

THE PATHFINDER

Winter 2018

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE



On behalf of the entire Pathfinder Ranch family, I'd like to thank all of you for being a part of our efforts this past year. Whether you are a participant, volunteer, donor, or friend, the belief that camp plays a vital role in our personal development is one that I think we all share. Regardless of age, each of us benefits from the chance to challenge ourselves and emerge stronger, reconnect with our surrounding, learn about our relationship with nature and each other, and take a moment to appreciate what we have. I feel these benefits are at the heart of the camp

experience and I am proud to be a part of an organization that has a long history providing these experiences.

As we begin preparation for a new year, we hope that each of you can look back at 2018 and identify a few similar moments that were important to you. We wish you a happy start to your New Year and continued growth and prosperity.

— Chris Fife, Executive Director

SEASON FOR GIVING



Pathfinder Ranch is driven to make life changing experiences available to all regardless of income, ability, or life situation. Gifts toward scholarships, improvements, and the cost of daily operations go a long way toward allowing us to providing services and facilities that do just that. If you are interested in being a part of what we do, there are several ways in which you can join the effort:

Monetary donations are always welcome and go a long way toward all that we do. General contributions are used to cover daily operational costs, and restricted donations in the form of scholarships or project support go directly toward sending children to camp or completing special improvements.

In-kind donations such as recreation equipment, activity supplies or technology are a perfect way of to find a new home for materials you may own but can no longer use. A quick call or email can easily identify the need for specific items.

Volunteer service is a valuable resource that helps the Ranch in a number of ways. Whether you enjoy working with your hands or sharing knowledge, volunteers come in all forms and often get to see the impact of their gift in person. If you would like to make a donation, become a volunteer, or just learn more about giving opportunities

- Visit our website at www.pathfinderranch.com/donate/
- Call us at 951-659-2455
- Mail monetary donations payable to Pathfinder Ranch, 35510 Pathfinder Rd., Mountain Center, CA 92561

In addition to the personal satisfaction of giving, most monetary and in kind donations (along with certain volunteer expenses) are tax deductible. All donations ultimately enable Pathfinder Ranch to reduce the need for fees and make unforgettable experiences available to those with a need. We are very thankful for your support and the difference it makes.

WINTER CAMP RETURNS

Due to the impact of the Cranston Fire this summer, many campers were unable to visit during their scheduled sessions. While there is no way to get that time back, Pathfinder Ranch will be holding Winter Camp this December 28th through 30th for many of those affected campers. A variety of traditional camp activities will be offered along with some special winter options. And should snow fall, who knows what kind of winter fun will ensue. Scholarships for Winter Camp were made possible by the Palm Springs Pathfinders and many other generous supporters. Regardless of the weather, it is bound to be great time to keep campers busy during the winter break.



Tree Dedications

As a part of the most recent landscape design, a variety of evergreen and deciduous trees will be planted to provide shade, fresh air and additional beauty to the already attractive scenery. Trees dedicated to Sarah Birkbeck, Coulter Mayeda, Jim Scheuer were recently planted and are already trying to catch up to their bigger siblings. We are happy to have these new additions.

If you are interested in knowing more about our tree campaign, feel free to visit our page at

www.pathfinderranch.com/donate. More trees are available but don't wait too long.



Students using iPads during Outdoor Education
(Photo: Ashleigh Roberts)

Citizen Science

As a recipient of the 2018 Environmental Education Collaborative Mini-Grant Program Award, Pathfinder Ranch received funding for 5 new iPads. These devices are being used to promote citizen science within our Outdoor Education program and collect data for a biodiversity study through the iNaturalist platform. If you will be visiting the Ranch and would like to join the biodiversity study, you can learn more at www.inaturalist.org/projects/biodiversity-of-pathfinder-ranch.

If you are thinking of getting a new iPad or iPhone or have an older device that you just don't use, you can donate your old device for use in these classes. We are looking for devices operating on iOS7 or higher and in good working condition. Call us at 951-659-2455 for more information.



Pathfinder Ranch is an 501(c)3 Summer Camp and Outdoor Education School as well as

Retreat & Conference Center.

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