





### 2021 Impact Report

A love letter to The Traveling School Community









## Alwe letter from Jennifer

#### Dear Traveling School Supporter,

I love how you value the importance of young women finding their passions and voices. How you invite them to look outside of themselves and see other ways of thinking, living and being. How you challenge Traveling School students to engage in the world around them—to get curious about what they're seeing . . . to talk to all the people they meet, to notice all the little things, the signs that point to the true history of a place. I love how you show them the power of community and female mentorship.

By supporting The Traveling School, you help young women realize education is an active pursuit, not a passive one . . . and that they can make a difference in this crazy world.

I was utterly distraught when it felt like we

might lose The Traveling School. When Covid hit and the world stopped. When we all stayed home, and The Traveling School shut its doors. Our students traded experiential education for virtual school. Our staff moved out of the home office and began working remotely. We masked up, physically distanced and created protective bubbles.

But, like always, you—our Traveling School community—stepped up. You gave us the opportunity to create an exciting new semester. You helped us realize where our students traveled didn't matter. Yes, for the past 18 years, Traveling School students have learned so much from our friends overseas, and of course, they will again. But you applauded our decision to explore our own backyard—the North American West.

In imagining this new semester in the

continental United States, we leaned heavily on our Traveling School community. My husband and I literally packed up our camper and drove south then west—looking for possibilities and partners. Program staff surveyed alumnae and families for advice and connections. We collected donated and discounted gear to build our own fleet. We engaged former teachers in creating powerful curricula. Our board engaged deeply providing tireless guidance.

As advocates and donors, you rallied behind us to take the next leap. You knew all too well how important it was for The Traveling School to thrive and grow.

And together, we made it! Right now, there is a group of high school girls digging into the legacy of this country. They are opening their eyes to the power and potential of their own voices . . . of the importance of listening deeply to multiple perspectives. They are ready to return home and speak up. To be curious and generous and thoughtful.

So, thank YOU—our alumnae and parents and board members, and all of you who care so deeply. You made sure The Traveling School would thrive for the next generation of courageous high school girls. The explorers. The dreamers. The doers. The ones who realize the importance of proximity... of engaging closely with the people and places around us.

You did that.

With love and gratitude,

Jennifer Royall
Executive Director

### 2021 at a glance

### Countless

Hours on zoom

311

Generous donors

14

New program partnerships

07

Virtual gatherings with our community

05

New interdisciplinary textbooks

05

Federal and State stimulus grants

Staff layoffs

## tove poem to a tech-free life

Amanda TTS36 Student

I would drop my head
as soon as I heard a familiar ding
I would share expressionless words on a screen
With people whose faces I didn't know I missed
I would mindlessly swipe, tap and scroll
Just to escape what I didn't want to do









Revenue

and Support

Financials



\*Data reflects figures from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Full financial statements are at TravelingSchool.com

