



# 2023

IMPACT REPORT



THE TRAVELING SCHOOL



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2000, Gennifre Hartman dreamt of a unique educational space that brought together teenage girls from across the country for an immersive international traveling semester. Here, students would engage in a region, leaning into its history, literature, culture, and landscapes as curious travelers. Here too, students would build community, gain perspective, grow leadership skills, and return home with powerful voices, ready to spark positive change.

2023 marks 20 years since The Traveling School's inception. In the following pages, you will read about the legacy of Gennifre's dream. You'll hear how our alumni are making this world a better place and how much their Traveling School teachers, still clearly mentors and role models, exemplify this same ethic.

During this year of celebration and reflection, I've found myself singing Alicia Keys & Brandi Carlile's song, "A Beautiful Noise" on repeat. It fills me up because it embodies The Traveling School's mission and vision; its lyrics are reflected in our alumni's aspirations, work, and lives.

Our faculty and alum stretch across the globe, and their combined voices resonate a message of change. Our alumni are teachers, guides, musicians, climate scientists, producers, mothers, non-profit founders, and activists. They have learned how to use their powerful voices, set in motion during their Traveling School semester, to make a beautiful noise.

If, over these 20 years, you've wondered why your support of The Traveling School matters, please consider what the world would be missing without these voices.

With gratitude,

**Jennifer Royall**  
Executive Director



*I have a voice*

*Started out as a whisper,  
turned into a scream*

*Made a beautiful noise*

*Shoulder to shoulder,  
marching in the street*

*When you're all alone,  
it's a quiet breeze*

*But when you band together,  
it's a choir*

*Of thunder and rain,  
now we have a choice*

*'Cause I have a voice*

– from "A Beautiful Noise" lyrics by Alicia Keys, Brandi Carlile, Brandy Clark, Hillary Lindsey, Lori McKenna, Hailey Whitters, Linda Perry and Ruby Amanfu





20 YEARS BY THE NUMBERS



twenty years



Santa Cruz Trek



TTS1 '03



39

TRANSFORMATIONAL SEMESTERS

80

INSPIRING FACULTY

167

PAIRS OF BOOTS HIKING  
THE SANTA CRUZ TREK

298

PASSENGERS ON BIG BLUE

467

EMPOWERED ALUMNI



4,388

HOURS STUDYING BY HEADLAMP

7,080

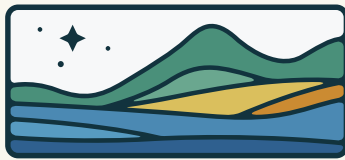
GLOBAL STUDIES REFLECTION ESSAYS  
WRITTEN BY HAND

\$1.36M+

NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS DISTRIBUTED

Countless

VOICES AMPLIFIED!!!



THE TRAVELING SCHOOL

The Traveling School's mission, vision, and strategy update in 2023 brought our language into better alignment with the work we do. We crafted these guiding statements to be more inclusive to our students and alumni. After all, The Traveling School was founded on the principle of gender equity and giving opportunities to those society does not; our mission and vision should reflect that. Join us in creating a world that embraces unrestricted and equitable language while supporting our society's most marginalized genders.

Our **mission** at The Traveling School is to amplify student voices through transformative education to ignite positive change.

Our **vision** is a world in which strong, compassionate leaders build an equitable and sustainable global community.

Our **strategy** is to cultivate inclusive, collaborative learning spaces that empower young people whose voices might otherwise be silenced on the basis of gender.



# A Symphony of Alumni Impact



Exploring  
The World



Upholding  
Ecological  
Justice



SENIOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

## Ruby Shumaker

TTS35 SPRING, 2020 SOUTH AMERICA & VIRTUAL  
HOME BASE: AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

"One of my favorite parts of TTS was the conversations we had with local organizers who were directing their energy towards causes ranging from permaculture to street art to sustainable tourism. I grasped my capability to incite change towards causes I care about."

"When I am hiking in Iceland, furling the sails on a sailboat, or jumping into a canal in Amsterdam, I become a TTS student again. All of these experiences would not have been possible were it not for the doors opened on my semester."

SENIOR AT FAIRHAVEN COLLEGE, WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## Carly Lloyd

TTS29 SPRING, 2017 SOUTH AMERICA  
HOME BASE: BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

"I'm currently traveling on the Adventure Learning Grant, a year-long independent trip emphasizing intellectual risk, challenge, and adventure. My primary focus is to meet and work with people who are protecting land and water from impacts of industrialization and the climate crisis in Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru."

"I am continuing to return to the interests and curiosities I first discovered with TTS as I travel through South America learning about local efforts towards environmental justice."





