





Message from the Board Chair and President

Dear Friends,

We have had a transformative year at Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park. With new leadership, we strengthened our commitment and our approach to supporting the National Park Service's resource management and education objectives, while providing value to communities and society. We renewed our pledge to help people make sense of their environment, a sense that leads to sustained environmental resources and prosperous communities. And we reaffirmed our focus on solving critical challenges through collaboration, discovery, and learning.

Schoodic Institute revisited our strategic plan in 2018, ensuring the likelihood of success in achieving our goals, and generating a sense of ownership among staff, the board, and partners. We asked staff why they work at Schoodic Institute, and how they best envision achieving that "why." We asked board members why they commit their time and resources to Schoodic Institute, and their vision for how we operate. And we spoke to partners like the National Park Service, academic institutions, other nonprofit organizations, and the community about how we can best serve their needs.

In 2018, the "how" we achieve our mission came into focus. Science is the starting point for our work, generating the knowledge that informs education, communication, and action. Our campus on the spectacular Schoodic Peninsula is the perfect location for studying change in forests, coastal ecosystems, and among birds and other wildlife. We are particularly focused on changes in our environment, many of them related to the climate crisis, and their relevance to Acadia National Park, Maine's natural resource and tourism economies, and all those who care about the region and its many natural gifts.

To help the parks, communities, and society adapt to change we engaged them in the process of discovery and learning. We practiced an expansive type of education in 2018, talking with people rather than at them, and creating opportunities for people to discover for themselves, from lectures to structured residential programming to active engagement in scientific research. In the past year, more than 700 middle and high school students from across Maine and beyond participated in hands-on science learning activities at Schoodic Institute. And most exciting, we continued to help build community science knowledge and self-reliance.

Schoodic Institute's transformative commitment to helping others make sense of their environment and adapt to change was mirrored by the actions of our board of directors. Board committees were reorganized to reflect our priorities and to facilitate specific achievements. We welcomed two new board members, Steve Myers and Katherine Wellman, adding to our executive experience and entrepreneurism, while building expertise in marketing and human well-being. We welcome their new ideas and enthusiasm.

This annual report details some, but certainly not all, of the work we conducted in 2018. We hope you agree that Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park is a special place, not just for its beautiful setting, but also for the work we do toward making the world a better place, and the consideration we provide our visitors.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Od Her

David Ellwood Board Chair

Don Kent, PhD President & CEO



Schoodic Institute programs are uncovering the consequences of environmental change for protected areas and communities, developing solutions to environmental challenges, and training conservation champions.

Current global-scale change—in climate, land use, and threats from invasive plants, pests, and diseases—is dramatic and unprecedented. We are addressing these changes by linking fundamental and applied research to solutions through partnerships with the National Park Service, academic institutions, land trusts, and local communities through professional development, by convening diverse experts, and through meaningful participatory experiences for students of all ages. As a result, we are shaping the evolution of conservation under rapidly changing conditions. Our location in Acadia National Park, our partnerships, and the expertise of our staff provide the tools we need to define change and help organizations and communities to adapt.

FOREST ECOLOGY





"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."

This Chinese proverb reflects the work of the Forest Ecology Program in 2018. Across multiple projects, we planted more than **2,400 seedlings and 5,000 seeds**. While we wish we had begun this work 20 years ago, our efforts now are expanding research into how tree species are responding to change, and which species will be part of the healthy forests in Acadia and the region in the future.

Schoodic Institute is leading the Common Campus Tree Experiment. In Spring 2018, we planted 288 seedlings of 12 eastern North American tree species at each of eight education campuses across Maine. We chose coniferous and deciduous species that already are present throughout the state, reach their southern or northern limit in the state, or grow just to the south of Maine. Some are projected to increase in the future while habitat for others is expected to decrease. For the next three years, we will track seedling growth, survival, and phenology (timing of bud break and leaf out). This study design helps isolate local climate as a major difference among sites and enables examination of seedling responses to a wide range of climate conditions across Maine.



2,304 tree seedlings planted:288 seedlings of 12 species oneach of 8 campuses across Maine

FOREST ECOLOGY

We also continued the Tree Test Bed Experiment at four sites located across the full climate gradient of Acadia National Park (warmest and coolest sites in the park, creating a 4.1 °F temperature gradient). We planted 5,000 seeds of 11 tree species in plots where we had added the same species in 2017. The hot and dry conditions of the summer of 2018 resulted in major differences in seedling survival among sites and hints at how future drought may stress forests.

