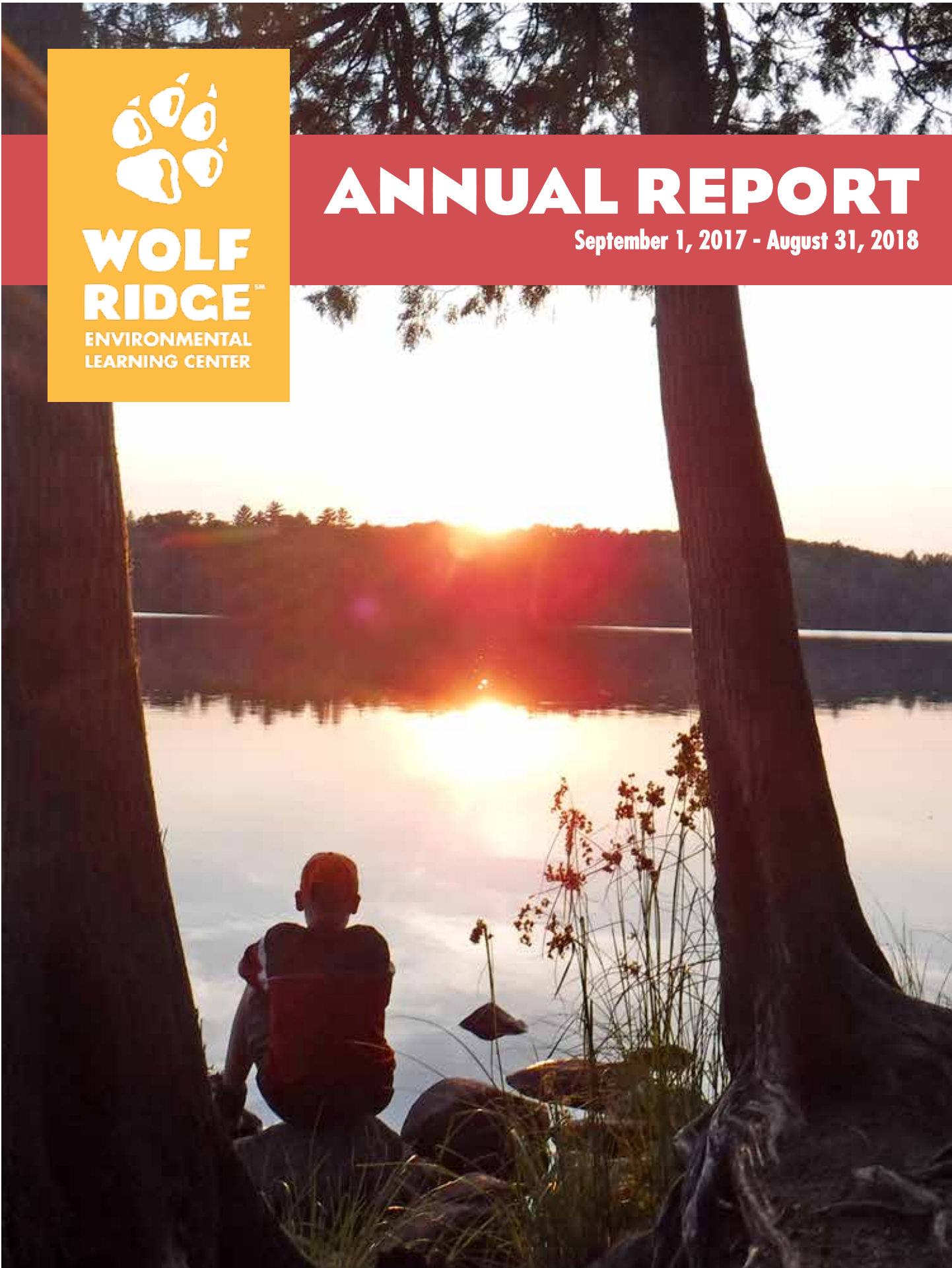




**WOLF
RIDGE**SM
ENVIRONMENTAL
LEARNING CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2018





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Greetings,

In October 2017, the Wolf Ridge team gathered to help formulate Wolf Ridge's strategic plan for the next three years. Dave Chase, a non-profit consultant led us through the process. The next few years see us focusing on fortifying our core operation as we head into our 50th year as an organization. I am so pleased to highlight some of our accomplishments from our September 1, 2017-September 31, 2018 year.



