A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the staff, trustees, and students of Philadelphia Outward Bound School, I am delighted to share with you our 2018 Annual Report. As you’ll see in these pages, this was a year of true transformation. It marked our 25th Anniversary, the departure of our beloved long-time Executive Director, Katie Newsom, for a new position at Outward Bound USA, and the opening of our new home, The Discovery Center in East Fairmount Park.

I came on board in September, and every week has been more exciting than the last. From a dinner with His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex to celebrate our role in administering The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award locally, to our first “Discovery Day” of public programming delivered in partnership with Audubon Pennsylvania, to my own Outward Bound expedition on a pulling boat in Florida to close out the year – I could not be more proud of the Philadelphia Outward Bound School crew I’ve joined, or more optimistic about the opportunities that lie before us.

As we move into 2019, we are expanding our capacity to serve students at The Discovery Center, exploring new course areas, and deepening our partnerships with the School District of Philadelphia and other youth services organizations.

Thank you for your interest in our work!

Meg Wise
Executive Director

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH’S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

In 2018, Philadelphia Outward Bound School (POBS) announced a new partnership with The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award USA.

The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award is a global, non-formal education framework that encourages young people to challenge themselves through a self-directed program of skill development, physical activity, voluntary service, and adventure.

Through this partnership, Award participants will be able to draw on the expertise of POBS staff for training, supervision and mentorship, as they progress through the levels of the Award journey.

13 STUDENTS PURSUING THEIR FIRST AWARD LEVEL

LEVELS

1. BRONZE
2. SILVER
3. GOLD

THE AWARD FRAMEWORK

1. SKILL DEVELOPMENT
2. PHYSICAL RECREATION
3. VOLUNTARY SERVICE
4. ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY

DAMIR MACON
CLASS OF 2019 | THE CREFELD SCHOOL

In 2014, Philadelphia Outward Bound School (POBS) developed a unique partnership with The Crefeld School to design a specialized program for its 10th grade students. For one semester students spend their Wednesday afternoons with POBS staff developing their leadership skills. Through this program Damir Macon had his first experience with Outward Bound, and met Alumni and Scholarship Manager, Jenn Raymond.

“I met Jenn when she came to my school. She tried to help me with my grief that I was going through, with the loss of my mother. I was more of a follower. Anything my friends would do I would just do it, not knowing if the consequences were good or bad. I didn’t know I was destroying my life. But once Outward Bound found me and they knew the potential I had, they really focused on it, but they also do it as a group. I met kids that I could relate to, that I thought I would never talk to. I really connected with a whole lot of people.”

WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM DAMIR’S PHILADELPHIA YOUTH LEADERSHIP CORPS EXPEDITION:

https://youtu.be/aA_EyVh1Pq0
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THE AWARD FRAMEWORK
1. SKILL DEVELOPMENT
2. PHYSICAL RECREATION
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11 WEEKS
12 WEEKS
7 DAYS
11 WEEKS
14 DAYS
55 PROGRAM DAYS IN THE FIELD

Watch this video from Damir’s Philadelphia Youth Leadership Corps Expedition:
https://youtu.be/aA_EyVh1PqQ
Our Partners

Add B. Anderson School
AmorCorps VISTA
Antonia Ponets Charter School
Audubon Pennsylvania Boy’s Latin of Philadelphia Charter School
Building 21
Build the Future Education Collaborative
C. F. Martin & Company
Central High School
Character Lab
Charitable Group of Insurance Companies
Community Academy of Philadelphia
Crimes By Philadelphia High School
Crush Inc.
Dignos
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Eyestriker Youth Hockey Foundation
Education Works
Frankford High School
George Washington Career High School of Engineering and Science
George Washington High School Gibbon School

