2018-19 Annual Fund

Audubon Center of the North Woods’ contributors are vital partners in carrying out our mission of instilling a connection and commitment to the environment, especially among children and young people.

Program Support

Central to our mission are our K-12 residential environmental and outdoor learning programs, which annually serve more than 5,000 students from more than 100 schools and home school groups across Minnesota. Students begin to form potentially life-changing connections with nature as they’re immersed in hands-on learning in our 780-acre campus’s woods, prairies and waters...and future farm! This year’s contribution goal includes $10,000 “seed money” to provide the expertise to transition the recently donated Trapp farm fields to natural and organic practices that will soon become the basis for exciting new learning opportunities. In addition to helping launch this new venture, your contributions help provide for a talented, passionate teaching staff; up-to-date educational materials and equipment; and smoothly running facilities. With your help, we’re able to keep our costs within reach of schools, many of which are facing mounting budget pressures that could force them to forego a program like ours.

Building and Grounds

Giving students a safe, enjoyable experience requires a well-kept, high-functioning facility. This year we face a larger challenge than usual, as our high ropes course is due for replacement. The course is our most popular offering, and thousands of students look forward to their time on it. Your contributions will cover half or more of the full replacement cost of $80,000, plus help to meet a variety of other facility needs, including restoring the historic character of Schwyzer Lodge’s dining room, replacing windows and siding on several buildings, reroofing Crosby Lodge, and more.

Scholarships

Providing scholarship funding is the primary focus of the annual Bids for Kids dinner and auction, scheduled this year for Saturday, October 13. While we strive to keep the cost for our residential learning program affordable—especially through donor support—schools that serve large numbers of students with financial need may find the standard fee prohibitive. Your support of our scholarship fund allows us to target financial assistance where it’s most needed, providing residential environmental learning to a larger and more diverse student population.