

# Youth Stewardship Program

## 2021-2022 Annual Report



### Educator Team

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# What is YSP?



The Youth Stewardship Program (YSP) engages youth, K–12th grade, in environmental education and service-learning projects in parks citywide. The program is free of cost and available to any youth group in San Francisco.

**Our mission is to foster in youth an understanding of their important role in helping to build healthy social and natural communities.**

## Educational Themes

Educators are able to select from the following themes for the focus of each trip:



**Sense of Place:** Students use all five senses to explore their park’s natural and cultural history.



**Plant Adaptations:** Students learn about plant structure and function within an ecosystem, ethnobotany, plant life cycles, photosynthesis, native and non-native species, and/or leaf structures.



**Water and Soil:** Students learn about the importance and function of water and soil in ecosystems through geology, watersheds, erosion, soil composition, decomposition, and rock formation.



**Animal Adaptations:** Students learn to appreciate the many colors, shapes, and sizes of animals and their important role in the natural world.



**Interdependence:** Students explore the interdependent relationships that comprise an ecosystem and the important roles that individual organisms play.

# Summary in Numbers

Nov 2021 - June 2022

**3090**

**Student  
Interactions**

**65**

**Educators  
Served**

**\$64,826**

**In-Kind Donations from  
Volunter Hours**

**38**

**Schools &  
Organizations**



**2638**

**Hours of  
Education**

**1923**

**Hours of  
Restoration**

**141**

**Field Trips**

**40**

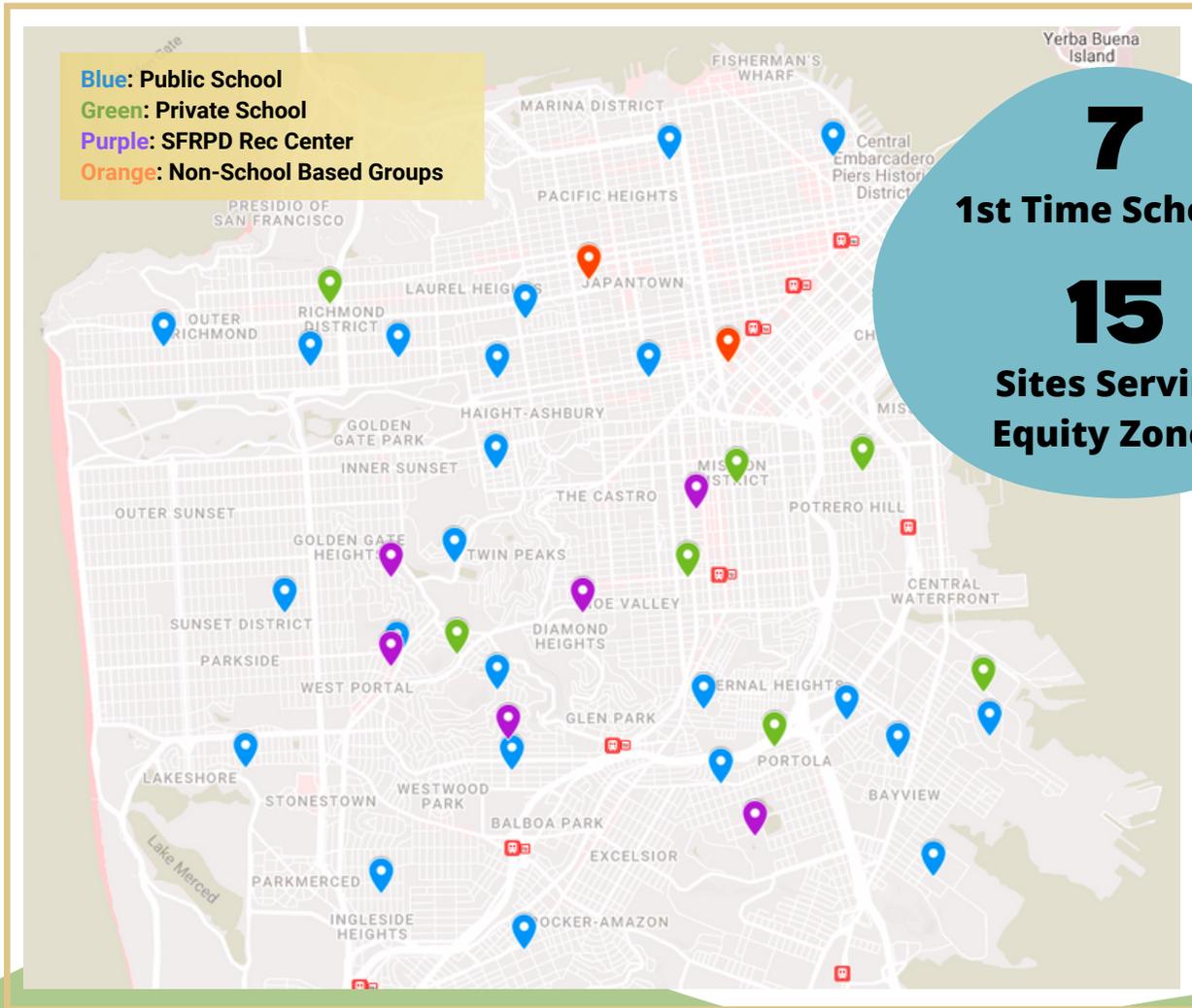
**Classroom  
Visits**