Revenue and Support: \$474,413

Tuition and Fees | \$855

Donations | \$235,914

In-Kind Donations | \$4,028

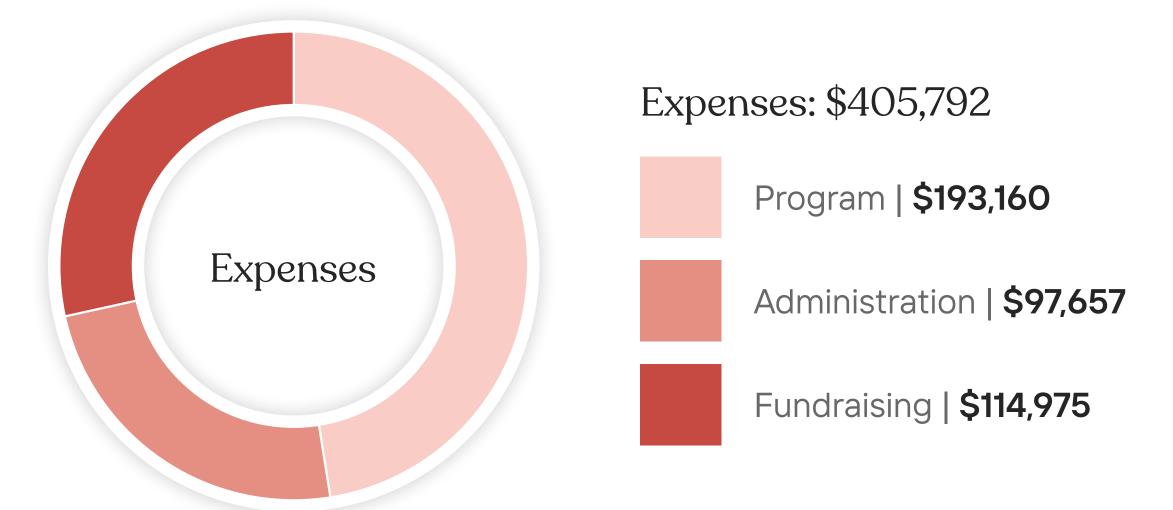
Grants | \$233,616



I would get lost in an artificial world
Instead of getting lost in a real one
But since I met you
My neck is only sore from sleeping on the ground
And I see people's expressions change when they talk
I flip through pages in a book
And write until my hand hurts
I admire the beauty in the landscape around me
Like pieces of art dressing every corner of the earth
Now that I know you
I lack interest in your absence
I don't want to get used to picking up my phone
The way that I am used to picking up a notebook
I don't want to think of my essentials
As anything other than my backpack and water bottle

I don't want to forget about the freedom I have knowing you

tech-free life



Learning new skills has been critical to our success and financial survival this past year. We navigated multiple government grants, shifted our financial models and worked as a team to reinvent our operating procedures. This year we adapted to change, faced challenges and leaned into the unknown. I am grateful and full of hope for the future of The Traveling School!

Trace Klein | Operations Manager

# ove notes from alumna parents



Thank you for helping us raise our daughter into a woman who sees opportunities as intimate relationships between her and the world; and who is, accordingly, always curious, unafraid to move, open to connections, and dedicated to making sure the world feels as accessible to others as it does to her.

Here's to many more years of travel together.

Carolyn Hamilton, TT32 Alumna Parent

In the many years since my daughters' semesters, I have been made exceptionally aware of the importance their experiences had on their development. The beauty of learning and exposure to the worlds outside their own allowed for a deeper understanding and connection to those around them and to themselves. For this, I, and my daughters, are eternally grateful.

Laura Sharfenberg, TTS26 & TTS23 Alumnae Parent

The Traveling School experience marked Alex's heart and the impact has touched our family as well. With the recent COVID, racial divide and political hate, we have seen how Alex has not felt powerless but empowered, engaged and not a victim, a voice and not irrelevant in her thoughts and approaches to culture. These lessons and tools will serve her well for her lifetime.

Thank you TTS for helping to form so many young women, helping them find their voice, learn and grow in a phenomenal classroom setting that is unmatched, with phenomenal instruction and curriculum that will impact young women for a long time to come.

Stuart Royall, TTS34 Alumna Parent



### Community

#### **Board of Directors**

**Emily Mallory** President

TTS12 & TTS13 Faculty

Meghann Teague Vice President

Nicole Cooper Treasurer

TTS28 Alumna Parent

Laura Hannah\* Secretary

TTS1 & TTS4 Alumna

**Chris Bacon** 

TTS31 Alumna Parent

Jenae McCarroll

TTS2 Alumna, TTS16 & TTS19 Faculty

Paul Moniz

TTS31 Alumna Parent

John Shea\*

TTS29 Alumna Parent

Dan Center\*

Nancy Lykkehoy\*

TTS20 Alumna Parent

Ellie Martin\*

\*Served on Board of Directors until 2021. Thank you for your dedication and service to The Traveling School.