## Advocating for Reproductive Justice



## Igniting Change through Music



CO-FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF MOVEMENT FOR CHOICE

### Caroline Motley

TTS23 SPRING, 2014 SOUTH AMERICA  
HOME BASE: WASHINGTON D.C.

"Movement for Choice raises money for Reproductive Justice through donation-based events in the Washington, DC area. Our mission is centered on fighting for the reproductive freedom of all people - particularly BIPOC and LGBTQ individuals."

"My time with TTS continues to come up regularly in my life when I conjure the leadership skills I learned on my semester."

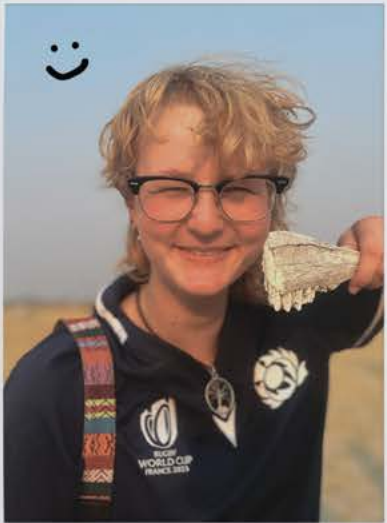
PERFORMER AND SONGWRITER

### Ava Swanson

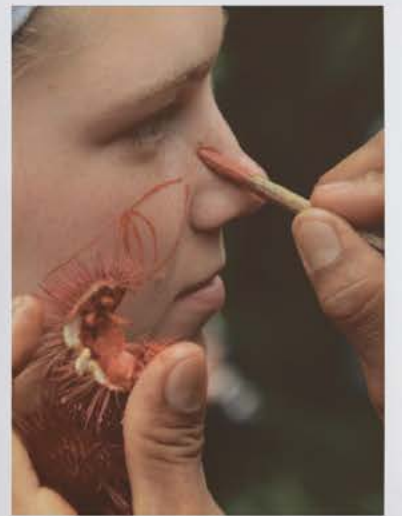
TTS24 FALL 2014, SOUTHEAST AFRICA  
HOME BASE: NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

"The Traveling School ignited my passions for social and environmental justice, which have radically shaped my education and core values."

"I brought a tiny guitar with me to TTS, and wrote song after song about all that I was experiencing and learning during my travels. I'm still doing the same thing today, using songwriting as a tool for unpacking and expressing my experiences in the world."



I've found my voice







FACULTY



**Sarah White, Faculty**  
Fall 2013 & 2014 | Spring 2014 & 2015



Leah K.



Genevieve W.



Claire H.



Heather F.



Danika R.

## TTS FACULTY

# Inspiring Beautiful Noise

We couldn't make this impact without our Traveling School teachers. Highlighted here are teachers who have taught 4+ semesters, including Sarah White, who is an educator and activist in the Bay Area.

Across four Traveling School semesters, Sarah inspired students to reorient their perspectives on world issues, and to attain the capacity to think critically. Critical thinking is Sarah's obsession and key to making beautiful noise.

With roots in Paulo Friere's "Pedagogy of the Oppressed," Sarah aimed to empower students to become critical agents of change, questioning oppressive structures and working towards a more democratic and just society. Freire's framework is at the heart of how Sarah (and other Traveling School faculty) found distinctive ways to engage others, to inspire change, to make noise.

*BETH BILLINGTON MARLINGTON, FACULTY  
FALL 2014, 2015, 2016 | SPRING 2014*



Beth M.



Caroline G.



Aunge T.



Shannon J.





REVENUE JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023



**\$334,501**

TUITION + FEES

**\$140,182**

DONATIONS

**\$3,001**

IN-KIND DONATIONS

**\$477,684\***

TOTAL REVENUE

EXPENSES JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023



**\$547,216**

PROGRAM

**\$155,513**

ADMINISTRATION

**\$114,676**

FUNDRAISING

**\$817,405**

TOTAL EXPENSES



*"You make it possible..."*

"As an alum turned staff member, I get a special glimpse into the impact of The Traveling School. When I was a student, I was distantly aware The Traveling School was a nonprofit and folks like you made my scholarship possible.

Now, as The Traveling School's Development Manager I see how members of this community show up in countless ways for our students. You make it possible for Traveling School students to focus on amplifying their voices. Your support is invaluable, and we are grateful for your commitment to empowering the next generation through transformative education. You certainly did that for me."

