

WEAVINGEARTH
Center For Relational Education

YEAR-END REPORT 2021



WHAT WE DO

We provide nature-based education for action at the confluence of **ecological, social and personal** systems change

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

PROGRAMS

ADULT PROGRAMS

In 2021 our amazing adult staff designed and implemented our newest adult program, *Under the Auspices of Summer*, which ran from June-September 2021. The online program was a great success, **reaching ~100 participants across 5 continents and 9 time zones.** Forty-five of the participants participated through the *Lifeways Back Fund* and an additional 10 people joined through the general scholarship fund. Based on the success of this program, **we are developing similar offerings for 2022!**

Additionally our ED was hired as a consultant for a local organization in support of their Justice and Equity efforts. This 6-month training was deeply impactful and well-received by the participants. **100% of the income generated by this offering was gifted to our *Lifeways Back Fund*.**

WE supported a number of individual and organizational clients through **Consulting Services.** We love sharing our Relational Education pedagogy in this way!



YOUTH AND TEEN PROGRAMS

Our 9-month Wild Tenders program for youth and teens grew by 40% last year, **serving 73 kids and 35 new families**. We offered financial assistance to 100% of those who requested it, totaling $40K. We are thrilled to provide this vital Relational Education curriculum to so many wonderul kids and familes!

In 2021 we created KWEB Radio, a podcast for youth (of all ages)! We look forward to continuing this project in the coming months. Find it wherever you get your podcasts.

We also offered weeklong Spring and Summer camps for youth, which was a welcome respite in the community after so many months in isolation.

WE ECOLOGY

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

With the marked growth of the Wild Tenders youth and teen program, **we hired and trained 5 new youth staff.** We are so happy to welcome them to the team, and they have been doing an amazing job!

We created a *Relational Education Training Manual*, and began development of our *Field Guide on Naturing*, a project we will continue in 2022.

We are thrilled to announce that at long last **we have hired a Business and Finance Manager**! We are incredibly grateful to have the capacity to fill this important seat and are thrilled to welcome Kayla Douglass to the WE team!

We also hired a "Communications Weaver" in 2021 who helped grow our Social Media presence by 20% in their first year. Big thanks to Solace Pesach for filling this role!

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

We continued as fiscal sponsor for two projects, **Walking Water** and the **Sonoma County Legal Defense Fund.**

We contributed to **LOAM's** publication, *Living Through Liminality*, we offered a course on *Partnering with the Birds for Eco-Social Repair* at the **Bioneers** conference, and we contributed to **Walking Water's** publication, *Waters Rising*.



We continued as part of the Beyond Boundaries network, an international, inter-generational team dedicated to supporting local/global efforts in regenerative living and care for all relations. We supported the Reunion fast, as well as the waters, land, and beings of Three Creeks in Payahüünadü. We were also blessed by the support of Gigi Coyle – yet again – who in partnership with Win Phelps facilitated a spring visioning retreat to help WE emerge into our next steps.

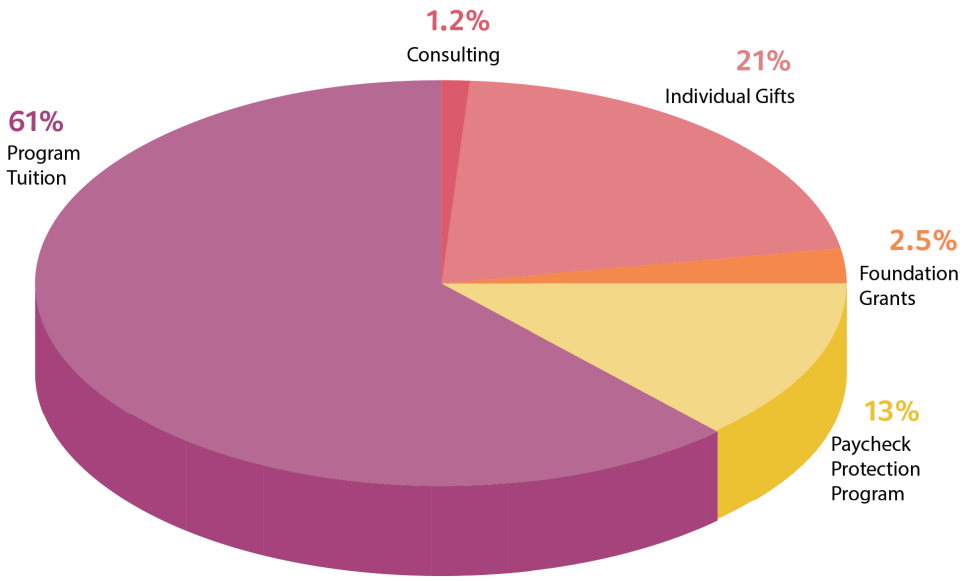
We developed an offering with the **Native American Rehabilitation Association** (NARA) for participants in their addiction-recovery program, focused on **story sharing, council circles and herbal medicine making.** The program was very well received and we have been invited to continue working with their groups in 2022!

