ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT 2022

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTORS

To Our Community,

This has been a year of growth and field testing how to best achieve our mission of **inspiring the next generation of environmental stewards** while building on the nearly 100-year legacy of Scouting at Camp Emerald Bay.

Our goal is not to simply give students an amazing trip, but to ignite a passion for stewardship and provide a bridge to Scouting where students can continue that growth in their home communities.

In 2022, we welcomed nearly 650 students and the data from our surveys shows that we are improving every season.

This report highlights our accomplishments from the year which would not be possible without your ongoing support!

"Our goal is not to simply give students an amazing trip to Emerald Bay, but to ignite a passion for stewardship"

Alix Fulham

Alix Fulham
Sales & Marketing Director

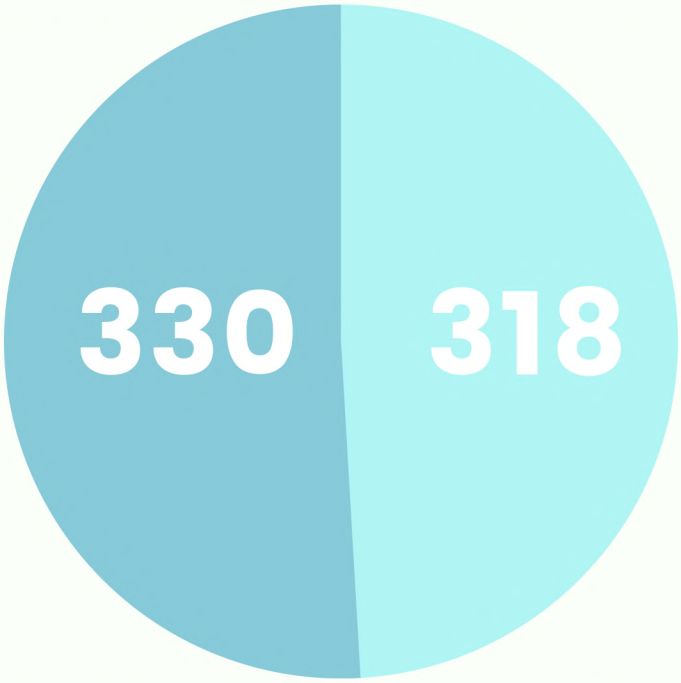
Burton L. Miller

Burton Miller
Program Director

BY THE NUMBERS

THE EMERALD BAY OUTDOOR ACADEMY (EBOA) SERVED

STUDENTS FROM TITLE 1 SCHOOLS



STUDENTS FROM NON-TITLE 1 SCHOOLS

648 TOTAL STUDENTS!

16 TOTAL SCHOOLS SERVED

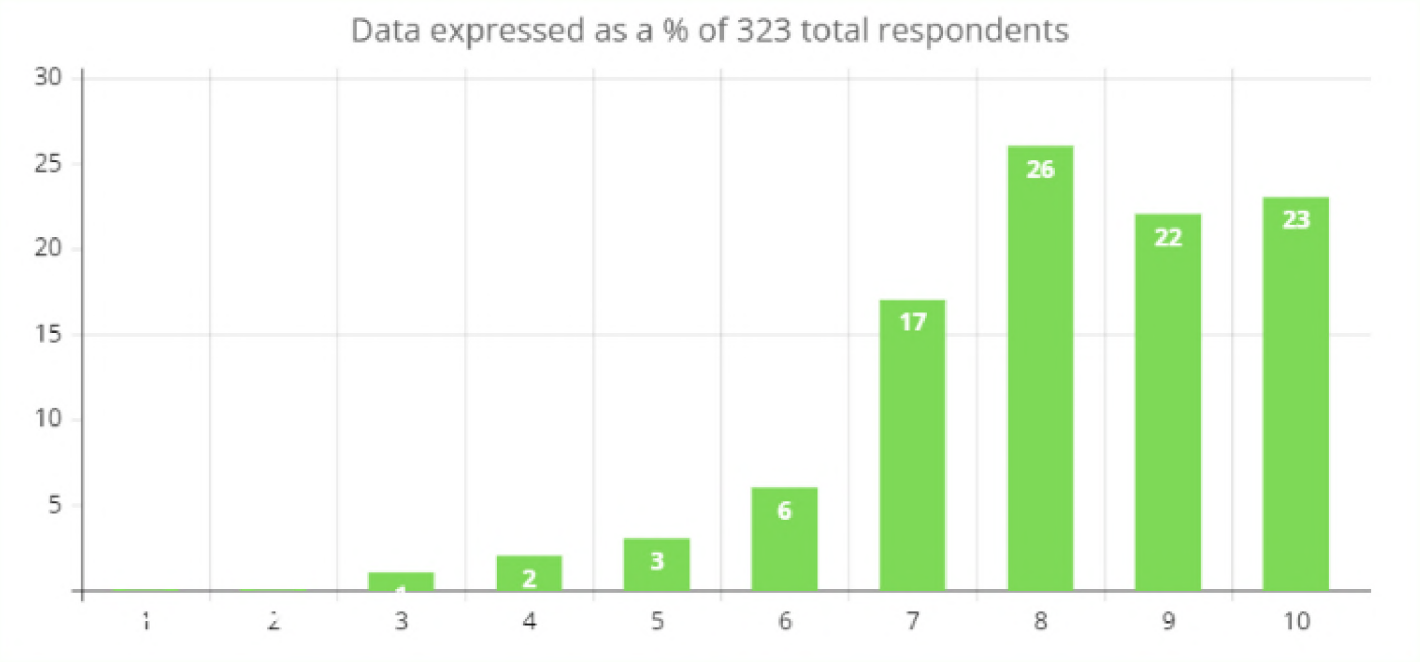
10 TITLE 1 PUBLIC - 6 PRIVATE

40 CONSERVATION PROJECTS COMPLETED

All students participate in a conservation project as part of their Environmental Stewardship Core Course. Students removed invasive fennel and black mustard, and collected seeds from native California Sagebrush (Artemesia californicus) to re-seed previously cleared areas.

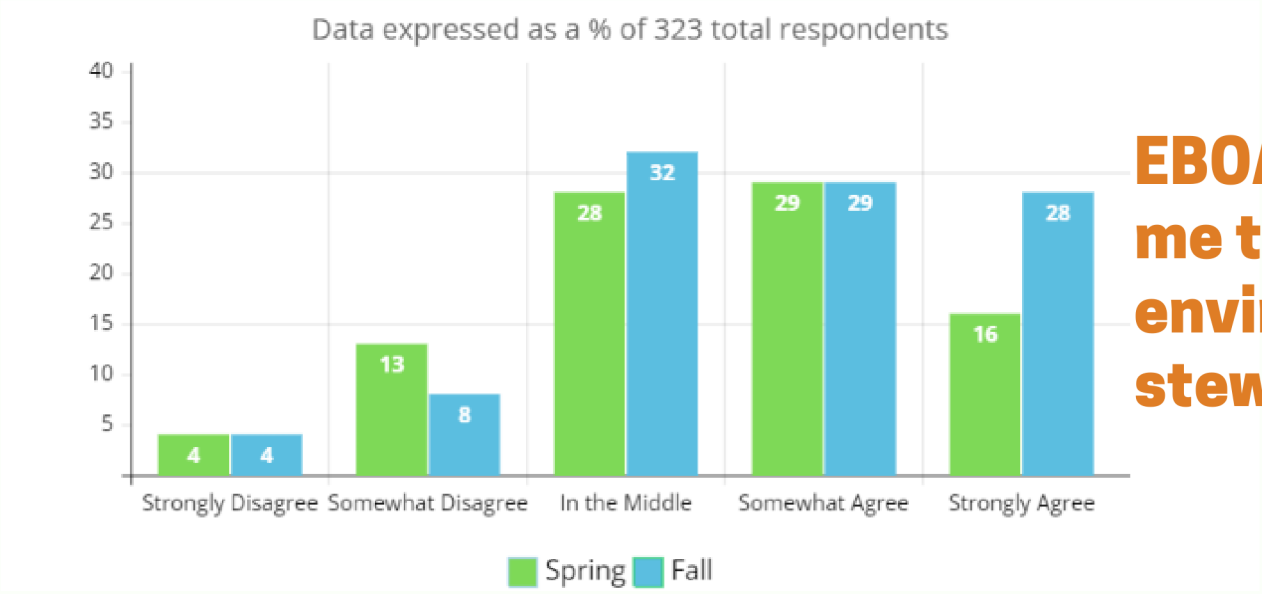
STUDENT FEEDBACK

HOW WAS YOUR OVERALL EXPERIENCE AT THE EMERALD BAY OUTDOOR ACADEMY?