**Chloe Loeffelholz**

FALL 2015 SOUTHERN AFRICA, DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

*\*The Traveling School cancelled our Spring 2023 semester to successfully relaunch our international programming. This resulted in a significant decrease in revenue. In FY24, TTS is back to running two semesters.*



## Board of Directors

Chris Bacon, President	Kyle Holt Hopkins
Kim Belvin, Vice President	Emily Mallory*
Christine Hrenya, Treasurer	John McBride
Flora Athappilly, Secretary	Chrissie Monaghan
Helen Wilson Burns	Paul Moniz*
Meredith Center	Zoe Oldham
Karen Guile	Dr. Lisa Power
Cassy Harris	Natalie Trono

\* Completed board service in 2023. Thank you for your dedication and service to The Traveling School.

## Administrative Staff

Jennifer Royall - Executive Director  
 Aunge Thomas - Head of School  
 Mary Reid Munford - Academic Dean  
 Trace Klein - Operations Manager  
 Chloe Loeffelholz - Development Manager  
 Nell Gehrke - Development and Operations Coordinator  
 Hayne Beattie-Gray - Admissions Manager

## Key Organizational Partners

International Coalition of Girls Schools  
 Western Association of Schools and Colleges  
 National Association of Independent Schools  
 Semester Schools Network  
 Montana Nonprofit Association  
 Think Again Training & Consulting

## 20th Anniversary Event Sponsors

(20!)

Jennifer Meyer & Ben Gardner  
 Stacy Brenner & John Bliss  
 McDermott Financial  
 First Security Bank  
 Bridger Brewing  
 Bozeman Wine Gallery  
 Elle's Belles Bakery  
 Oboz Footwear

## Key Program Partners

Mango African Safaris (Oregon)  
 Lingua Adventure CC (South Africa)  
 Tembo Safaris (Zimbabwe)  
 African Leadership Academy (South Africa)  
 Roc 'n Rope Adventures (South Africa)  
 Travel Café (Montana)  
 The Tandana Foundation (Ecuador)  
 Pambliño Farm (Ecuador)  
 Pumadventures (Peru)  
 Elma Tours (Bolivia)