Schoodic Institute also contributed to five important research articles in 2018, including an analysis of the relationships among weeds, worms, and deer in the forest understory, and a forest vulnerability assessment and synthesis for New England and northern New York.

We look forward to the work ahead and hope the Forest Ecology Program can revisit this Chinese proverb in 2038, looking back and reflecting on the importance of the work begun 20 years earlier.

Nicholas Fisichelli, Forest Ecology Director, Director for Science and Education





MARINE ECOLOGY

Schoodic Institute's marine ecology program continued to grow in 2018. We deployed our SeapHOx instrument to continuously monitor the acidity of the ocean water around Schoodic Peninsula. Our collaboration with other Northeastern Coastal Stations Alliance field stations produced standardized data, improving our understanding of change in the Gulf of Maine.

With partners at College of the Atlantic and the University of Maine, Schoodic Institute studied how rockweed—and rockweed harvesting—affects environmental conditions, such as water temperature and light, in the intertidal zone, and how those changes impact coastal zone wildlife.

Schoodic Institute worked with researchers from Bowdoin to study shell disease and mortality in Jonah crabs, which are an important seafood species. Also, we initiated efforts to repeat William Procter's nearly century-old surveys of marine life around Mount Desert Island to determine how the ecosystem has changed.

We assisted the National Park Service with workshops that engaged stakeholders in understanding what it means to have a "healthy" intertidal zone. Schoodic Institute recognized that multiple perspectives are essential when considering how to sustain the intertidal zone for all species.

Hannah Webber, Marine Ecology Director



BIRD ECOLOGY

Schoodic Institute's bird ecology research programs include careful observation, dedication, and commitment to public engagement. In its 24th consecutive year, Cadillac Mountain Hawk Watch migration monitoring involved more than 2,000 visitors. The project produces long-term data about the number of breeding hawks and eagles passing through the state on their way south, and information about shifts in the timing migration in response to climate change.

More than 500 people participated in the Sea Watch monitoring of winter seabirds at Schoodic Point. The 2018 season total of more than 100,000 birds is the highest in our seven years of the program.

Another 200 people attended a Schoodic Institute birding tour, field trip, or public presentation. The Bird Ecology Program enlisted 30 volunteers who amassed more than 1,000 hours of voluntary monitoring efforts, including 400 bird checklists within Acadia National Park submitted via Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird program.

Schoodic Institute completed a Biodiversity Discovery pilot project in Rockefeller Meadow, continuing terrestrial invertebrate monitoring that began in early 2000s.

Seth Benz, Bird Ecology Director

30 volunteers1,000 hours400 bird checklists





SCIENCE INFORMATION

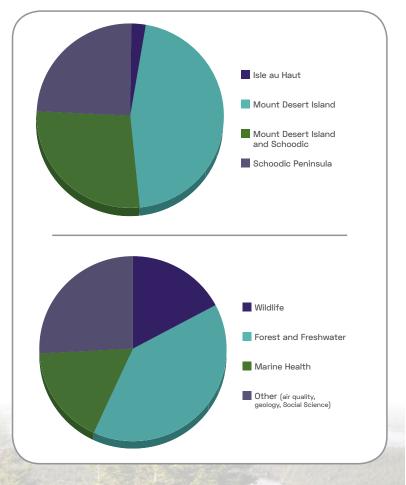
Schoodic Institute's Science Information Program archived documents about research in Acadia National Park, making them available to our staff, Acadia National Park, and academic researchers comparing historic and present day conditions. Documents are archived in the National Park Service's online database.

The Science Information Program also partnered with the National Park Service to issue 81 permits for research in Acadia National Park in 2018, and to manage research reports from previous years. Permittees included 32 state and federal agencies, universities, and nonprofit organizations from eight states from Maine to California. About half of the permits were granted to the National Park Service (NPS), Schoodic Institute, College of the Atlantic, and the University of Maine. The majority of the research was conducted on Mount Desert Island and the Schoodic Peninsula.

Much of the research encompassed forests and freshwater habitats, wildlife, and marine health. Other research investigated air quality, geology, or the visitor experience. One-fifth of the research projects included citizen science. The research was shared at the Acadia Science Symposium, held in October at the College of the Atlantic.

