

WEAVINGEARTH
Center For Relational Education

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

WHAT WE DO

We provide nature-based education for action at the confluence of **ecological, social and personal** systems change. Our Relational Education pedagogy incorporates the 4 curricular pillars of **Earth Intimacy, Co-Liberation, Embodiment and Prayerful Action.**

WHAT WE ENVISION

- A world beyond dominance
- Communities that are rooted in justice, interrelationship, and earth care
- A planet whose ecological and cultural brilliance is preserved for the generations to come



HOW WE DO IT

All of our programs for **youth, teens and adults** are:

- Nature-based, following natural cycles of learning and growth
- Dedicated to equity, justice and social responsibility
- Designed to cultivate deep connection to place, self-love and community service to protect people and planet

PROGRAMS

ADULT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

AUSPICES SELF-PACED LEARNING JOURNEY: Inspired by our summer 2021 course, the *auspices self-paced learning journey* is an experiential program rooted in online study and ecological practice with the earthscapes and biomes you find yourself in. With over 60 people enrolled so far, we're excited to see this program grow and develop over time.

RECKONING + REMEDY: In collaboration with Morgan Curtis and WE alumni/board member Justine Epstein, we held a rite-of-passage ceremony to support white people with inherited wealth to work with redistribution and reparations for collective liberation.

SEASONS OF CHANGE ASTROLOGY: Near the winter solstice, we launched this new offering with Naike Swai. Seasons of Change is a quarterly gathering where Naike maps out upcoming astrological seasons and helps us find pathways through the planetary weather that's ahead. Next call is March 21st!



INTRODUCING NAIKE SWAI
Facilitator and star guide for the auspices and seasons of change astrology



The auspices core facilitators, tayla shanaye, lauren hage and brontë velez

RECALLING OUR ANCESTORS: In this collaborative initiative hosted by Youth Passageways and Weaving Earth, we supported a month-long program for white and white-passing people to engage in practices for dismantling systems of oppression in their bodies, their work, and the wider systems, as well as practices to tend to their lineages with care.

FREE BIRD LANGUAGE + EARTH INTIMACY: We launched this new offering, a dedicated monthly praxis honing our attention to the language of the birds and cultivating intimacy with place through the simple act of sitting still, paying attention and coming back together to swap stories and observations. All are welcome and no prior experience is needed!

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS: With much of the conference world moving to virtual formats, we were grateful to take part in multiple online gatherings as panelists and keynote speakers, including Bioneers, the Re-imagining Education Conference (with Ecoversities), and Our Bodies at the Borderlands (with the Rooted Global Village).

YOUTH AND TEEN HIGHLIGHTS

WILD TENDERS: This 9-month youth and teen program entered its 10th year and remains our longest running program! On the foundation of our 4 curricular pillars – *Earth Intimacy, Co-Liberation, Embodiment and Prayerful Action* – we implemented distinct themes for each day of the week focused on:

- **Enlivening Earth** – Seeding Skills to Care for the Planet
- **Cultivating Creativity** – Inspiring Wild Imagination in Tomorrow's Leaders
- **Awakening Awareness** – Fostering Interdependence and Ecological Literacy in Young Nature Lovers

AFTERSCHOOL: We created an Afterschool Program to offer Relational Education to local school children on early dismissal days. With two age groups we're serving kids from 6-12 years old, and we're having a ton of fun romping through our local park, Ragle Regional!

QUEER WORLD MAKING: This program for gender-blessed, non-binary and trans* youth was co-created by and beautifully held by Solace Pesach and Angus Baguinho. New dates coming soon!



Bioneers youth gathered in council



Wild Tender teens at Salmon Creek Beach, Bodega

NATIVE AMERICAN REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION (NARA): For the second consecutive year, we ran multiple courses with this incredible organization, bringing an online program focused on medicinal plants, herbal first aid kits and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

CREDO HIGH: We picked up a program that WE first ran in 2013, working with the senior class at Credo High to celebrate their accomplishments and help them to cross the significant threshold of high school graduation.