# Big, huge, enormous thanks

Sarah Adragna	Lander & John Cooney	Edward Harney	Elisabeth Krebs	Mary Reid Munford	Stephanie Sloves
Al & Debra Alessi	Mary Cooney	Cassy Harris	Allegra La Ferr	Robert Munford	Cam Smail & Wendy Willoughby
Rick Alexander	Nicole & Wes Cooper	Alison Hartman	Therese Landefeld	Beverley & Bob Murphy	Corey Smith
J'amy Allen & Robert Tudek	Duke Corliss	Jennifer Hawkins	Marvin & Kay Lansverk	Lumay Murphy	Marty Smith
Amatics CPA Group	Eleanor Cornell	Leah Herring	Eleanor Lardner	Patrick Murphy	Simrill Smith
Flora & James Athappilly	Drew & Christi Coubrough	Coleman & Shelby Herrod	Jennifer & Joseph Lardner	Valerie Nassiff	Suzi Spector & Carl von Saltza
Nick Austin	April & Lance Craighead	Elizabeth Drew Higgins	Ward Lassoe	Anne Nikirk	Bonnie Spivak
Linda Babcock	Tanya Cunningham	Michelle Hiskey	Dianne Lester	Patricia Ninsiima	Joan Stockman & Jacques Zimicki
Christine Bacon	George Daly Jr	Glenn & Laurie Hockett	Chloe Loeffelholz	Jeffrey Noble	Beverly Stonecypher
Jennifer Baldinger	Karen & Dan Davis	Briana Hoey	James & Teema Loeffelholz	Rachel & Drew Noyes	Gregg & Berit Stover
Carol Bass	Scott & Donna de Kuyper	Sydney Yang Hoffman	Ruby Loeffelholz	Annet Nuwagaba	Justin & Aunge Stowers
Kaitlin Bear & Zach Hesse	John Dickinson	Rich Hohne	Whitney Lonsdale	Asaba Nuwagaba	Carol Sullivan
Jenny & Charles Beeler	S. Downey Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation	Laura & Peter Holland	Marc Louw	Oak Creek Foundation	Anna Taft
Kim & Robert Belvin	Jim Duffy & Lori Preston	George Holt	Kim Lupkin	One Valley Community Foundation	The Bob and Hope Taft Family Fund
Sarah Bernard	Elle's Belles Bakery	Katherine Holt	Wade & Nancy Lykkehoy	Deborah Oyer & Tom Weeks	Kristin Taylor
Scott & Karen Bernard	Jennifer Engstrom	Kyle Holt Hopkins	Kara MacCullough & Francis Pelly	Robin Patterson	Isabelle & Strom Thacker
Molly & Tyson Berndt	Jessica Evenson	Abigail Hopkins	Molly MacDonald	Baylie Pelham	Bruce & Victoria Thomas
Mozelle Bertelsen	Chloe Fan	Aliina Hopkins	Heidi Makoutz	Katey Pelican	Hope & Matt Timberlake
Elaine Bigelow	Jenny Fiebig	Eliza Hopkins	B. Lee & Susan Mallory	Kent & Annie Penfield	Treeline Coffee Roasters
Charmarie Blaisdell	Rebecca Fisher	Laura Hopkins Farmelo & John Farmelo	Emily Mallory	Kate & Mike Pierce	Natalie Trono
Bozeman Wine Gallery	Dana Fittante & Shawn Stockman	Amy & Steve Hoskins	James Maister	David Pitser	Steve & Monique Trono
Diane & Bill Bradsell	Jana Fleming	Paul House	Julie Mansisidor & Chris Ewers	Patricia Purvis	Suzanne Truman
BJ & Molly Brewer	Chrissie Fraser	Christine Hrenya	Kelsey Marcin	Julia Reich	Eileen Urtz & Christopher Schoberl
Bridger Brewing	Emory Freed	Geoff & Jodie James	Alex Marienthal	Katherine & Scott Renschler	Vanguard Charitable
Theodore Brin	Friend Duke Montana Fund at One Valley Community Foundation	Anna & Neil Johnson	Ellie Martin	Mark Ringer	Ann & Robert Wawter
Charles Brookfield	Abbey Gardner	Kathryn & Matthew Johnson	Anne McBride	Christopher Roberts	Val Veirs
Margo Brookfield	Behna Gardner	Nancy Johnson	John McBride & Loretta Pendergrast	Sally Rohrer	Angela Walls
Anne Broyles	Ben Gardner & Jennifer Meyer	Owen M Johnson Family Foundation	Jenae McCarroll	Bill Roper & Barbara Ganley	Genevieve Walsh
Whitney & Allen Bruce	Beverly & Gordon Gay	Susan & Ted Johnson	Mark McCarroll	Kevin Rose	Amy Waterhouse & Julie Wynn
Nell Bryant	Maia George	Mira Kautzky & Keith Flaherty	Scott McCauley	Chandra & Gil Rosenthal	Waypoint Outdoor
Helen Wilson Burns	Michelle Grace & Henricus van Duijnhoven	Constance Kavafyan	Martha McCluskey & Carl Nightingale	Giliah Rosner	Mitchell Weeks
Eliza Cain & Randy George	Michael Gross	Erin Kelly	Brian & Dalton McCurdy	Charles Fuller Ross Memorial Fund/ Live a Fuller Life	Morgan Weidow
Allison Campbell	Marilyn & Dan Guggenheim	James Kelly	Evy McElmeel & Jan Hirschmann	Aubree Roth	Angie & James Weikert
Ann Cannata	George Guile	Price Klaas & Todd Schilling	Susan & John Meyer	Stacey Roth	Karen & Peter Weiss
Kathleen Carey	Karen Guile	Trace & Ben Klein	Susan Meyer	Stuart & Heather Royall	Jeff Welch & Kelly Niles
Missy Cashman	Janae Hagen	Jan & Collen Knickerbocker	Blanche Rose Miller	Jennifer Royall	Lydia Welp
Shelsea Cato	Elizabeth Hakes	Leah Knickerbocker	Courtney Miller	Lili Ruane	Michael Wickes
Dan Center	Kris & Jim Hall	Claudia Koechell	Katherine Milne	Alex Rust	Amber Williams
Meredith Center	McKinley Hall	Nanisciah Koessler	Emmett Minor	Price Ryder	David & Laura Williams
Peter Center	Jim & Joan Hammer	Sara Korn	Erin Mock	Charlotte Scharfenberg	Kathy & Gary Wilson
Doug Chabot	Laura Hannah	Kate Koser	Wendy & Paul Moniz	Pia Scharfenberg	Charles Work
Binnie & Bill Chrysler	Susan & Walter Hannah	Danielle Kraus	Chambers Moore	Karen Schraer-Molitors	Erica Wright
Sarah Jane Chrysler			Hannah Moreaux	Martha Sellers	Stuart & Marlene Yang
Becky Clearwater			Brigitte Morris	Dave Sharp	Kathy Young
Deidre Combs			MT Accounting Solutions	Peter Shatwell	Karen Yu & Warren Craft
			Charlie Munford	John & Sheila Shea	Sabra Zahn
			Luther & Ginnie Munford	David & Kirby Sheridan	David Zinn & Amy Pakula
			Margaret Munford	Liz Shull	Lisa Zulawski



Making Beautiful Noise  
for 20 Years

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