School District of Philadelphia - 9th Grade Academy Partnership

Pan American Academy Charter School
Parkway Center City Middle College
Parkway Corporation
Parkway Northeast High School for Peace and Social Justice
Penn Grove High School
Penn Treaty School
Philip Academy Charter School
Public Allies
Harbor Branch High School
Russell Byrd Charter School
School District of Philadelphia
School of the Future
South Philadelphia High School
Springside Chestnut Hill Academy
Squalimbrine
St. Joseph’s Orphanage
Summer Search Philadelphia
Student Conservation Association
St. Mary’s Home
Swenson Arts and Tech High School
Temple University
The Crefeld School
The Perelman School of Medicine
The Wharton School
The Wharton School
The Workshop School
Thomas Alva Edison High School
Thomas Mifflin School
Tower Hill School
United Communities
Universal Academy Charter High School
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania Law School
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania Law School
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Students Served

5,099

Youth School-Based Programs

1134 Charter
1196 School District of Phila.
86 Public Institutions
741 Private

Youth Summer Programs

120 Open Enrollment
330 Youth-Serving Nonprofits
75 Merit Award Scholarship

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Squash Smarts

For 16 years, Philadelphia Outward Bound School and Squash Smarts have partnered to improve the lives of underserved youth from Philadelphia’s public schools. In 2018, 79 Squash Smarts students participated in 109 days of Outward Bound programming on high ropes, backpacking and canoing courses.

School District of Philadelphia

Since 2017, Philadelphia Outward Bound School has delivered custom programs for more than 1,500 students in the School District of Philadelphia’s 9th Grade Academy Schools, which provide individualized student support for greater academic success. During this transition year to high school, programs help students to build positive and meaningful relationships that contribute to a healthier school climate and ultimately higher graduation rates.

Read More at: http://bit.ly/9thGradeAcademy

Springside Chestnut Hill Academy

At Springside Chestnut Hill Academy 9th grade students begin high school with a five-day wilderness expedition, specially designed to create a positive group culture that emphasizes compassion, integrity, excellence, and inclusion. Starting in 2018, a select group of “Senior Leaders” went on the 9th grade expedition and continued to serve as peer mentors to their 7th grade friends.

Christine Liang
College and Career Coordinator
Penn Treaty School

“Through becoming a senior leader with Outward Bound, I realized that my actions as a leader directly affect the attitudes of the people I am working with. By having someone close to their age acting as an enthusiastic and reliable leader, the group could be comfortable with one another. I really connected with one of the freshmen girls in my group and months later, she still comes to me for advice. I feel brought Outward Bound’s values to SCH Academy by being compassionate towards others and by striving for excellence and efficiency in the work that I do.”

Allison Gerhard
Class of 2019

“My relationship with Outward Bound began in 7th grade as a SquashSmarts student. Now as an Academic Director at SquashSmarts, I see how much our students learn about themselves and their teammates through their 5-day expeditions. We are so fortunate to be able to provide our students with those life-changing wilderness experiences where they can learn to be peer leaders and gain a whole new level of self-awareness and feeling of personal triumph.”

Quinetta Bowden
Academic Director

When some students anticipate failure, they seem to make up their mind that it’s better not to try than to fail. Set a small and realistic goal in front of their peers. What I noticed at Outward Bound was that when a sense of community and camaraderie was cultivated, the students were encouraged to push themselves out of their comfort zone. Once they reached their goals, they were excited to push themselves even further and encourage their peers to do the same.”

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Dignos
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Ed Stiles Youth Hockey Foundation
Education Works
Franklin High School
George Washington Career High School
George Washington High School
Gideon School
Good Grief
Great Woods Charter School
Hunting Middle School
Interactive Mechanics
JSI
Jewish Family & Children's Services
Kensington Creative & Performing Arts High School
Kensington Health Science Academy
Kensington High School
KIPP Cooper Norcross
Land Health Institute
Laurel Hill Cemetery
LEADERSHIP Philadelphia
Lingnabuch Elementary School
Mastery Charter Frederick Douglass Elementary
McKean Association, Inc
Magleby Weems
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
Nurses Alumni Endowment Hospital for Children
New Foundation Charter School
Northeast High School
Overbrook Educational Center
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Thomson Mifflin School
Tower Hill School
United Communities
Universal Academy Charter High School
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania Law School
UpStart Center for Growing Children
Vlas A Big Picture High School
Ventre for America
W. B. Saul Agricultural High School
West Chester Area School District
West Chester Charter High School
Wharton Women in Business
William D. Kelley Elementary School
William H. Royer High School
William R. Redick High School
World Interational Affairs
Wilmington Friends School
Wissahickon Charter School
Your Up