**14**

**Park Sites**



# YSP Sites Served



- |                              |                                       |                                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. ▲ Abraham Lincoln HS      | 14. ▲ Jose Ortega ES                  | 27. ▲ Rise University Prep          |
| 2. ▲ Argonne ES              | 15. ▲ JP Murphy Rec Center            | 28. ▲ SF Environment                |
| 3. ▲ Bret Harte ES           | 16. ▲ Junipero Serra ES               | 29. ▲ SF Islamic School             |
| 4. ▲ Dr. Charles R. Drew ES  | 17. ▲ Lafayette ES                    | 30. ▲ SF School                     |
| 5. ▲ Clarendon ES            | 18. ▲ Lakeshore Alternative ES        | 31. ▲ SF Schoolhouse                |
| 6. ▲ Douglass Rec Center     | 19. ▲ Live Oak School                 | 32. ▲ Sherman ES                    |
| 7. ▲ Frank McCoppin ES       | 20. ▲ Longfellow ES                   | 33. ▲ St. Brendan's ES              |
| 8. ▲ Grattan ES              | 21. ▲ Louis Sutter Rec Center         | 34. ▲ Sunnyside ES                  |
| 9. ▲ Hillcrest ES            | 22. ▲ Malcolm X Academy               | 35. ▲ Sunnyside Rec Center          |
| 10. ▲ ICA Cristo Rey Academy | 23. ▲ Miraloma ES                     | 36. ▲ Thurgood Marshall Academic HS |
| 11. ▲ JFCS                   | 24. ▲ Mission Playground              | 37. ▲ West Portal ES                |
| 12. ▲ John Muir ES           | 25. ▲ New Traditions ES               | 38. ▲ West Portal Rec Center        |
| 13. ▲ John Yehall Chin ES    | 26. ▲ Raoul Wallenberg Traditional HS |                                     |

# Program Testimonials

**THE STUDENTS LOVED LOVED LOVED LOVED** going on these fieldtrips. I feel due to the pandemic students were starved to go outside and experience fieldtrips. They loved sketching, learning about native flora and fauna, playing games, and using their hands to help the environment.

