

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation

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INTRODUCTION

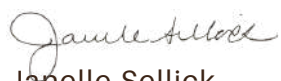
2023 IN REVIEW & WHAT'S AHEAD

Dear Friends,

2023 has been a busy year for ACCPF. We proudly launched The Outdoor Connection, Napa County's first mobile trailside learning center. After an Earth Day unveiling, we served the Boys and Girls Club and City of American Canyon Summer Camps with hands-on environmental programs at Wetlands. We launched the free "Discovery Days" series, bringing youth and their families together at the Wetlands to learn about endangered and threatened wetlands wildlife, their habitats, and how to protect them.

As we celebrate our eighth year as a nonprofit, all eyes are on the future and our new home, the Napa River Ecology Center. This multi-benefit project opens new public access to wetlands, supports climate change resiliency, expands environmental partnerships, and allows us to quadruple program capacity. Follow along with updates and opportunities to support the project at the website napariverecologycenter.org.

I hope that the impactful stories in our 2023 annual report will inspire you. There has never been a better time to get involved with the Foundation. Join the new Community Engagement Committee, volunteer to support environmental programs, serve on a committee, or swing by our office to say hello. Our work is only possible because of people like you, and we are profoundly grateful for your support. On behalf of our board and staff, thank you, and cheers to 2024!



Janelle Sellick
Executive Director, ACCPF



2023 STAFF

Janelle Sellick, Executive Director
Joy Hilton, Education Programs Director
Andrea Long, Community Programs Director
Patricia Oro, Administrative Assistant

2023 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Raffi Boloyan, President
Sean Hughes, Vice President
Gladys Milligan, Treasurer
Cathy Margolati, Secretary

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Liz Corey	Ex Officio Member
Andre Crisp	Leon Garcia
Elmer Andrei Manaid	
Jeff Nichelini	
Sarah Minahen	
Charlie Plummer	

*Scan QR codes to learn more about Foundation programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



In 2023, every 4th grader in the American Canyon schools became a Watershed Explorer. This three-part program turns the Wetlands Edge trailhead into an outdoor classroom, connecting kids to nature and improving the environment. **Through this program, over 300 students participated in immersive learning experiences** focused on healthy ecosystems, water quality, life cycles of plants and animals, and the impact of human activities on our surrounding habitats.



1,200
Environmental
Ed Hours



Since April 2023, The Outdoor Connection, a state-of-the-art mobile classroom, has held 9 community events and 3 summer camps, with **over 1,300 hours of outdoor learning and exploration**. Program participants explore nature and the environment while utilizing microscopes and binoculars, engaging in nature-based art creation, and learning from environmental educators. New Discovery Days trailside programs will highlight different environmental themes throughout 2024.

THE OUTDOOR CONNECTION

Trailside Learning Center



Over
400
Participants



TEEN PLAY TEAM

Teen Play Team is a unique program that connects youth with the community through volunteerism, environmental education, and social activities. **Each year 25 teens participate in the program to gain volunteer experience, develop real life work skills, and mentor youth in nature programs.** In 2023 our teens were busier than ever, supporting docent-led hikes, leading programs with The Outdoor Connection, maintaining the StoryWalk installation, and much more. What an awesome contribution they are making to our community...thank you, Play Team!

470

Volunteer
Hours



"... Not only have I been able to connect more with my community more, but also gain many leadership traits that can be applied to my future."

Angelina Ta



"... In any other group, I doubt I would be able to connect with the nature and the humanity of our community the same way I can in Play Team."