BIONEERS: We continued to curate the Youth Leadership and Education Program at Bioneers, which has served as an incubator for thousands of youth and educators to deepen their passion and power through self-expression, skills development and mentoring relationships within the broader community of Bioneers.

SUMMER CAMPS: We offered two 5-day camps for youth of all ages and have expanded this to 12 camps in 2023.

TEEN BACKPACKS: We took one wily group of teens on a week-long adventure into the stunning beauty of California's wild places.

We had such a blast running all of these programs last year, and we're just as excited for what's ahead (and in some cases already happening) in 2023. Read on!



above: Wild Tenders teen showing off natural dye project

2022 teen backpacking participants in the Marble Mountains

WE ECOLOGY

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Last August we warmly welcomed **three new mentors to the youth staff** who have been wonderful additions to the team. Welcome Alanna, Sarah and Miro!

We also **welcomed Daniel Schindelman Schoen** (aka DanDan) to the Youth Education Team. Dan is a multi-year graduate of the WE Immersion and a long-time friend and ally. He is currently serving as Youth Programs Director. Welcome DanDan!

The WE Guiding Council (aka the WE board) lovingly thanks our outgoing members Kailea Frederick and Emily Kripitz for your care and wisdom. And, we welcome new members Nicole Celaya, Holly Scaglione, Tara Milliken, and Ayana Young to the circle. We will continue to guide the org with as much heart, humor and care as we can!

Our Field Guide to Naturing, a writing project that began in 2021, continues to develop and is one of Lauren Hage's (our ED) personal passions.



New mentor Alanna dune sledding with the kids



WELCOME DANIEL
WE Youth Program Director

Our AD Sam Edmondson and his partner Belle **welcomed the newest member of our community to the world** Ever Oli Edmondson. We are so grateful for their arrival and have loved watching Sam become a dad!

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

In addition to the program collaborations mentioned above, we remain the fiscal sponsor for **Walking Water**, which continued their commitment to local and global watersheds through community action and education about water. Their "Talking Water" online gatherings and "Walks of Resilience and Accountability" events in LA are an inspiration, a blessing and a much needed salve at this time.

WE co-founder Will Scott continued to work as part of the **Guiding Council leadership circle for the School of Lost Borders in 2022,** accompanying the School through a significant moment of organizational growth and development.

And lastly, **we continued as members of the Beyond Boundaries (BB) alliance**, an international, inter-generational team dedicated to supporting local/global efforts in regenerative living and care for all relations. This year marked a significant change in a watering hole that has served as a home base for BB known as Three

Creeks. For years, core WE members have joined many conversations and councils around the future of this oasis, and have been there for many winter renewals, Re-Union ceremonies, and a few WE programs.

In September, the WE Board and 3 Creeks Stewards met to make a decision about 3 Creeks futures. That process led to choosing the 3 Creeks Collective, a project of the local stewards created in partnership with the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission(OVIWC). **We are happy to report that on February 21, 2023 title was transferred to OVIWC**, a consortium of the three Numu/Newe Tribes in Bishop, Big Pine and Lone Pine. Congratulations to everyone involved in this important journey and incredible effort!