Peter Samuel

MAKING WAVES PROJECTS

- Wolf Ridge is teaching businesses to be Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified. Trusses needed for the expansion on the MAC Lodge that meet LBC standards could only be found in Maine. Instead of transporting the trusses so far, we chose to meet the LBC by having a tradesman from HGA, (our architects) teach a Wisconsin company how to make these trusses. Now that is paying it forward for a more sustainable future!
- Wolf Ridge received an award from the National Demolition Association for Excellence in Demolition for the amount of waste we diverted from landfills during the MAC Lodge Living Building Challenge.
- Lakeview House was recognized as a Top Project in 2017 for its green building and design from Finance and Commerce, a daily newspaper out of the Twin Cities that covers real estate, construction, technology, banking, energy, health care and advertising.
- Wolf Ridge's renovated MAC Lodge was named by the New Buildings Institute as one of the nation's leading projects for the Zero Energy Buildings in the Emerging Category.
- On May 5, Wolf Ridge opened a new chapter of learning with the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Living Building Challenge (LBC) renovated Margaret A. Cargill (MAC) Lodge.
- To make the MAC Lodge net-positive for energy and meeting the Living Building Challenge requirement that all the electricity in the dorm be made from renewable energy, Wolf Ridge installed 40Kw of new solar panels. Interestingly, with these additional panels, Wolf Ridge has enabled its home township of Crystal Bay to have the highest per-capital solar PV installation in the continental USA.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Wolf Ridge recently hosted a set of workshops in the Twin Cities and at Wolf Ridge. "Creating Transgender Inclusive Environments" with Meg Bolger from Venture Out was sponsored by the North American Association for Environmental Educators (NAAEE). The "Community Engagement Guidelines" workshop written by NAAEE was presented by a team from Antioch University of New England including professors and graduate student, Wolf Ridge alumnus, Luciana Raneli. The seminars were open to everyone and attended by environmental education professionals, school districts, Wolf Ridge staff, and community engagement organizations.
- Nature Bridge accepted Wolf Ridge as 1 of 10 organizations to be part of a national partnership to study social/emotional learning in residential settings.
- The Girls Rock the Ridge Leadership Camp filled quickly and was expanded to 2 sections. The girls expressed feeling very comfortable to be themselves.
- Grandparents/grandchild and family camp resided in the newly renovated MAC Lodge. They really appreciated the large group meeting space - Weesner Lounge - where they could socialize. Families savored the cast iron outdoor cooking with our chef, Chris, luxuriated in the essential oils class taught by Wolf Ridge's own receptionist, Krysty, and dabble for the first time in a guided sip and paint.
- The Wolf Ridge farm is all a buzz as one of 80 groups nationwide to win honeybees, a beehive, and beekeeping equipment from the Honeybee Conservancy's national Sponsor-A-Hive program.
- Twelve animals have been added to the Wolf Ridge Farm. These swine will work to rut up the soil in new fields and then become part of our locally produced meals.
- A new crop was planted at the Farm in March. About 90 logs were inoculated with mushroom spores. Maple logs were seeded with Shiitake and aspen logs with Oyster mushrooms. Some of the logs will start producing mushrooms next year and some will continue producing mushrooms for 3 to 5 years, once they start producing.
- The Wolf Ridge Farm is a participant in a 3 year project conducted by St. Olaf College studying whether local populations of milkweeds outperform nonlocal populations and also if certain populations may outperform other populations everywhere.
- A chimney swift tower is under construction at the farm. The Minnesota Ornithologists Union Savaloja Grant provided monies for this project after a population of chimney swifts was discovered roosting in a chimney at the Silver Bay school.
- A grant was received from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to identify natural local phenology changes to determine the best time to plant our farm crops.