*2nd grade teacher, Grattan Elementary School*



**Everyone we worked with was warm and engaging with my students.**

*4th grade teacher, Hillcrest Elementary School*

**Wonderful staff, we especially loved the lessons on native plants and how they have been used by indigenous people, as well as the birdwalk, nature sketch and haiku.**

*8th grade teacher, Live Oak School*

**Very enthusiastic and patient leaders.**

*4th grade teacher, Sunnyside Elementary School*

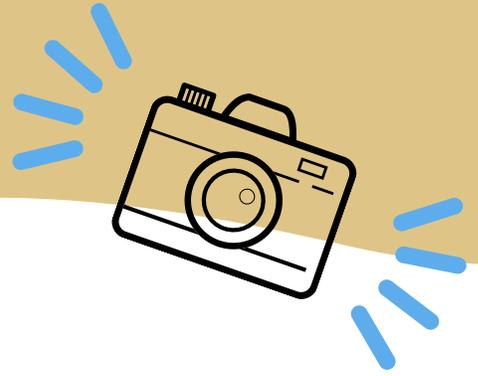
**I love the Youth Stewardship Program because it reinforces and enhances what I've taught in class, as well as classroom discussions.**

*4th/5th grade teacher, Grattan Elementary School*

**The area is so beautiful and the way the instructors helped us interact was very organic and fun. The students really enjoyed the experience of being in nature and understanding how one can benefit from growing food and respecting the environment.**

*1st grade teacher, San Francisco Islamic School*

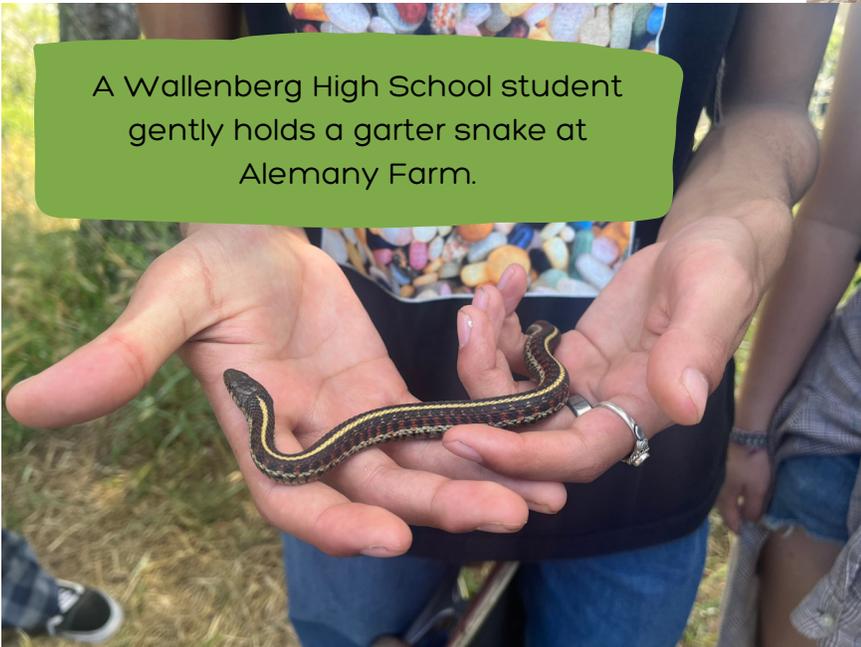
# Photo Reel!



8th graders take a sensory tour of Heron's Head Park, learning native plants and pausing to look for shorebirds.



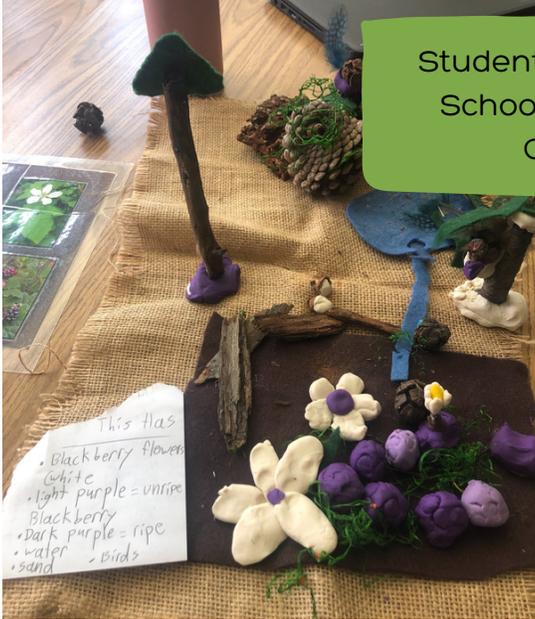
A Lafayette 4th grader enjoys some extra insulation from a thick layer of bedstraw or "velcro plant."