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

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CHRISTINE LIAND
COLLEGE AND CAREER COORDINATOR
PENN TREATY SCHOOL

“She really encourages them to try hard and expect to learn to try and fail.”

“Through becoming a senior leader with Outward Bound, I realized that my actions as a leader directly affect the attitudes of the people I am working with. By having someone close to their age acting as an enthusiastic and reliable leader, the group could not only push themselves to their limits but also push their boundaries further and encourage their peers to do the same.”

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QUINNETA BONDEN
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On September 28, 2018 top city officials and community leaders came together to celebrate the grand opening of The Discovery Center, the new home of Philadelphia Outward Bound School and Audubon Pennsylvania. This joint venture focuses on providing outdoor and experiential education resources, opportunities and programming for nearby communities, including Strawberry Mansion. The environmentally-friendly 14,000 square foot facility greatly expands the reach and services of both organizations and provides access to a key part of Fairmount Park, including the newly restored Strawberry Mansion Reservoir, which is accessible to the public for the first time in more than 50 years.

"Outward Bound exposes our youth to a challenging but exciting outdoor educational environment. To do something positive. They'll discover a side of themselves that they didn't know they had and learn that they're capable of doing great things."

Police Officer Glenn Haskins
North Penn Center Director
Police Athletic League of Philadelphia

"The Discovery Center offers a unique experience for residents in the Strawberry Mansion community to enjoy nature in their own backyard. Outward Bound can foster a community of new young leaders who appreciate the spaces they're in and help us as a community come and work together through their leadership and teamwork programs."

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WOMEN OUTWARD BOUND
Filmmaker Maxine Davis joined POBS at WHYY for a screening and panel discussion of her award-winning film, Women Outward Bound, which tells the story of the first all-female Outward Bound expedition in the US in 1965.

CORPORATE CHALLENGE
This peer-to-peer fundraising event offered participants an opportunity to be among the first to experience our new aerial teams challenge courses, and engage in a little fun, friendly competition with business leaders across industries. Participants raced to complete multiple “challenge stations” that tested the strategy, collaboration, and leadership skills of each team.

BUSINESS BREAKFAST
Mario Moussa, management consultant and POBS trustee, presented ideas from his book The Art of Woo: Using Strategic Persuasion to Sell Your Ideas at POBS’ first Business Breakfast – a speaker event series for professionals.

DISCOVERY DAY
Discovery Day is a monthly community day that welcomes families and friends of all ages to experience The Discovery Center and the natural world in their own backyard.

ROYAL DINNER
His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, celebrated the opening of The Discovery Center and the launch of the newly formed partnership between Philadelphia Outward Bound School and The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award USA.

TRAILBLAZER GALA
Guests honored the trailblazers of POBS’ history and future. Former Mayor, Michael Nutter – one of POBS’ founders – reflected on POBS’ 25 year history. Keynote speaker Rohan Freeman shared his journey from Jamaica to becoming one of the world’s premier mountaineers and Vice Chair of Outward Bound USA’s Board of Directors. Alumnus Isaiah Johnson, ended the evening with a reading from his crew’s journal.
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“Outward Bound exposes our youth to a challenging but exciting outdoor educational environment. It’s an opportunity for them to learn about themselves and other people. This will teach them leadership, effective communication and getting over their fears.

For our community, this is a win-win, and for our youth because they’re doing something positive. They’ll discover a side of themselves that they didn’t know they had and learn that they’re capable of doing great things.”

