



ALDO LEOPOLD NATURE CENTER ANNUAL REPORT 2015

ALDO LEOPOLD NATURE CENTER

Engage • Educate • Empower

Founded in 1994 by committed community leaders, the Aldo Leopold Nature Center (ALNC) seeks to provide innovative, hands-on programs and exhibits for children and their families to “teach the student to see the land, to understand what he sees, and enjoy what he understands” in the spirit of famed Wisconsin conservationist Aldo Leopold.

Today, ALNC has become a regional model of excellence for environmental education, serving tens of thousands of visitors annually at two campuses, in Monona and Black Earth, Wisconsin.

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

We launched an innovative program with Badger Rock Middle School and the Center for Resilient Cities to engage under-served middle school students in sustained nature-based community learning experiences. This project has provided priceless interactions between the students and the land, creating positive and life-changing opportunities for this group of students.



We installed a state-of-the-art panoramic Immersion Theater with cutting-edge visuals, dynamic educational capabilities, and ongoing content and curricular development. The theater was launched with a full set of events including a VIP ribbon cutting ceremony and exposure on a variety of media platforms. This theater provides a one-of-a-kind hands-on experience like nothing else in the country.



Working with the Clean Lakes Alliance, Sustain Dane, UW Division of Continuing Studies, and the Nelson Institute, the Watershed Academy was launched. This partnership will provide learning opportunities to adults looking to learn about the care and protection of our local wetlands.



Nature Net turned 20 years old in 2015! To celebrate, the online platform was updated and a new website was launched. In addition 16,000 redesigned Nature Net Passports were distributed, in both English and Spanish, throughout the community!



And a record number of students visited ALNC this year via fieldtrips and programs, averaging more than 300 students a day in May and early June! All told, we had 21,500 students that participated in field trips. These students came from all over the area, by the bus load, to learn about air and weather, water and plants and animals in their natural habitats! We are delighted so many students benefitted from our environmental programming.

Dear Friends,

In 2015, the Aldo Leopold Nature Center continued to provide innovative and educational programming to children and their families, adult learners, and college students in the spirit of Aldo Leopold.

We are proud to carry on Leopold's heritage and grow toward a bright future and as part of that growth I'm honored to join the team as President and Executive Director. With this annual report, I am delighted to share the past year's results, and I invite you to view them as a springboard to even more success in the years ahead.

As we move into 2016, we see growth: growth in opportunities for children and families, growth in our community of supporters, growth in our prairie, woodland and wetlands, and growth in the thousands of visitors we see each year! Seeing children, young and old, walking, hiking, and exploring our land and exhibits makes me smile each day. We know and understand the importance of interacting with nature. To be a part of an organization that does it with such expertise, ease, and grace is truly exciting and wondrous.

Thank you to all of you, our supporters and partners, for helping us create a unique and magical place for children and families all over the Madison area, and beyond, to enjoy the wonder and benefits of the natural world and the Aldo Leopold legacy.

Sincerely,
Michael Strigel
President and Executive Director



Dear Friends of ALNC,

Looking over the last year, I am reminded of our rather humble beginnings more than 20 years ago. We have seen growth, year over year, not only financially, but in our ability to share our mission. We have grown from a small shed to a state of the art building. We have grown from a rough patch of land, to the well maintained prairies, savannahs, and woods that you can visit now. We have grown from a small group of children visiting us to serving more than 50,000 people last year.

I am proud to have been able to watch this growth over the course of my time here and I look forward to continuing to be a part of that growth for years to come, growth that would not be possible without donors and sponsors like you. Community dedication and involvement, both monetarily and in the gift of time, allows us to evolve and grow.

My sincere thanks for all you do to advance Aldo Leopold's legacy. I see it reflected every day in the faces of the children and families visiting the nature center. We couldn't do it without YOU! I look forward to 2016 and beyond with your continued support.