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Please consider gifting part of your estate to Wolf Ridge and become a member of *The Leaders Of The Pack*. More detailed information will soon be available on our website. If you have already named Wolf Ridge as a beneficiary of your estate or are considering such, please contact: Pete Smerud at 800-523-2733. ♦



SCHOOLS & GROUPS

FISCAL YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 TO AUGUST 31, 2018

Wolf Ridge served 179 schools and groups in the 2017-18 school year. Students explored the forests, ridges, lakes and streams at Wolf Ridge learning about the natural world and developing their critical thinking skills and environmental literacy through hands-on experiences.

Annandale Middle School
Arete Academy
Assumption School
Badger School
Barnum Elementary
Beacon Academy
Oak Crest Elementary
Benilde-St Margaret's
Bethlehem Academy
Birch Grove Community School
Birch Lake Elementary
Blue Earth Area Middle School
Boeckman Middle School
Breck Middle School
Bug O Nay Ge Shig
Camera Club
Carleton College
Carlton High School
Cavalier Middle School
Cedar Riverside Community School
Central Cass Middle School
Central Middle School
Chisago Lakes MS
Chisago Lakes MS
Circle of Nations School
Cloquet Middle School
Community of Saints
Coon Rapids Middle School
Cooper Elementary
Cowern Elementary
CSS Youth Theology Institute
Cumberland Middle School
Dakota County Upward Bound
Dragonfly Society of Americas
El Colegio Charter School
Ely Memorial MS

Emanuel Lutheran
Epiphany
Face To Face Academy
First Lutheran School
Five Hawks Elementary
Fox West Academy
Franklin Elementary
Frassati Catholic Academy
Friends School of MN
Girl Scouts Troop 4054 & 4055
Glen Lake Elementary
Glendale Elementary
Grace Fellowship Home School
Grainwood & La ola del Lago
Great Expectations School
Gustavus Education Students
Heilicher Mpls Jewish Day School
Hennepin Elementary School
Herbertz Duluth Homeschool
Hibbing Community College
Hilltop Primary
Hinckley-Finlayson Elementary
Holy Name of Jesus School
Holy Trinity School
Homecroft Elementary
Hope Community Academy
Hopkins Summer Field Biology
Intl Spanish Language Academy
Jeffers Pond Elementary
JEM Yoga & Massage
John Ireland Catholic School
Jordan Middle School
Kelliher Public School
King Of Grace Lutheran
Klecker Family
Lake Superior Youth Chorus

Lakewood Elementary
Laura MacArthur Elementary
Lester Park School
Lowell Elementary School
Loyola Catholic School
LSS One Program
Manvel Public School
Many Rivers Montessori
Maple Lake Elementary
Marcy Open School
Marquette Catholic School
Marshall County Central HS
Midway School
Miltona Science Magnet Elem. School
Minnehaha Elementary
Minnesota Life College
Minnesota New Country School
Minnetonka Middle School East
Minto School
Murray Jr. High
Nerstrand Elementary School
New City School
New London/Spicer Middle School
Norman County West Elementary
North Shore Community School
Northern Lights Christian Church
Northern Lights Community School
Northland College
North Star Academy
Nyquist School
Oak Grove Middle School
Onamia Junior High
Open World Learning Community
Our Lady of Grace Catholic School
Our Lady Of The Lake
Park River Area School