We joined as a collaborator in a new project with Youth Passageways, The Ojai Foundation and Golden Bridge called *Re-Calling our Ancestors*, a **white caucus exploring ancestral recovery, truth-telling, truth-seeking, and collective repair.**

WE co-founder Will Scott served on the Guiding Council of the **School of Lost Borders** through their important period of growth and development.

FINANCES

Our Relational Education Curriculum is made possible through a combination of program/ consultation tuition, foundation grants and the generous donations of our extended community. In 2021, with the help of the PPP, this totaled $420,575.



WE WANT TO THANK ALL OUR DONORS FOR YOUR 2021 CONTRIBUTIONS!

As you can see, a significant portion of our income comes through the generous support of individual donors like you. **Our heartfelt thanks go out to**:

**listed alphabetically*

Abbott Bailey, Adriana Long, Aerin Dunford & Yeyo Beltrán, Alex Mustacich, Alexis Slutzky, Alison McGarigal, Alixandra Gaither, Amanda Zangara, Amy Butler, Andrew Beath - Earthways Foundation, Ann Rosencranz, Ann Tamminen, Anne & Bob Reiser, Anne Liljedahl, Aviva Lipkowitz, Barbara Exley, Barbara Williams, Beau Leonhart, The Ben and Kim Roberts Giving Fund, Benevity Fund, Bob and Kerry Nickless, Bob and Rebecca Cohencious, Bobbie Foster, Caitlin Flom, Catherine Lemon, Catherine Reyes, Charles Cairns, Charlotte Kaiser, Chloe Goodwin, Chloe Scott, Christine Gale Reynolds, Claire Horner-Richardson, Claire Whitmer - STRONGHOLD, Claudia Trinklein-Engman, Daniel & Sally Feldman, Daniel Schoen, David Hage, David Lyle, Dayna Wicks, Debra and Tom Weistar , Dianne Jenett, Doreen Clark, Doug Johnston & Susan Herman, Dr Leslie Meehan, Dsaylin Filipe, EH Barker, Elaine Daly, Elena Bird, Elizabeth Ebaugh, Erika Lindemann, Erin and Vance Selover, Erin Sweeney, Euki Sawada, Evan “Ash” Young, Evie Berne, Fatimah Asghar, Francine Taran Freund, Gabriel Bellman, Esq., Gabriela De Golia, Gabriel Kram, Geoff and Robin Strawbridge, Gigi Coyle & Win Phelps - RockRiver, Greater Milwaukee Foundations’s Donald and Barbara Abert (GA), Hannah Rosales and Evan Tenenbaum, Heather Hutchinson and Alex Britzius, Jamie Diemidio, Jane White, Jaye Godsea, Jeffrey Embleton, Jen Reiser, Jennifer Sundman, Jennifer V. Riley, Jerry Schwartz, Jessica Zappacosta, Jim and Nancy Hage, Jim Epstein, Joan Howard, Joël & Beth Dubois, Jordan Brown, Joti Levy, The Judelman Family, Julia Peterson, Julie Royall, JuPong Lin, Justine Epstein, Kait Singley, Kasey Armstrong, Kate and Andy Lipkis, Kate Bunney, Kathleen Eutsler, Kathleen Lanphier, Kathryn Robinson, Katrina Cudby, Kelsie Pombo, Kerri Lopez and Ken Johnston, Kim Mele, Kimberley Jordan, Kimberley Schroder, The Kokoska Family, Krystyna Jurzykowski, The Kuzmin/Sheng Family, Laura Lochrane, Laura Macháčková Henderson, Lauren Hage, Leigh McDaniel, Leslie Reynolds, Lew and Nadine Cohen, Liliana Jacobs, Lina Richardson, Linda Conley, Lindsay Ingram, Lisa Donahue, Lynn Rey and Scott Schmidt, Madison Matthews, Maria Jose Montijo, Mariana Matija, Marie McRee, Martha Edmondson, Mary Thorstad, Megan Chauncey, Megan Wilson, Meredith Little, Michael Furlong, Michelle Haviar, Mo Washburn, Molly Leebove, Monica Matthews, Morgan Curtis, Nancy and Andy Cullen, Nicholas Brubaker, Nicole Quaid, Nicole Wilson, Niki Schmid, Nina Simons, The Pavlich Family, Peter Scott, Petite Teton Foundation, Pierce Delahunt, Ray Wan, Rebecca Renfrow, Reinoud Meijer, Reunion Fast, Rhyan Romaine, Roger & Margot Milliken, Rosalyn Porcano, Rose Haynes and Andrew Touhy, RSF Social Finance, Sam DeBoskey, Sam Siu, Samara Dotson, Sarah Heffron, Scheerer Family Foundation, Shanya Tsao and Anthony Costa, Shardai Kluger, Sharron Helmke, Susan Davenport, Tangtang Chen, Tara Milliken, Tashi Rowe, Temra Costa and Jeremy Fisher , Teresa Reid, Tereza Smejkalova, Terry Morawitz, Tiffany Roberts, Tory Field, Wild Mountain Retreats, and all those who preffered to stay anonymous, ***thank you!!***

TESTIMONIALS



DeJoiré Hall - Under the Auspices of Summer participant

"I am an artist based in The South. I'm proudly Black, country, churchy, and a little bit wild. I was drawn to the Auspices program because I had a deep desire for slowness. I hoped slowness would help me feel closer to the Earth and more connected to the old ways of my Ancestors.