#### **Administrative Staff**

Jennifer Royall

**Executive Director** 

**Aunge Thomas** 

Program Director & Academic Dean

Laura Brin

**Development Director** 

Kaitlin Bear

Admissions & Program Coordinator

Maddie Johnson

Recruiting & Marketing Coordinator

**Development & Program Assistant** 

**Trace Klein** 

Operations Manager

**Anne McBride** 

#### **Program Partners**

**AMB West** 

blankfoundation.org

Montana Wilderness School

montanawildernessschool.org

**American Prairie Reserve** 

americanprairie.org

**Alpengirl Camp** 

alpengirlcamp.com

**VISIONS Service Adventures** 

visionsserviceadventures.com

**City Kids Wilderness Project** 

citykidsdc.org

**Torrey House Press** 

torreyhouse.org

DesignBuildBluff

designbuildbluff.org

**Canyon Country Discovery Center** 

ccdiscovery.org

**Deer Hill Expeditions** 

deerhillexpeditions.com

Verde Valley School

vvsaz.org

**Borderlands Restoration Network** 

borderlandsrestoration.org

Deep Dirt Institute

deepdirt.earth/institute

**Prescott College** 

prescott.edu



# We ove our supporters

2021 was unlike any other for The Traveling School. With no programs in the field, our tuition revenue was eliminated. The office team that for years worked in an intimate and collaborative space scattered to our own homes. Economic uncertainty lead to insecurity about our fundraising strategies. Like so many organizations, The Traveling School faced an uncertain future.

It is truly because of you, our supporters, that The Traveling School is still here. It was because of the 311 donors that we were able to financially survive a year without tuition income. It was connections to companies and foundations that supplemented our

budget with in kind gifts and grants. It was that extra contribution from an alumnae, that stretch gift from a parent and that matching donation facilitated by a board member.

The reason why The Traveling School continues to thrive is because of your LOVE and generosity.

Thank you for your inspiring dedication to The Traveling School's mission to amplify female voices through transformative education to ignite positive change.

Laura Brin, Development Director





#### A love note from our feet-

We are thrilled to partner with Oboz Footwear, who is generously outfitting all students with hiking boots this year. Partners like Oboz are invaluable in helping us make The Traveling School accessible for every young woman who wants to join us.

## 2021 Traveling School Supporters

Jeffrey Abramowitz / Alumnae Parent

Al & Debra Alessi / Alumnae Parent

Aine Alexander / Alumna

Rick Alexander

Shawn Alexander

Steve Alexander & Devon MacLeod / Alumnae Parent

J'amy Allen & Robert Tudek / Alumnae Parent

Emily Allison

Amatics

Anna & Trip Anderson

Bobbi Anderson / Alumna

Scott Anderson

Arianna Angelides

Willis Ashby & Karen Burch / Alumnae Parent

Linda Babcock

Christine Bacon / Board Member, Alumnae Parent

Kate Barker

Rebecca Baruc / Alumna

Carol Bass

Bobby Bear

Kaitlin Bear & Zach Hesse / Staff

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Jenny & Charles Beeler / Alumnae Parent

John Belcaster & Kellyn Marks / Alumnae Parent

Kim & Robert Belvin / Board Member, Alumnae Parent

Jennifer Belz

Pattie Berg

Molly & Tyson Berndt

Lei-Anna & Troy Bertelsen / Alumnae Parent

James & Carol Bildahl / Alumnae Parent

Janet Bixby & Martha Mealy / Alumnae Parent

Blackbaud Giving Fund

Laura Brin & Larry Peterson / Staff

Taina Brin

Theodore Brin

Charles Brookfield / Alumnae Parent

Margo Brookfield / Alumna

Sarah Brookfield / Alumnae Parent

Ali Brooks / Faculty

Erica Brubaker

Whitney & Allen Bruce / Alumnae Parent

Dana Bryson

Jenet Busch

Ann Cannata

Dan Center / Board Member

Meredith Center / Board Member

Doug Chabot & Allyson Fauver

Elizabeth Christie

Binnie & Bill Chrysler / Alumnae Parent

Andrew Cole

Lander & John Cooney / Faculty

Mary Beth Cooney

Nicole & Wes Cooper / Board Member, Alumnae Parent

Duke Corliss / Alumnae Parent

Carter Cox

Dody & Jay Cox

Warren Craft

April & Lance Craighead

Yara Cruz

Logan Davis

Sangeeta De Datta

Scott & Donna de Kuyper / Alumnae Parent

Mikaela Winters DiBerardinis / Alumna

Ed Diffendal

Andrew Drake / Alumnae Parent

Mary Draper

McKenna Duffy / Alumna

Richard Dugas / Alumnae Parent

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Skye Eddy / Alumna

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Sarah McLean / Alumna

2021 Traveling School Supporters Continued

Theodore & Nena Rich / Alumnae Parent

William & Caroline Symington / Alumnae Parent

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