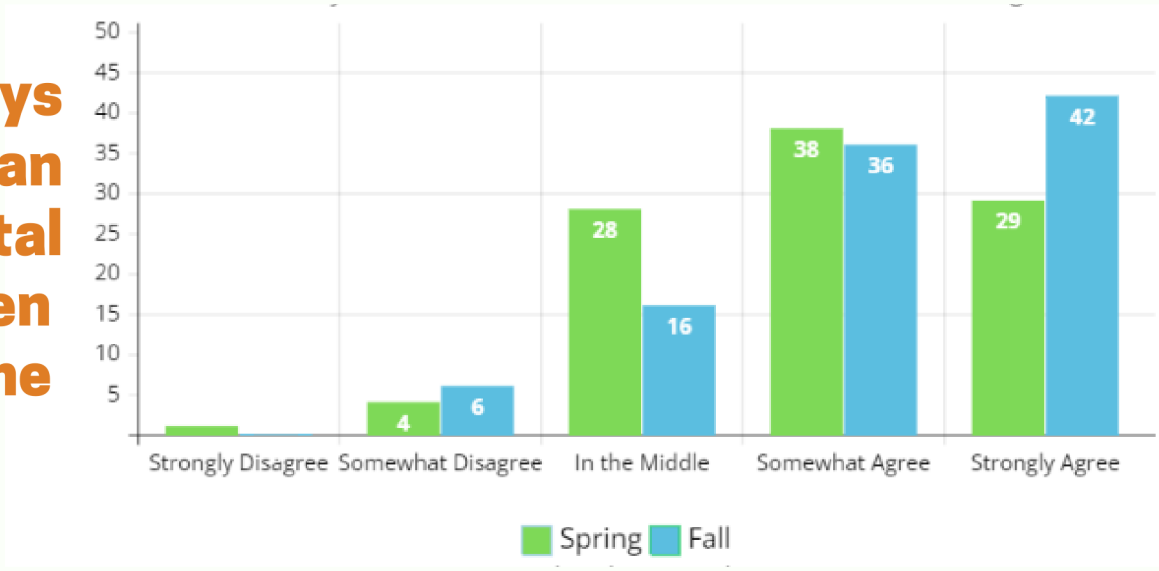
CULTIVATING STEWARDSHIP

Spring student survey data showed that achieving our mission of stewardship had room for improvement. With curriculum revisions, improved staff training, and clear messaging from program start to finish, the fall survey data showed a marked increase.



EBOA inspired me to be an environmental steward

I learned ways that I can be an environmental steward when I go home



A LEGACY OF SCOUTING

The Emerald Bay Outdoor Academy is uniquely positioned to deliver exceptional youth programs by being rooted in the foundation of Scouting. Our programs incorporate the values and methods of Scouting and students learn how to find a troop when they return home.

Students explore the island using the Patrol Method in "Animal Groups" and participate in quintessential scouting activities such as hiking, kayaking, campfires, nature study, and teambuilding, all led by a well-trained and qualified staff.

CORE FOCUS

To better achieve our mission of stewardship and deliver a well-rounded program, all students participate in three hands-on Core Courses.

1. ISLAND BIOGEOGRAPHY

On arrival day, students take an orientation hike and explore unique island plant and animal adaptations. Students learn how to prepare for a hike, practice sharing scientific observations with their classmates, and create sketches in their nature journals.

2. KELP FOREST EXPLORATION

During this half-day course, students get up close and personal with an iconic Catalina Island ecosystem: the kelp forest.

They meet local organisms face-to-face in the Pennington Marine Science Center, learn why kelp is vital to a healthy ocean, and explore the kelp forests of Emerald Bay on a kayak, paddleboard, or with a mask and snorkel!

3. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Inspiring environmental stewards is our mission and we believe that a seed of inspiration has the power to grow and change the world.

Our Environmental Stewardship course was redesigned this year to inspire students on three levels:

On an individual level by studying compost, on a community level by participating in a group conservation project, and on a policy level by learning about Marine Protected Areas as a strategy to decelerate climate change.

STUDENT QUOTES

"I liked that we were able to do things we wouldn't normally do. We explored the sea had really cool people showing us around giving us the best experience."

Milor High School Student

"It was the best bonding with friends and being around nature. I have made new friends and now I love the ocean 10 times more than when I got here."

St. Anne School Student

"I learned that wherever you are in the world you can always be an environmental steward and help the environment."

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Student

"I liked that I tried new things, and that I learned cool new ideas that I would have not known prior. The only sad part honestly is that I wished I could stay longer!"

Columbus Tustin Middle School Student

"As soon as we walked into the camp I felt welcomed and excited to be there. I was looking forward to activities every day. I got a lot of fun memories with my friends."