I was blown away by our practices in this course. Every single one shifted something for me, brought enlightenment and alignment. This was the most open and vulnerable experience I've ever shared with a group of people."



Ash Young - Under the Auspices of Summer participant

"I identify as a queer neo-pagan whole systems designer & player of infinite games. I have come to believe that the challenges of this historical moment cannot be met with solutions that are easily described in words. As a program that emphasized embodied experiences, regenerative practices, and co-created knowings, Under the Auspices of Summer seemed exactly the sort of thing I hear the world crying out for.

Before doing this program, I did not think it was possible for an online learning program to generate a feeling of deep belonging together, but the WE teaching team proved me wrong."



Oceana Sawyer - Under the Auspices of Summer participant

"I came to the program in my American born, African descended body in a limbo state. My death/grief guide business had just shattered and I was quietly and humbly wandering around the universe looking for a new way forward. This program offered a container to do the deep work of listening and exploration.

Throughout the program, my expectations were exceeded. Every session was a delightful combination of meaningful ritual, substantive content, and fun & useful practices. In this generous holding, I did, indeed, find a new way forward in life and my business.

TESTIMONIALS



Jen Martini - Wild Tenders parent

"Our son Morgan attended Weaving Earth from the age of ten to thirteen. It was important to us to find a nature based program that would encourage his blossoming love of the natural world, and a setting where he could play and explore with mentors who would broaden his perspective.

During his time with Weaving Earth, Morgan learned to respect nature, natural systems and the creatures of the world. He learned to be part of a collective, interacting authentically with both peers and mentors. He experienced the value of open, honest communication, and that it was ok to be vulnerable.

Our family is deeply grateful for this insightful, inspirational and intentional program and the impact it has had in helping Morgan gain the tools and experiences needed to become the compassionate, self aware, and balanced young man he is today."



Dima and Xi - Wild Tenders parents

"We are a family from the South Bay and moved to the area especially to give our son the opportunity to attend the Weaving Earth program for children. We're passionate about the importance of nature connection for children and having attended other workshops organized by Weaving Earth, we were consistently impressed by the staff and their work.

Wild Tenders has been a really great experience for our son. He has always been shy and had social anxiety. Now, after just 2 months of attending the program, he has become very happy and open, willing to engage with others. Every day he finds something exciting happening in the natural world around him. We are looking forward to sharing these connection moments with him and watching his growth in the program."



Ann Rosencranz - Consulting client

"First of all I'm very grateful for the work you have done and continue to do as an organization. Lauren was incredibly skillful, entering into our community in a very rough time where many trespasses had occurred. We also were in a huge overhaul of central agreements. As one of the leaders of the circle, I'm very grateful for Lauren for calling me out and in around my unconscious whiteness, denial and pride. It was not easy, humbling – I resisted and I'm thankful for the way she persisted. The work we did with Lauren really strengthened our circle, clarified our core prayer and helped to reset our foundation."

WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2022

We have used much of our time during the pandemic to design future offerings while concurrently developing and strengthening existing programs and partnerships. We're excited to share the fruit of those efforts!

NEW PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS

We are enthused to welcome program leaders and beloved friends Shlomo Pesach and Angus Baguinho in convening the first cohort of **Queer World Making**, an intimate cohort of non-binary, genderblessed, gender-expansive, gender-fluid, queer and questioning, and/or trans* adolescents, mentors, and elders. Youth ages 12-15 can join either an in-person cohort or a virtual cohort. Dates, program fees, and further details can be found on our website!

We have been hired by **Bioneers** to design and implement their Youth Education and Leadership program, lead the Community of Mentors program, and co-hold the council space for their May 11th-16th, 2022 conference! We have been involved with Bioneers for a decade+ and we're very happy to be taking this relationship to a new level.

After many years of collaboration in different forms, we have been contracted by **Credo High School** to design and implement the end-of-year retreat for their senior class. We're excited to create a nature-based threshold experience for these teens as they move through this significant transition!

We will continue to **develop adult programming** based on the success of Under the Auspices of Summer and we will continue working with **the Native American Rehabilitation Association's addiction-recovery program**.

We are offering a **teen backpacking trip** in July and two **summer camps** for youth in June.

We will continue to work and develop **two upcoming publications** about our Relational Education work.

And finally we will, as always, leave room for creative emergence and new possbilities!



THANK YOU!

IN SUMMARY

As we head toward the spring equinox, having nearly completed the first quarter of 2022, we are happy to report that Weaving Earth is doing well and we are prepared to continue offering our Relational Education curriculum this year. It feels amazing to be able to say that, given the challenges of the past two years! We don't take this gift lightly and will continue to do our best to be worthy of this opportunity.

We hope that you will consider continuing with us in some way this year too! 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.

We look forward to crossing paths with you again soon!

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