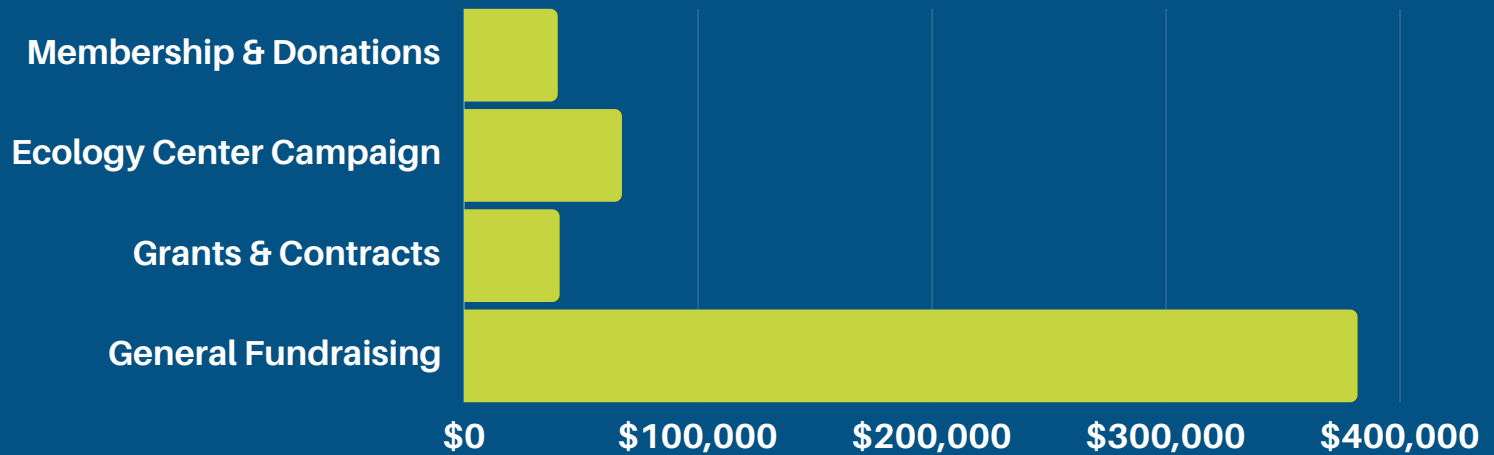
Chair Miles



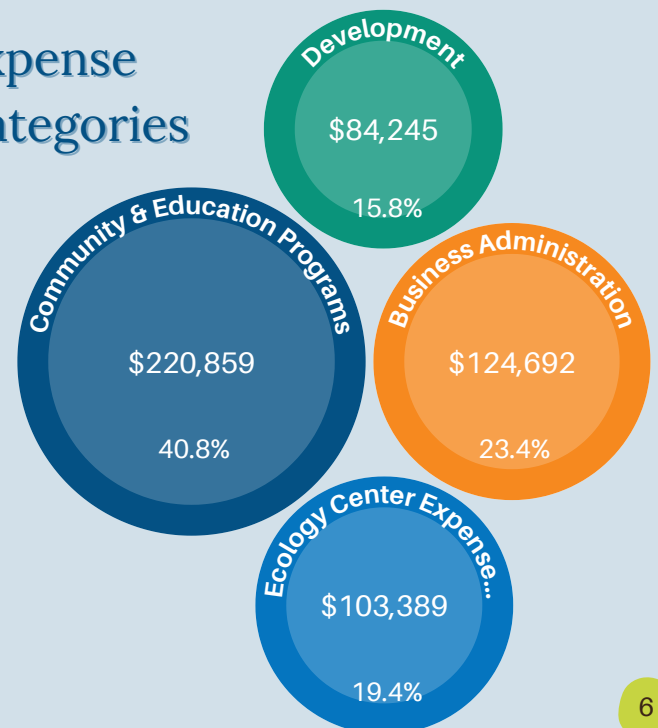
FINANCES AT A GLANCE

In 2023 new local and state grants boosted revenue for education programs, while Ecology Center funding supported ongoing project developments. We strive to be fiscally responsible daily and leverage resources through creative partnerships, in-kind donations, and strategic planning. **Our motto of "steady and sustainable growth" ensures that we will continue to support the community and environment for years to come.**

Revenue Categories



Expense Categories



NATURE & COMMUNITY

300

Visitors

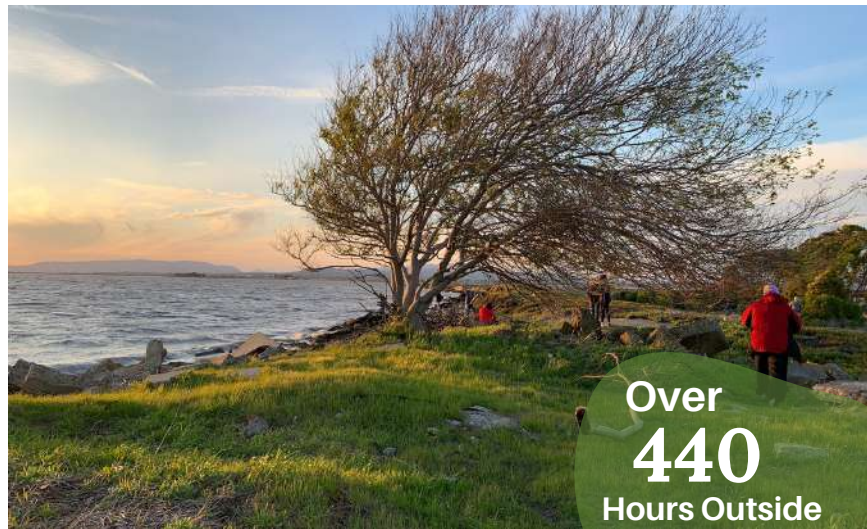


Wetlands Coffee Mornings

ACCPF's quarterly Coffee Mornings continues to be a member favorite. This free trailside program highlights the Napa River Wetlands and encourages the community to get outside and enjoy nature. Featuring FREE coffee, in partnership with Starbucks American Canyon locations, ACCPF's Coffee Mornings are a popular place to catch up with neighbors, enjoy some outdoor recreation, and take in the beautiful wetland's scenery.