93rd St. Elementary Student

CHAPERONE QUOTES

"I heard a few students talk about how transformative the stewardship class and pulling up the invasive plants was for them, many spoke about wanting to continue more hiking, and a few said they fell in love with kayaking"

High Tech Middle School Chaperone

"I admired the intentional correlation between the Next Generation Science Standards and hands-on learning. The naturalists were both professional yet amiable and went above and beyond to keep the students engaged."

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chaperone

"The staff were amazing. The students were motivated to step outside their comfort zones and are so proud of themselves."

The Sycamore School Chaperone

"Every activity and courses that the students were exposed to were truly excellent. At the end of the night I would ask the kids what did they enjoy the most, and they couldn't give me just one answer because they enjoyed the entire day."

Vine Street Chaperone

OUR TEAM

Our staff team has continued to grow! Between school groups, the Naturalists visited Camp Whitsett for a work weekend, helped run Cub Scout Halloween programs, and operated the waterfront and archery range for Community Groups.

Spring

Natalie Dixon, Cindy Belkowiche, Burton Miller, Julia Glidden, Maureen Agpoon, Nicole McClain, Brianna Fernandez, and DJ Jackson

Fall

Aria Buchanan, Jalen Moody, Maureen Agpoon, Burton Miller, KK Schulz, and Nicole McClain (Not pictured: Brianna Fernandez)

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

SUNBURST YOUTH ACADEMY

Cadets from the Sunburst Youth Academy in Orange County visit Emerald Bay annually for a community service trip with support from the Freeberg Foundation. For the first time this year the cadets also participated in the Outdoor Academy Core Courses led by the Naturalists.

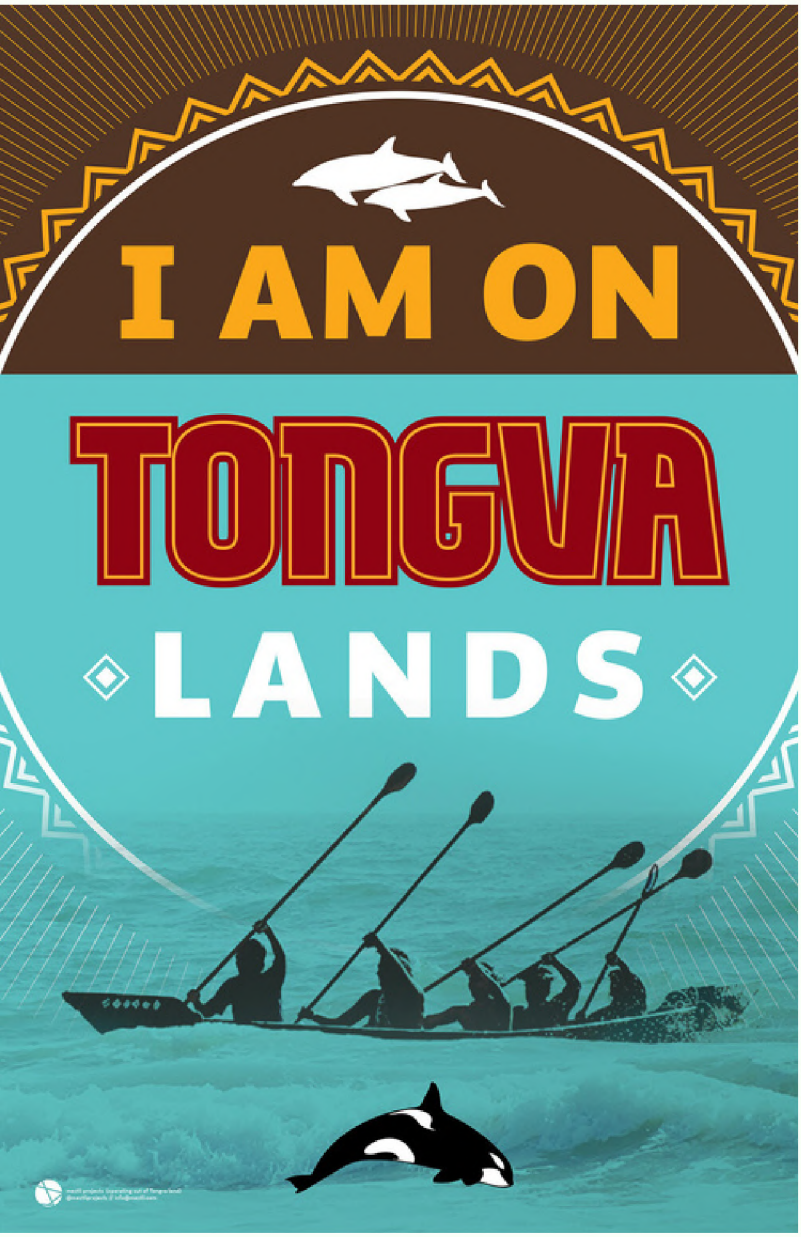
REMOTE OPERATED VEHICLES

In partnership with the Pennington Marine Science Center, the Outdoor Academy now offers a Remote Operated Vehicles (ROV) lab. Students test buoyancy, practice piloting their ROVs, and conduct basic equipment maintenance.