Peace United Church of Christ
Piedmont Elementary
Pine Island High School
Prairie Creek
Presentation Of Mary
Providence Academy
Raleigh Edison School
Redtail Ridge Elementary
Richard R. Green Central Park School
Rockwood Community Education
Rogers Middle School
Sacred Heart - E. Grand Forks
Sacred Heart - Robbinsdale
Sawtooth Mountain Elementary
School of St Philip
Schoolcraft Learning Community
Shell Lake School District
Shirley Hills Elementary
Sierra Club
Soaring Eagles - The Lake Bank
Sojourner Truth Academy
South Ridge Elementary
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St Charles Borromeo
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St Croix Montessori
St Francis De Sales
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St John the Baptist
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St Stephen's School
St Thomas More Catholic School
St Vincent De Paul
Stella Maris
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Superior Cathedral
Superior Hiking Trail Association
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Two Harbors High School
UMM International Student Success
Valley Middle School
VandenBerge Middle School
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Watertown-Mayer Middle School
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William Kelley Elementary
Willow River Elementary
Winterquist Elementary
Woodbury Leadership Academy
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Youth Outdoors



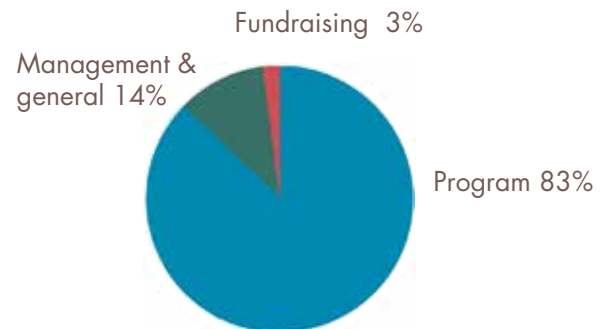
ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FISCAL YEAR SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 TO AUGUST 31, 2018

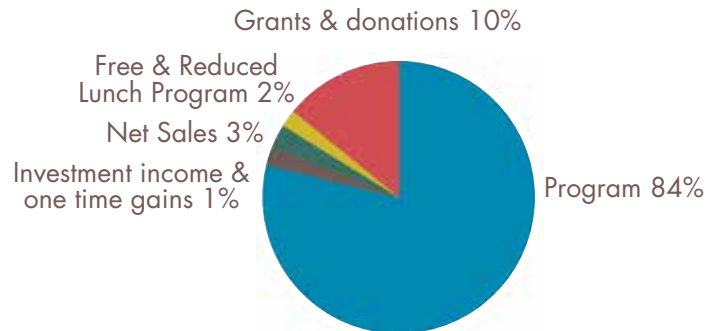
Expenses

Program services	\$2,322,694
Management & general	381,369
Fundraising	99,684
Total Expenses before Depreciation*	<u>\$2,803,747</u>



Revenue and Other Support

Program revenue	\$2,355,946
Investment income & one time gains	23,407
Sales (net of expenses)	97,732
Free & reduced lunch program	54,269
Grants & donations	277,862
Total Revenue	<u>\$2,809,216</u>



Making Waves Campaign

Revenue	\$3,406,832**
---------	---------------

Statement of Financial Position

Current assets	\$152,462	Current liabilities	\$2,564,350
Fixed assets	13,977,564	Temporarily restricted net assets	158,813
Investments & supporting funds		Permanently restricted net assets	353,232
Endowment	423,745	Unrestricted net assets	12,959,461
Board restricted reserve	714,433	Total liabilities & net assets	<u>\$16,035,856</u>
Cash Equivalents	767,652		
Total Assets	<u>\$16,035,856</u>		

*Depreciation expense = \$625,555

**The 2017-2018 revenue for the Making Waves Capital Improvement Projects was \$3.4 million. The funds were used for construction projects both underway and completed during the 2017-18 year. See page 4 for full campaign report.

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center is a nonprofit, tax exempt organization under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. This financial information is drawn from the audited financial statements by the accounting firm Esterbrooks, Scott, Signorelli, Peterson, Smithson, Ltd.



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