Sincerely,
Terry Kelly
Board Chairman and CEO



BOARD & STAFF

Board of Directors

Terence Kelly, *Chairman of the Board*
Anne Ross, *Vice President & Secretary*
John Hecht, *Treasurer*
Steven Books
Charles Carpenter
Deborah Gilpin
Jim Hubing
Mary LaMar

Mark Miller
James Edward Mills
Trish Stevenson
Alfonso Zepeda-Capistrán

Advisory Council

William Cronon
Anthony Earl
Estella Leopold
Jack Williams

Howard Mead
Curt Meine
Tia Nelson

Operations & Education Staff

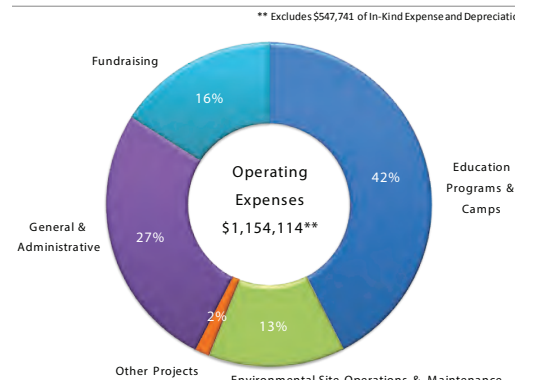
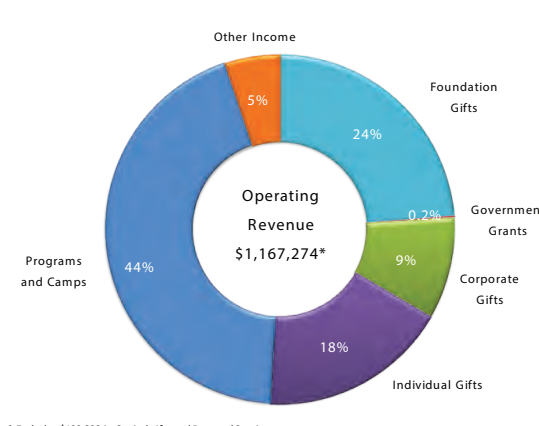
Michael Strigel, *President & Executive Director*
Kelley Van Egeren, *Director of Development & Stewardship*
Virginia Wiggen, *Nature Center Director*
Brenna Holzhauser, *Director of Exhibits & Digital Curricula/Nature Net*
Kathy Waldera, *Education Assistant*
Josh Bruecken, *Facility & Grounds Manager*
Creal Zearing, *Program Coordinator*
Tracy Marks, *Membership Manager*
Deb McCue, *Asst. Secretary/Treasurer*
Betsy Parker, *Strategic Development Mgr./Nature Net Asst.*
Anna White, *Rental & Event Coordinator*
Cara Erickson, *Digital Curriculum Programmer*
Melanie Yeazel, *Gift Shop Manager*
Kelsey Johnson, *Nature Net Intern*

Naturalists, Event & Exhibit Staff

Treva Breuch
Tom Pearce
Tara Von Dollen
Sue Denholm
Sherry Hershberger
Shannon Howald
Nicky Mondroski
Nancy Fonzen
Mariah Myers
Katherine Owens
Kara Naramore
Jardon Meiller
Jefferson Hoffman
Jeanine Ranzen
Emily Steinwehe
Doug Davis
Courtney Woods
Coral Conant Gilles
Bev Fowler
Ashley Goschey
Amy Callies
Alex Jeffers
Chuck Monzon
Rica Bruinsma
Jessi Claringbole
Dana Connolly-Nelson
Brian Schneider
Alex Britzius
Anna Pearce
Heather Hutchinson

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets	
Cash & cash equivalents:	\$252,067
Promises to give (current)	\$82,500
Grants receivable	\$10,892
Prepaid expenses	\$6,528
Property & Equipment, Net	\$4,100,453
Promises to give (long term)	\$42,200
Total Assets:	\$4,494,640
Liabilities	
Line of credit	\$116,085
Accounts payable	\$33,395
Accrued payroll & related liabilities	\$26,004
Unearned rental revenue	\$16,280
Total Liabilities:	\$191,764
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$1,557,850
Temporarily restricted	\$2,737,526
Permanently restricted	\$7,500
Total Net Assets:	\$4,302,876
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
	\$4,494,640
IN-KIND & CONTRIBUTED SERVICES:	
	\$94,368



OUR PARTNERS

The Aldo Leopold Nature Center extends its most heart-felt gratitude to the many donors who made our work possible in 2015. If your name was inadvertently left off the list, we apologize! Please call us at (608) 221-0404 to let us know. Thank you!

