

# 2023 Annual Impact Report



Reflecting on the past year, the indisputable highlight was the permanent protection of 24 acres of land owned by the Schuylkill Center. Thanks to an unprecedented \$3 million gift from sisters Jessica Berwind and Joanna Berwind, we placed a conservation easement on the property known as the Boy Scout Tract that will protect the land forever. We are now 365 acres of nature—the largest protected natural area in Philadelphia!

The year was also one of transition at the Center. In April, Erin Mooney assumed the role of interim executive director upon Mike Weilbacher's departure. We are grateful to Mike for his lasting contributions to the Schuylkill Center, and to Erin for her leadership that builds on six years as a member of our board of directors.

We also have a new master plan for the Schuylkill Center. Developed with Hinge Design, it reflects a long-term vision that includes renovating historic Brolo Farm to become a vibrant community gathering space, reimagining a new entrance for the Center, developing new trails throughout the property, and enhancing and defining the edge of our property.

None of these efforts—past, present or future—would be possible without support from our partners, the community and you. Thanks to grants from the Philadelphia Water Department, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and additional support from private donors, we are on our way to designing a solution to an erosion issue that is compromising water quality at Wind Dance Pond and downstream at Smith Run. Also, your support made it possible for



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our Wildlife Clinic—the only one in Philadelphia—to provide care for 3,000 animals during 2023. A big win for local nature!

As we turn the page to 2024, we feel excited and hopeful for the opportunities before us. We wish you and your family the best of this winter season and thank you for your continued support. 🍁



**ERIN MOONEY**  
*Interim Executive Director*



**MARILYN TINARI**  
*President, Board of Trustees*



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# Supportive trustees, staff, members and our local community keep the Schuylkill Center going.

## STEWARDSHIP

- Engaged **800 students** from six schools in land stewardship activities.
- Led **10 restoration days** to educate the public about caring for lands and waters.
- Implemented intensive habitat management on **22 acres** of young forest.



## GIVING

- Expressed appreciation for **706 volunteers** who collectively contributed **8,848 hours** of time.
- Accepted donations from **465 first-time givers** to the Center.
- Processed **1,907 gifts** from **1,298 donors** who want to support the Center's mission.



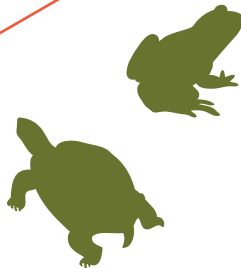
## YOUTH

- Cooled off **580 campers** with **1,230 freeze pops** during nine weeks in the summer.
- Hosted **102 families** interested in learning more about Nature Preschool.
- (Patiently) answered **7,678,922 questions** posed by **63** curious Nature Preschool students.

## by the NUMBERS

## ART

- Hosted **800 art appreciators** at **22** exhibitions, openings, workshops, walks, festivals, artist talks and tours.
- Installed **12 works** of art along our trails.



## WILDLIFE

- Answered **4,500 hotline calls** from animal lovers in and around Philadelphia.
- Treated **3,000 animals** representing **135 species**.
- Fed **700 gallons** of baby formula to **1,000** furry and scaly infants.
- Recycled **100 Christmas trees** as shelter for wildlife patients.

## COMMUNITY

- Welcomed **13,298** general visitors, **600** Halloween hikers and **516** Naturepalooz-ers.
- Chatted about nature with **643 friends** at seven #ThursdayNightLive online gatherings.
- Engaged **150 community members** in creating the Center's new master plan.
- Sold **3,772 native plants** to raise money while benefiting local pollinators.



# MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK AT THE SCHUYLKILL CENTER



## Advancing Capital Projects

Thanks to the Landenberger Foundation, we made progress on building the Landenberger Pavillion and River House that will enhance our public offerings at the Center.

In the coming year, we look forward to adding solar power lighting, interpretive signage, log seating, and a stone fireplace and chimney to the space.



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## Inspiring Environmental Art

We hosted the LandLab artist-in-residence, Susan Hagen, who created a series of diorama-inspired outdoor sculptures capturing historical moments in bird conservation, bird science and humankind's impact on bird populations. During her residency, Hagen also interviewed birders and experts on ornithology and ecology, and worked with Schuylkill Center staff to develop a list of practical steps to improve outcomes for local birds.



## Caring for the Land

Four interns from Lankenau High School worked with the Center's

education and lands and facilities teams to learn directly in and about nature. From assisting with field trips to learning how to maintain forests, fields and trails, the students earned academic credit and gained skills key to pursuing professional opportunities in a growing green job market.

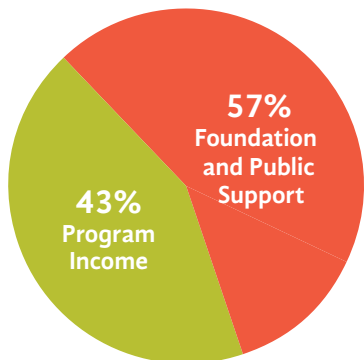
## Saving Wildlife

Our wildlife clinic treated its first ever Long-Tailed Duck, a bird usually found in the Arctic. Unable to fly after a traumatic collision, the duck received treatment for a neck wound. After he was successfully cared for, our staff released our guest into a local habitat where other Long-Tails have been occasionally spotted. 🍁

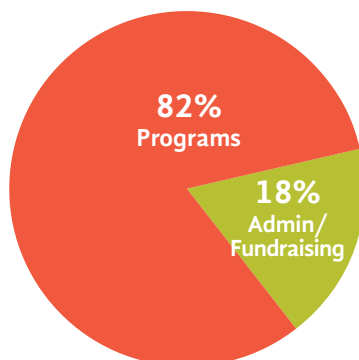


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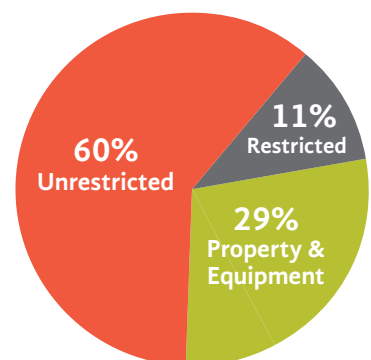
## Financials as of June 30, 2023



**INCOME (Operating)**  
**\$2,979,597**



**EXPENSES (Operating)**  
**\$2,637,940**



**TOTAL ASSETS**  
**\$10,887,165**

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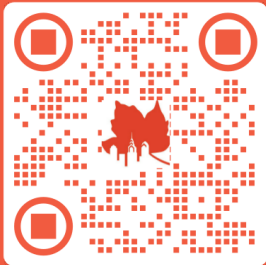


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### Educating Youth

*“My daughter was terrified of bugs, animals and the outdoors overall before her time at nature camp. After a few days she was bringing home toads in her pocket from camp! For a city kid, this has been just what she needed. She had a wonderful time and her experience was literally life changing.”*

– Quinton McArthur  
(Parent of a Dashing Dragonfly)



MAKE A GIFT AND JOIN A COMMUNITY OF LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE WHO CONNECT WITH NATURE AND THE OUTDOORS.



The Schuylkill Center maintains a “Gold Star” rating on GuideStar’s nonprofit monitoring site and a “100 out of 100” ratings on Charity Navigator.

Volunteer.  
Partner.  
Give.  
Share.  
Plan.



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*There are so many ways of giving—big and small—that advance our mission at The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education. Every dollar • hour • gift matters.*

**Thank you!**

**Stay Connected!**

[www.schuylkillcenter.org](http://www.schuylkillcenter.org)



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