A Wallenberg High School student gently holds a garter snake at Alemany Farm.



Anton gives an introductory presentation to a group of 2nd graders at Grattan Elementary School.



Students at Miraloma Elementary School create the life cycle of a California Blackberry.



A Sunnyside Elementary School student shows off their habitat during an introductory visit.

Kindergarteners from West Portal Elementary School open up seed pods at the top of Mt. Davidson.



Live Oak 5th graders get a tour of the Alemany Farm greenhouses.



Grattan 2nd graders learn different types of bird beaks and search for adaptations at Stow Lake.



4th graders build soil profiles using different colored sand and rocks in Golden Gate Park.



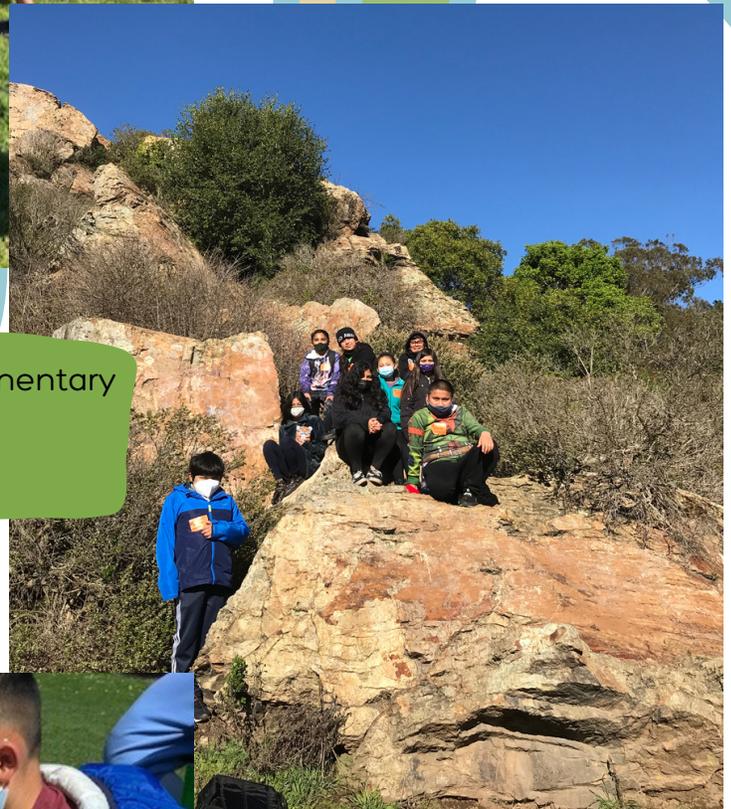
Students from Hillcrest Elementary School design watersheds from a good vantage point at Bernal Heights.



Kindergarteners from John Yehall Chin Elementary School feel velvety geranium leaves at Stow Lake.



Kids from West Portal Recreation Center after-school test their echolocation skills in a game of Bat & Moth.



5th graders from Longfellow Elementary School perch on the rocks at Glen Canyon.



West Portal Recreation Center builds structures out of natural materials using Nature Crates.



5th graders triumphantly raise their wild radish roots after a successful round of weeding at Bernal Heights!

# **2021-22 Team**

## **Environmental Educators**

**Anton Benedicto**

**Eliz Ismailoglu**

**Sierra Marinos**

**Victoria Valencia**

## **Program Supervisor**

**Lydia Nichols-Russell**

## **Program Managers**

**Princess Lassiter**

**Jadd Correia**