



## SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR ALL WASHINGTON STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

We've long advocated at the state level for public policy solutions that support quality environmental education for all Washington students and teachers, and we're still going strong!

Multi-day, overnight experiences like our [School Overnight Program](#) and others throughout the state expand learning beyond the classroom and deepen students' connections to their communities, environments, and each other. Right now, we're working to ensure that Residential Environmental Learning Centers (RELCs) like IslandWood will still be here, ready to serve students when schools are able to participate in these programs again.

We're also working to advance the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) [ClimeTime](#) initiative. This initiative supports teachers in gaining tools and strategies to make climate science meaningful and relevant by connecting it to students' own lives.

Stay tuned for updates on this work in the coming months!



## GET KIDS LEARNING & CONNECTING OUTSIDE THIS SPRING WITH MORNING AND AFTERNOON ECOLOGISTS!

Beginning on April 16, the eight-week spring session of the [Morning and Afternoon Ecologists](#) program will run on Friday mornings and afternoons.

Register now to get your child joyfully connecting with peers, exploring IslandWood's magical 250-acre campus, and diving into fun, project-based learning outside this spring.

As always, we're committed to making the program financially accessible to all students who would like to participate and are offering tiered pricing and scholarships.

[Learn More + Register](#)



## THE ROLE OF ACADEMIC RESEARCH IN THE ISLANDWOOD GRADUATE PROGRAM

For Dr. Déana Scípio, Director of the IslandWood Graduate Program, participation in educational research is a conversation. Check out our recent [interview with Déana](#) to learn more about how her own research projects contribute to this ongoing conversation, and how this work strengthens the relationship between academic theory and practice in the graduate program.

### JOIN US FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS



#### THE LIFE OF THE LOAF BREADMAKING IN THE GARDEN KITCHEN

Learn the science and skills of bread making with IslandWood instructors and chefs in our outdoor garden kitchen on March 20! Please note that this class is designed for adults and children ages 10 and up.

[Learn more + register](#)



#### 17TH BAINBRIDGE ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE

Join city, state, and regional scientists for the free, virtual [2021 Bainbridge Island Environmental Conference!](#) Each Sunday throughout March, we'll be hosting community conversations on how we can steward our natural environment in the face of climate change.

[Learn more + register](#)



#### SPRING FAMILY HIKES

Spaces for our family hikes always fill quickly, so plan ahead and grab your spot now for upcoming hikes on [April 3](#) and [5!](#) Gather your loved ones, discover what's blooming in our forest, venture across the suspension bridge, and more.

[Learn more + register](#)



#### SKILLS OF A NATURALIST HIKES

Build your skills and deepen your knowledge in this series of outdoor classes, led by staff naturalist Christina Doherty! Explore our campus as you strengthen your botany, wildlife tracking, zoology, birding, and marine ecology skills. Feel free to register for just one lesson, or sign up for all five.

[Learn more + register](#)



## ANNOUNCING THE ROBERT P. KARR SCHOLARSHIP

We are thrilled to announce that, beginning this year, five students will be selected annually to receive the [\\$20,000 Robert P. Karr Scholarship](#) towards their IslandWood graduate program studies!

Established in memory of long-time IslandWood community member Robert P. Karr, the scholarship reflects his commitment to contributing to the much-needed diversity of the environmental education field by supporting teacher candidates who are BIPOC, first generation college graduates, or who demonstrate financial need, prioritized in that order.

[Learn more about the scholarship →](#)



## UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR K-12 TEACHERS

During this extraordinarily challenging year, we've asked teachers how we can support them and their students. The response we've heard has been clear - children need opportunities to connect with each other and get exploring in nature, and teachers need equity-based, easy-to-use strategies to support students' well-being, socio-emotional growth, and learning. That's why we have a full [calendar](#) of new professional development opportunities this winter and spring to meet teachers exactly where they are right now. STEM Clock Hours and stipends available!

[Explore upcoming opportunities here →](#)



## ISLANDWOOD EDUCATORS CO-AUTHOR INTERSECTIONAL ENVIRONMENTALISM RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS

Check out [this resource](#) co-authored by IslandWood Graduate Program Director Dr. Déana Scípio and Urban School Programs Educator Laura Brown! Part of the University of Washington Institute for Science + Math Education's STEM Teaching Tools series, the resource explores considerations, recommendations, and questions for environmental educators looking to practice intersectional environmentalism.



Please join us for [Dinner in the Woods](#), our annual fundraising event to support innovative environmental education. The virtual event will be held May 8th at 6:00 pm. More details will be coming soon, but in the meantime, mark your calendars!



## DONOR SPOTLIGHT: STEVE GARLID

**"I like how IslandWood has grown and continually looked at what community is and what that means."**

Until COVID-19, Bryant Elementary School teacher Steve Garlid had been bringing his 5th grade class to the [School Overnight Program](#) every year, for 16 years. We caught up with him recently to learn more about the impact of the program on his students, how IslandWood has evolved over the years, and his hopes for the organization's future.

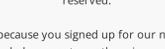
[Read our full conversation here →](#)

### THANKS TO CORPORATE SPONSOR



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