Nina Leopold Bradley Stewardship Circle

- Steve and Nancy Books
- William and Treva Breuch
- Susan Brown
- Andrew Burish
- Charles and Nancy Carpenter
- Lau and Bea Christensen
- Anne and Tim Connor
- Richard and Phyllis Daly
- Sue Denholm
- John and Mary Jeanne Hecht
- Penny Hubbard
- Terry and Mary Kelly
- Karen Kendrick-Hands and Larry Hands
- Beth Kubly
- Griff and Mary Beth Madigan
- Tom and Kate McMahan
- Margery Mead
- Howard and Nancy Mead
- Cathy Middlecamp
- Sven Midelfort and Petra Ressler
- Mark Miller and Jo Oyama-Miller
- Bob Miller and Pam Hoffman
- James Edward Mills and Shamane Mills
- Lisa Munro and Richard Goldberg
- Patricia Powers and Thomas Wolfe
- John Ross
- Dan and Patricia Schultz
- Terry and Sandy Shockley
- Peg Smelser and Jody McCann
- Trish and Gordon Stevenson
- Jon and Peggy Traver

\$25,000 - \$49,999

American Girl's Fund for Children
Joe Sensenbrenner and Mary Elynn Drury
Starion Financial

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Burmester Charitable Trust
Cabela's Outdoor Fund
Courtier Foundation, Inc.
DeAtley Family Foundation
Edwin E. and Janet L. Bryant Foundation
Foley & Lardner LLP
Foundation for Madison Public Schools
iHeart Media
John A. Johnson Foundation, component fund of the Madison Community Foundation
John C. Bock Foundation
Madison Gas and Electric Foundation, Inc.
Schoenleber Foundation, Inc.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Adaptive Restoration
Alliant Energy Foundation
Antonia Foundation
BMO Harris Bank
CUNA Mutual Group Foundation
DuPont
Evjue Foundation, Inc.: The charitable arm of The Capital Times
Great Dane Pub & Brewing Company
Terry and Mary Kelly
Kuehn Family Foundation
Madison Magazine
Madison Trust
Mead Witter Foundation, Inc.
Skogen Engineering Group, Inc.
Thermo Structures
Tropico Fisher Scientific

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Altrusa International
American Family Insurance
American Transmission Company
Art Unlimited Sportswear
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause
Bruce Company
Capital Times Kids Fund
City of Monona
Door Creek Church

EZ Office Products
Fine Point Consulting
Friends of Mark Miller
Hausmann-Johnson Insurance, Inc.
Images Plus
Isthmus Publishing
J. H. Findorff & Son, Inc.
Janus Galleries
Kenneth Kidder
Kiwanis of Downtown Madison
Madison Fishing Expo
Madison Rotary Foundation
Madison South Rotary Foundation
Madison West Towne Middleton Rotary Foundation
Neider & Boucher
Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc.
Openwood Studios
Orange Theory Fitness
Phoenix Nuclear Labs
Physicians Plus Insurance Corp.
Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation
RoadID
Robert W. and Susan T. Brown Family Foundation
Barb and John Schuette
Steeves Foundation
Steinhauer Charitable Trust
Sub-Zero Wolf Foundation
Target - Madison East
Thomas S. Kemp Foundation
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Wal-Mart Foundation - Monona #3857
Wisconsin Environmental Education Foundation
WPS Health Solutions

\$100 - \$999

Alluring Blooms
Alpine Liqueur
America's Best Flowers
Angelo's
Anytime Fitness, Cottage Grove
Anytime Fitness, Monona
Rita Applebaum
Appleberry Farm
Artisan Dental
B-Cycle Madison
Berkeley Running Company
Blue Plate Catering
Blue Sky Designs