Community Hikes

ACCPF brings the community together for free social and educational hikes. The 2023 series included the introduction of a King Tides social hike, a spring Wetlands Photography Hike in partnership with the American Canyon Chamber of Commerce, a Pollinators Hike at Newell Open Space led by our partners at Napa Resource Conservation District, and Full Moon Walk along the Wetlands Edge Trail in October.



Over
440
Hours Outside

200

Attendees



Earth Day

Earth Day American Canyon brought together five of ACCPF's environmental partners, The City of American Canyon and the Napa Valley Community College for a celebration at the Wetlands Edge trailhead. Sponsored by Marin Clean Energy, the event featured hands-on learning opportunities for all ages on topics such as personal composting, green transportation, personal wellness checks, sea level rise, and the unveiling of ACCPF's mobile classroom.

100 Hours Outside

The 100 Hours Outside Challenge returned for its second year in the summer of 2023. Thanks to the support of business sponsors, the 100 Hours Outside Challenge allowed **84** community members to participate FREE of charge, resulting in over 4,030 hours spent outside! The top participant completed **212** hours outside. Way to go!

Over
4,030
Hours Outside



548

Runners & Walkers



13th Annual Reindeer Run

The Reindeer Run 5k/10k is a beloved tradition for many in American Canyon and beyond. Featuring a festive race atmosphere and a visit from Santa & his reindeer, this community event continues to grow in popularity drawing runners from all over the Bay Area and even its first international runner this year! With a record attendance of 548 participants, the Reindeer Run highlights the Napa River Wetlands while raising funds for community nature programs.

Heart Your Parks

In 2023 Heart Your Parks moved to the American Canyon trails. Eleven amazing artists created environmental-themed heart frames for community members to enjoy while hiking Newell Open Space, Wetlands Edge Linear Trail, and the Napa River & Bay Trail.

Over
6 Miles
Public Art



OUR FUTURE HOME



In 2023, we made steady progress toward developing the Napa River Ecology Center. This unique repurpose project provides a future home for the Foundation allowing us to quadruple program capacity to meet the growing needs of youth and the environment. Most importantly, the project supports American Canyon's commitment to sustainability while providing new public access to the Wetlands and supporting climate change resiliency. Special thanks to the City of American Canyon and the California Coastal Conservancy for supporting the project's development. For more information, please visit www.napariverecologycenter.org



2023 PROGRESS SNAPSHOT

- Awarded \$67,000 grant funding from the State Coastal Conservancy
- Hired RIM Architects for community outreach and project entitlements
- Finalized conceptual designs
- Approved lease terms with the City of American Canyon
- Hired a project management team
- Submitted project application to the city
- Launched the new Napa River Ecology Center website
- Napa Register runs an article about the project
- Finalized project budget and timeline
- Project featured in the Napa Valle Register

PARTNERS AND ENDORSEMENTS

American Canyon Chamber of
Commerce and Welcome Center
City of American Canyon
Napa Valley Unified
School District
Napa County Resource
Conservation District
Napa County Regional Park
and Open Space District
Napa Valley College
City of American Canyon
Wastewater Treatment
Napa County Farm Bureau
Friends of the Napa River
Napa Solano Audubon
Suscol Intertribal Council
The Sierra Club
Save Napa Valley Foundation
Boys and Girls Club Napa Valley

"The Napa River Ecology Center brings communities together around our most precious asset - the Napa River Watershed. Through environmental education and community programs we engage the next generation of environmental leaders who will grow up to care for and protect our beautiful Valley. I fully support and encourage the development of this visionary project." -- *Leon Garcia, Mayor City of American Canyon*

EVENING AT THE RUINS

A Record Breaking Year

The 7th Annual An Evening at the Ruins was our most successful fundraiser yet, raising nearly \$350,000 for the expansion of The Outdoor Connection Mobile Classroom, community ecology, watershed, and nature programs. We were thrilled to feature the talents of American Canyon High School's Public Display of Acapella as well as local celebrity and retired KTVU Sports Anchor Mark Ibanez.

An Evening at the Ruins is our largest fundraiser of the year and proceeds are vital for helping us meet the growing environmental and education needs of our community.