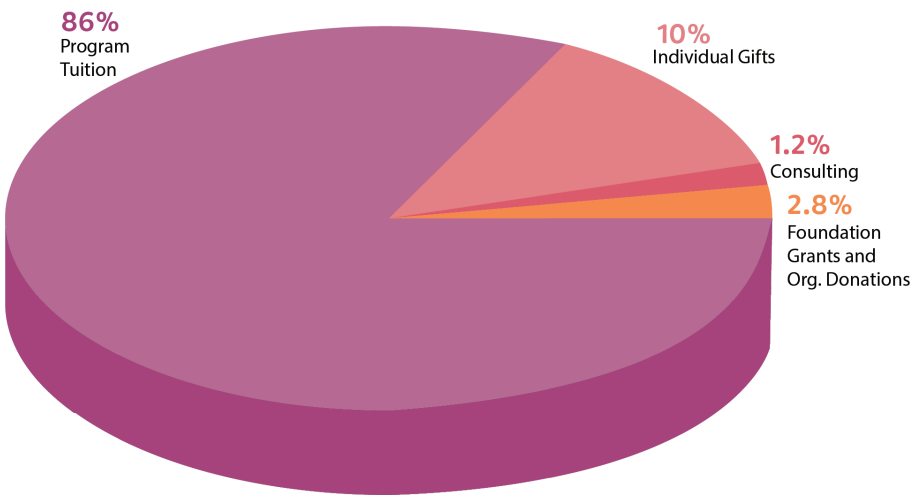


Three Creeks from above



FINANCES

Our Relational Education Curriculum is made possible through a combination of tuition, consulting fees, grants and the generous individual donations of our wonderful supporters. **In 2022 our total revenue was $533,633**



WE WANT TO THANK ALL OUR DONORS FOR YOUR 2022 CONTRIBUTIONS!

Our heartfelt thanks go out to:

**listed alphabetically*

Abbott Bailey, Alan Mobley, Alex Gilman, Alex Mustacich, Ali McGarigal, Andrew and Nancy Cullen, Anthony Costa, Ashley Stinson, Barbara Guiu, Beau Leonhart and James Shipman, Betsyann Gallagher, Brian Bryson, Brigid Finn, Brittany Berman, brontë velez, Benevity Fund, Bob and Kerry Nickless, Brendan Lange, Caitlin Sislin, Carolann Streett, Caroline Helmuth, Casey and Valeria McCarroll, Catherine Lemon, Cathy Scott, Chaise Levy, Charles Bruce Cairns, Charlotte Kaiser, Chiara Symens-Bucher, Chris Clarke, Christina Thrash, Coby Leibman, Corey Chin, Cynthia Francisco, Dal LaMagna, dana smirin, Dave Chase, Dave Talamo, David and Lauren Hage, David Yadegar, Debra Kajiyama, Dianne Jenett, Dorothy Weiker, Emilia Dahlin, Emily Jacobi, Elizabeth Ebaugh, Emma Hanlin, Erika Lindemann, Erin Madeira, Evie Berne, Feñix Grace, Gabriel Rodriguez, Gaia Esensten, Gary Gunther, Gayatri Roshan, Geoff and Robin Strawbridge, George Somis, Gigi Coyle and Win Phelps - RockRiver, Green Valley Farm+Mill, Hathaway Berry, Heidi Rochford, Isabel Rosa, Jenae McDonald, Issac Meadow, Jamaica Stevens, James Haim, Jane White, Jen Reiser, Jennifer V. Riley, Jeremy Fisher and Temra Costa, Jessica Deva, Jill Rees, Jim and Nancy Hage, Jim Epstein, Joe Leblanc, Joël and Beth Dubois, John and Holly Scaglione, Jon and Stacy Gelman, Joseph Lazenka, Julie Velichinsky, Justine Epstein, Kari Stettler, Kate Myer, Kate Ramsey, Kate Weiner, Kate Levinson, Kathryn Ann Scott, Kelly Cole, Kelsie Pombo, Kerri Lopez and Ken Johnston, Kimberley Jordan, Kim Mele, Kim Scaglione, Kimberley Schroder, The Kokoska Family, Kristine Norton, The Kuzmin/ Sheng Family, Laura Lochrane, Laura Power, Leslie Reynolds, Linda Conley, Linda Asso, Lisa Donahue, Lisa Barker, Lucy B Sowell, Marguerite DiGiorgio, Marie McRee, mark rydzik, Marna Widom, Martha White, Marti and Phil Edmondson, Mary Stein Husband, Matt Moller, Molly Levitt, Meg Chauncey, Meg Toben, Meredith Little, Michael and Chris Turgeon, Michael Kieran, Michelle Haviar, Nathaniel Foster, Nichola Napora, Nicholas Brubaker, Nicole Schmid, Oceana Sawyer, Pamela Hollings, Patrick Pelegiri-O'Day, The Pavlich Family, Peter Kallman, Peter Scott, Pierce Delahunt, Raleigh Campbell, Rashee Rohatgi, Rebecca Cohencious, Reckoning and Remedy Fast, Rhyan Romaine, Rosalyn Porcano, Rowan Scaglione, Sally Larrick, Sam DeBoskey, Sam Scott, Sara Oakes, Sarah and Jonathan Nahar, Sessei Meg Levie, Shardai Moon, Shefali Lakhina, Sige Weisman, Siri Gunnarson, Sohrob Nabatian, Stephanie Jourdan, Stacy Small, Steve Costa and Kate Levinson, Summer Doty, Susan Ventura, Tara Milliken, Tawnya Love, Teena Pugliese, Terry Morawitz, Thomas Clough, Toby Herzlich, Valerie Olsen, Wald Zimmerman, Walker Abel, Wanda Watson, Wendolyn Bird, Wild Mountain Retreats, Will Scott, Zoe Teton, and all those who preferred to stay anonymous, ***thank you too!!***

