Proceeds benefit year-round nature programs of ACCPF

Thank You to our Community Partners

ACHS Key Club
American Canyon 4H
American Canyon Bike Shop
American Canyon High School
American Canyon Soroptimist
American Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant
City of American Canyon
Marin Clean Energy
Napa Climate Action NOW
Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District
Napa County Resource Conservation District
Napa Solano Audubon
Recology American Canyon
Sierra Club
Suscol Intertribal Council
A BIG "Thank You" to Terry McGrath of McGrath Properties who announced an additional pledge of $250,000 toward the capital campaign to fund the Napa River Ecology Center!
ACCPF continued its growth with our most successful fundraising year yet. This funding allowed us to increase Watershed and education programs, and invest in the development of the Napa River Ecology Center.

Dollars invested in no-cost education and community programs, serving over 3,000 community members!

Thank you to our Grantors:
- Bright Funds - Cisco
- California Coastal Commission
- Napa Valley Community Foundation
- Redwood Credit Union
- Sierra Club Napa Group & Redwood Chapter
- Starbucks
- The Gasser Foundation
- Walmart Stores

$278,473
The Outdoor Connection
A state-of-the-art Trailside Learning Center

Thanks to the $50,000 in seed funding raised during An Evening at the Ruins, “The Outdoor Connection” is in production and will come to a trail near you in 2023. This state-of-the-art mobile classroom will house everything a student or family needs to learn and have fun with nature, whether on the trail, at the park, or on campus. Watch for updates on www.acparks.org.