Dean and Ann Bowles
Shawn Brady
Brennan's Market
James and Cathie Burgess
Burnies Rock Shop
Carl's Cakes
Maureen Cassidy
Chula Vista Resort
Judy and Gary Compton
Concourse Hotel
Kelly Crocker and Dan Raysbrook
James and Lisa Cummings
Dane County
Environmental Council
Peg and Tom Davey
Denny's Restaurant, Monona
Rosario and Penny DePaola
Carol Diamond and Howard Rowley
Dotty Dumpling's Dowry
Althea Dotzour
DreamBikes
Driftless Studio Nature Gallery and Gifts
Jason DuRocher
Eagle Optics
Susan Eichorn
Einstein's Bro Bagels
Jeffrey Ekola
Essen Haus
Barbara Essock
David Falk and JoAnne Robbins
Farm and Fleet of Madison
Susan and Michael Fox
Caroline and Weldon Fribrance
Ganshert Nursery
Colleen Nurse
Gaylord Catering Service
Deborah Gilpin
Glass Nickel Pizza
Tom and Josie Gobel
Green Bay Packers Foundation
Green County Development Corp
Gregory and Carol Griffin
Fritz and Janice Grutzner
Guthrie Theater
Ken Halfmann
Hallman Lindsay
Emil and Wava Haney
Lisa Hanrahan
Don Hartmann
Harvest Restaurant
Ann and Roger Hauck
Carroll Heideman

Jim and Sharel Hubing
Steven Jandl
John E. Wall Revocable Trust
Elizabeth Kanne
Christopher and Michelle Kelly
Alexander and Rebecca Kendziorski
Ken's Meats & Deli
Gisela and John Kutzbach
Lake Louisa Canopy Tours
Ronald and Sharon Lampe
Langer Enterprise
Lazy Jane's Cafe and Bakery
Amy Lee
Jon and Rachel Lefers
L'eft Bank Wine
Roma Lenahan
Dr. Estella Leopold
Sue and Art Lloyd
Peter and Jill Lundberg
Bob and Peg Lyons
Madison Children's Museum Foundation
Madison Gas and Electric
Madison Symphony Orchestra
Madison West Kiwanis
Madtown Laser
Maple Valley Cooperative
Marigold Kitchen
MC Sports
Marie McCabe
Peter and Mary K McCanna
Debra McCue
Meicher & Associates, LLP
Margaret Metcalfe
Dianne Meyer
Paula and Merle Moore
Mounds Pet Food Warehouse
Moyer
Mt. Olympus Water and Theme Park
Suzanne and Arpad Olajos
John and Barber Olsen
Overture Center for the Arts
Pacific Cycle
Frank and Patty Parker
Pepsi
Perkins Family Restaurant & Bakery
Hannah and Tad Pinkerton
Karen Pope
Georgine Price and Joel Stone
Karen and Thomas Ragatz
Ronda Richards
Pat and George Roggensack

Roman Candle
Ron and Cathy Rotter
Ann and Paul Rutecki
Stephanie Schultz
Schuster's Farm
Schwoegler's Bowling
Shedd Aquarium
John and Jean Sheild
Mariam Simmons
James Cain
Jan Smart
Brook and David Soltvedt
Spectrum Brands
Starbucks Coffee
State Bank of Cross Plains
Stacey and Keith Symonds
Talesin Preservation
Judith Taylor
The Brothers Main
The Century House
The Knitting Tree
The Old Feed Mill
The Seafood Center
The Shoe Box
Thompson Investment Management, Inc.
Stephanie Tipping
Tully's II
Tyrol Basin
Universal Presentation
Concepts
Burnell Van Egeren
Mark and Kelley Van Egeren
Charles Waity
Kathy Waldera
Wall Family Enterprise
Katie Waller
Warden & Sons Painting
West Side Garden Club
Lu and Bob Westervelt
Whole Foods Market
RC Wieboldt
Wild Birds Unlimited
Wisconsin Association of Environmental Education
Levi and Janet Wood
Tom Zanzig and Peg Davey
Zendesck
Alfonso Zepeda-Capistran
Karen and Thomas Zilavy