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**SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER, 2018**

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NEW AERIAL TEAMS CHALLENGE COURSE

The James McLane Family Challenge Course is designed to build high-performing teams. Whether you’re a 9th grade class or a corporate team, this course helps your group discover hidden leaders and find new ways to work collaboratively.

HOW IT WORKS

Participants move through a series of high-ropes elements that become progressively more challenging. Each element is designed to assist the group in deepening trust and build on the participants’ self-discovery and exploration of what it means to be crew, not passengers, on their Outward Bound journey.

This progression is based around the three phases of every Outward Bound expedition: Training, Main and Final. Our participants may start their journey knowing very little about the path ahead, but through the coaching and encouragement of their facilitators, they become a self-sufficient “crew.”

“Outward Bound was an incredible experience for our company at a crucial time in our growth. We had experienced a 40% increase in new hires within a two-month period. The program quickly allowed us to connect on a much deeper level, without being awkward or forced. We were all impressed by our facilitators’ ability to provide insight and perspectives for our group as a whole. Participants leave with a better understanding of their abilities and with a community of support they can rely on at work, at home or at school.”

KATE JULYAN
ASSOCIATE, BUSINESS MANAGER, DIGSAU

DEFINITION: Expedition

Introduce students to an unfamiliar environment (physical and/or social) in which they have to confront and solve real problems.

TRAINING

Students receive hands-on instruction that focuses on skill mastery through specialized lessons.

MAIN

Students apply their newly-acquired knowledge in a supervised environment.

FINAL

Students take on leadership roles and responsibility for course activities.

By the end of the program, participants gain a shared experience that not only challenged each individual, physically and emotionally, but also the group as a whole. Participants leave with a better understanding of their abilities and with a community of support they can rely on at work, at home or at school.

NEW COURSE AREA

NEW JERSEY PINELANDS NATIONAL RESERVE

This Biosphere Reserve is home to thousands of rare plants and animal species and is the perfect learning environment for students to discover the Delaware Watershed through our accredited experiential watershed curriculum.

Miles Hiked Along the Appalachian Trail

1,068

Miles Paddled on the Delaware River

1,840

29

Graduation Ceremonies to Celebrate Personal and Crew Achievements at Course End

Mission Delivery

1,840

NEW COURSE AREA

NEW JERSEY PINELANDS NATIONAL RESERVE

1,068

MILES HIRED ALONG THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

29

GRADUATION CEREMONIES TO CELEBRATE PERSONAL AND CREW ACHIEVEMENTS AT COURSE END

1,840

MILES PADDLED ON THE DELAWARE RIVER

NEW COURSE AREA

NEW JERSEY PINELANDS NATIONAL RESERVE

APPALACHIAN TRAIL

APPALACHIAN TRAIL (HIKED AREA)
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2018 by the numbers

**SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID**

$445,619

**STUDENTS SERVED**

5,099

**PROGRAM PARTNERS**

90

Audited statements not available at the time of print. Please email juggle@wuchurchschoolphiladelphia.org for a copy of our 2018 audit.

Thank you to our 2018 sponsors!

**REVENUE**

$2,447,297

**EXPENSES**

$2,044,575

**GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS**

$1,484,701

**COURSE TUITION & FEES**

$932,137

**OTHER**

$30,399

**GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE**

$91,250

**FUNDRAISING**

$1,672,454

This list represents donors giving at or above $250. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Karyn Lyman at 215.232.9130 with questions.
Thank you to our 2018 sponsors!

2018 by the numbers

$445,619 5,099 90

SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID  STUDENTS SERVED  PROGRAM PARTNERS

$1,484,701 1,672,454 280,871

GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS  PROGRAM  FUNDRAISING

$932,137 30,399 2,044,575

COURSE TUITION & FEES  OTHER  EXPENSES

$91,250 2,447,297

GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

CONTRIBUTIONS

2018 by the numbers

$445,619 5,099 90

SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID  STUDENTS SERVED  PROGRAM PARTNERS

$1,484,701 1,672,454 280,871

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