Thank you

Special thanks to our Sponsors, especially Terry McGrath, McGrath Properties, the Jaeger Family, and JamCan for their ongoing support of An Evening at the Ruins, ACCPF, and our community.

Volunteer shout out - over 70 volunteers come together to make An Evening at the Ruins successful and fun. Special thanks to every volunteer that donates their time and energy.



Over
\$350,000
Raised



CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Napa County Resource
Conservation District
Napa County Regional Parks and
Open Space District
American Canyon Wastewater
Treatment Plant
Recology American Canyon
Napa-Solano Audubon Society
Napa Wildlife Rescue
Suscol Intertribal Council
Sierra Club - Napa Group
Napa Valley Transit Authority

American Canyon Bike Shop
ACHS Key Club
American Canyon Bike Shop
ACHS Environmental Club
American Canyon Chamber of
Commerce
American Canyon Arts Foundation
Recology American Canyon
City of American Canyon
Napa Climate NOW
Napa Valley Community College

2023 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Scott Thomason
Danielle Schofield
Elaine Boloyan
Claudia Ramirez
Tai Gaskins
Hugh Marquez
Michelle Marquez
Charles Plummer III



LIFETIME FOUNDING MEMBERS

Antonio & Ana Castro
Christina Chun & Jim Bui
Vince & Cathy Dacanay
Leon & Eva Garcia
Matt Plate & Anne Garner
Andrew & Elizabeth Goff
Stephen & Joy Hilton
Cannon & Henie James
Mark & Cheryl Joseph
Kenneth Leary
Fran Lemos
Anthony & Crystal Mallare

Nance Matson & Sande
Sutter
Elizabeth Moulds
Dr. Jeffrey Nichelini
David & Patricia Oro
Deven & Heather Piazza
Belia Ramos
Paul Schapiro
Joseph Schunk
Mike & Janelle Sellick
Paul & Dana Shigley
Alan Tran & Saeko Sugo



2023 MEMBERS & DONORS

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Von Altizer
Eric Altman
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Veronica Ashworth
Cori Badertscher
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Christine Barnett
Carliza Bataller
Michael Bayless
Penny Bellotti
Chris Benz
Marcy Berruezo
Millie Binz
Aida Boloyan
Elaine & Raffi Boloyan
Michael Brennehan
Nathell Buford
Joseph Carrillo
Amanda Chavez
Michelle Cherry
Barry Christian
Christine Cole
Brent Cooper
Elizabeth Corey
Scott Corey
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Vince Dacanay
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Darrell Doi
Julie Douglas
Carolyn Ellis
Terry England
Nancy Fireman
Joelle Gallagher
Leon Garcia
Marichel Garcia
Amy Garden
Dennis Giordano

Gale Giorgi
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Gladys Milligan
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Elizabeth Munk
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John Oesleby
David & Patricia Oro
Janene Osborn
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Elizabeth Payne
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Richard Peterson
G Anthony Phillips
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Charlie Plummer
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Belia Ramos
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Randy Reyes
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Julia Villa
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Marie Walton
Linda Wargo
Maryanne Wedner
Tracy Wells
Hilary Wendel
Kathleen Williams
Marietta Williams
Ellen Wulf
Cecilia Wyant
Heidi Zipay
Valerie Zizak-Morais



FUNDING PARTNERS

We are deeply grateful for the invaluable support that these grantors and sponsors have provided to ACCPF. Their commitment to our mission has played a pivotal role in empowering us to make a lasting impact in our community. Our school and community programs would not have been possible without the trust and confidence that our funding partners placed in us. Their continued partnership has not only sustained our initiatives but has also inspired us to reach greater heights in the pursuit of our mission.

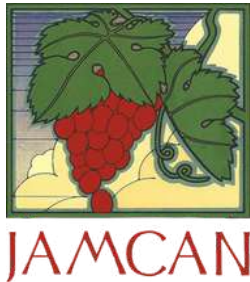
Grant Funders



The Outdoor Connection Sponsors



EVENT SPONSORS



ICCSTRAVINSKI



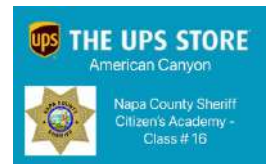
Fran Lemos



Plate, Garner & Kiehne Families



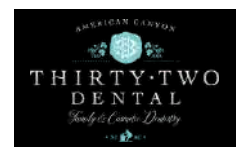
Transtar Accountancy



Christopher Cabaldon



Mariam Aboudamous



Hugh & Michelle Marquez



Mark and Cheryl Joseph



Mayor Leon and Eva Garcia