EDUCATOR INSTITUTE

EBOA welcomed 27 educators for the annual Educator Institute made possible by the Breech Foundation. Attendees learned best practices in the Next Generation Science Standards and Social and Emotional Learning.

HONORING OUR LAND



The location of Camp Emerald Bay has historically been stewarded by the Tongva, the native residents of Catalina Island, originally known as Pimu. Their caretaking of Pimu and surrounding waters for more than 8,000 years left minimal environmental impact.

Tongva history and perspectives have been woven into the fabric of our programs. Every session begins by highlighting the Tongva as stewards of Catalina, followed by a student brainstorm about how to be good stewards while visiting Catalina. During closing circles, students share ways to continue stewardship practices after returning home. Staff training also now includes videos from Tongva elders.

The Tongva Lands poster is displayed at Emerald Bay and is available at meztliprojects.org.

CHART YOUR COURSE

Emerald Bay Outdoor Academy programs are offered weekdays every Spring from mid-March through Memorial Day, and every Fall from Labor Day through mid-November. To register your school or for more information, contact alix.fulham@scouting.org or visit emeraldbayoutdooracademy.org.

JOIN SCOUTING

The Emerald Bay Outdoor Academy is a program of the Western Los Angeles County Council Boy Scouts of America. To join scouting and find a program near you, visit beascout.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The Freeberg Foundation
The Breech Foundation
The Edwin Pauley Foundation
The Emerald Bay Outdoor Academy Advisory Team
Edison International
San Fernando Valley Audubon Society
Tom Wilson

2022 SCHOOL PARTNERS

93rd Street Academy Elementary | Los Angeles, CA
California iInspire Academy | Orange, CA
Cambridge Elementary School | Orange, CA
Columbus Tustin Middle School | Tustin, CA
High Tech Middle School | Chula Vista, CA
Hollenbeck Middle School | Los Angeles, CA
Hughes Elizabeth Lakes Union School | Lake Hughes, CA
Milor High School | Rialto, CA
Orick School | Orick, CA
Our Lady of Malibu School | Malibu, CA
Our Lady of Perpetual Help School | Downey, CA
St. Anne School | Laguna Niguel, CA
St. Michael's School | Tucson, AZ
Sunburst Youth Academy | Los Alamitos, CA
The Sycamore School | Malibu, CA
Vine Street Elementary | Los Angeles, CA

2022 STAFF ROSTER

WLACC DIRECTOR OF CAMPING PROGRAMS
Linnea Heinstedt

EBOA PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Burton Miller

EBOA SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR
Alix Fulham

EMERALD BAY SITE MANAGER
Nicholas Lapple

PENNINGTON MARINE SCIENCE CENTER DIRECTORS
Lora Johansen
Cindy Belkowiche

EMERALD BAY KITCHEN MANAGERS
Larry Sweets
Matthew Coxhill

EMERALD BAY BUSINESS MANAGERS
Ian Maddock
Al Santillo

WATERFRONT MANAGER
Nicole McClain

RESIDENT NATURALISTS
Aria Buchanan
Brianna Fernandez
Cindy Belkowiche
DJ Jackson
Jalen Moody
Julia Glidden
KK Schulz
Maureen Agpoon
Natalie Dixon

SCOUTS BSA PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Patrick Roque

COMMUNITY GROUPS PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Jeff Lee

AQUARISTS
Syndey Tyburski
Tyrone Rivard

VIRTUAL NATURALIST
Tom Condon

EMERALD BAY KITCHEN STAFF
Alashanae Murray
Alondra Alvarez
Autumn Garcia
Gabriella Johnson
JD Rotuk
Leif Borja
Lily Urbina
Nikko Montano
PJ Welle
PK Miecho
Tyler Escobar

EMERALD BAY MAINTENANCE TEAM
Ann Heinstedt
Collin Corzo
Jerry Guire
Piers Harper
Richard Heinstedt
Sam Sherman
Scott Vawter
Tyler Eatherly
Zane Hynes