WHAT'S NEW IN 2023

We are so grateful that we made it to our 10th year – all thanks to the heart, care, and dedication of so many wonderful staff, board members, advisors, and the incredible love and support from our wider community: YOU! In order to help keep our tuition accessible, and to support organizational wellness, we aim to increase our fundraising revenue from 12% to 30%-50% in the next 3 years. We are working with a consultant to create our grants program and are looking for additional financial support if you or anyone you know may be interested in partnering with us. Please let us know!

Here's some of what's ahead in 2023:

NEW PROGRAMS, PARTNERSHIPS + OFFERINGS:

- **Mindful Birding and Bird Language:** a collaboration with Audubon CA
- **Webinar Series:** a partnership with Karine Bell and the Rooted Community
- **New in-person, adult programs:** inspired by the WE Immersion and auspices offerings, as well as something we're currently calling the Feel Good Kitchen :)
- **Year-round programs for queer and trans youth**
- **Auspices Radio:** a monthly, mythopoetic radio experiment beaming out signals to harmonize attunement between ourselves, our relations, and the earth.
- **Bird Language Practice groups** (online): regular online gatherings to deepen our understanding of the language of the birds.
- **Resilience Toolkit:** Lauren Hage (our ED) will offer new individual, group and organizational coaching sessions as a certified facilitator of the somatics-based work, The Resilience Toolkit.
- **"Questions for a Resilient Future":** a collaboration with Center for Humans and Nature Publication
- **"Field Guide to Naturing":** Weaving Earth's own publication continues its evolution



WEAVING EARTH IS TURNING

10

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, MAY 12TH
5:00 — 10:30PM
WEST SONOMA COUNTY

BIRTHDAY BENEFIT CONCERT

— WITH —

SUPER (duper) SPECIAL MUSICAL GUESTS

Come celebrate our 10th birhtday with us!

Tickets go on sale soon. For now, save the date!



THANK YOU!

IN SUMMARY

As we head toward the spring equinox, having nearly completed the first quarter of 2023, we are looking forward to what's to come in our 10th year as an educational organization. Wow! It's amazing to be able to say that and we're excited to mark this threshold with you at our **birthday party on May 12th!**

We hope that you will continue to accompany us in the year ahead. Thank you for your support, and please share this report with any and all you think would be excited by what we are up to.

TO LEARN MORE

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- Email us at info@weavingearth.org
- Set up a consultation on our website: *click here*
- Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today at www.weavingearth.org/donate

We look forward to connecting with you again soon!