Emma Albee, Science Information Specalist

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SECOND CENTURY STEWARDSHIP

Second Century Stewardship's public-private partnership completed its third year advancing science and science engagement in the national parks. In 2018, the initiative awarded two fellowships. Allison Gardner of the University of Maine studied historical and short-term impacts of fire on tick-borne disease transmission in Acadia National Park. Jennifer Smetzer of Smith College incorporated climate change refugia, areas predicted to remain relatively unchanged, into Acadia National Park climate adaptation planning.

Citizen science is a critical tool for meeting Second Century Stewardship's education and engagement goals. In partnership with the National Park Service (NPS), Schoodic Institute developed and delivered citizen science training workshops to more than 60 park service staff and their nonprofit partners in Maine, Colorado, and California. Also, Second Century Stewardship Fellows worked with park staff and local teachers to integrate their research with interpretation and education programs.

Schoodic Institute and its Second Century Stewardship partners pursued solutions to critical environmental challenges through symposia at leading scientific conferences. At the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting, we led symposia addressing the use of big data for conservation and applying genetics to wildlife and fisheries conservation. At the Ecological Society of America meeting, we addressed using historical data to predict the future, defining and managing ecological and cultural integrity, prioritizing research to improve climate change adaptation, and advancing citizen science.

CJ Langley, Schoodic Institute Chief of Staff and Abraham Miller-Rushing, Acadia National Park Science Coordinator 2 new fellowships awarded3 citizen science workshops41 NPS units & partners engaged



CITIZEN SCIENCE





Schoodic Institute is a leader in engaging people of all ages in research and the process of science. With local conservation partners, we continued development of the **Downeast Phenology Trail**. On 13 walks throughout Downeast Maine, citizen scientists collected data on fruiting structures of common trees to assess food availability during bird migration. The project contributed more than 30,000 unique observations on plant phenology.

In our fifth year of partnership with Earthwatch Institute, citizen scientists helped collect data for the **Climate Change: Sea to Trees** initiative. At Schoodic Institute sites, we studied how the changing climate affects life from sea to forest, from the lowest tide pools to the tallest trees. More than 100 people from 19 different countries participated.

Hannah Webber, Marine Ecology Director and Libby Orcutt, Senior Science Technician

> more than **100** participants from **19** countries

EDUCATION



In 2018, Schoodic Institute's education program connected schools and communities. At the grade school level, we supported the **Schoodic Education Adventure** program in working with the Cherryfield school to develop a K-8 curriculum that reflects the community's close relationship to the Narraguagus River. Working with Acadia National Park staff, teachers developed science and mathematics activities that incorporate **weather observations, phenology, water quality studies, and wildlife observation**. Students learned how to collect, use, and present evidence as they created a picture of how the river, as it changes over the course of the year, plays a central role in the natural systems that surround Cherryfield.

Schoodic Institute also worked closely with **Gouldsboro's shellfish committee and the Pathways Program at Sumner High School** to collect data from two clam flats that the town was considering as candidates for restoration. Students explored data visually, and developed a report comparing growth rates, predation, and new clam recruitment at the two sites. Their work, which they presented to the town, found that although clam growth was strong at one of the sites (between an inch and an inch and a half in just one season), there was also evidence of milky ribbon worm predation that would place restoration investments at risk at that site. We are continuing our work with students to learn how to deploy experiments, collect and analyze data, and present results. Just as important, the town now has a way to get data to inform its decisions. By connecting the school and the town, Schoodic Institute helps both organizations find ways to do things that they could not do before.

Bill Zoellick, Education Research Director Emeritus

HOSPITALITY

Rockefeller Hall welcomed more than 14,100 visitors in 2018. Visitors toured the welcome center enjoying art and exhibits, shopped in the gift kiosk, purchased park passes, and received their National Park Passport stamps.

In 2018 our food systems department increased efforts to cook delicious homemade, from-scratch meals. We served thousands of diners, from middle school students here in the Schoodic Education Adventure program and school field trips, to seniors visiting for bird tours or painting workshops. We are dedicated to purchasing locally sourced meats, fish, produce and dairy whenever possible. We grow our own herbs in a small kitchen garden which we love to use for soups, salads, dressings and flavored cream cheese. We are excited to have a talented, enthusiastic, creative and competent staff at Schooner Commons.



14,100 visitors to our Welcome Center from all around the world

July 2018 brought the Wilderness Habitat Education Program to campus. The first year this annual contest was held in the Northeast, the competition brings high school students together to demonstrate their applied wildlife management knowledge and identification skills. This event was a huge success attracting more than 125 guests from as far away as Texas, New Mexico, Indiana, and Utah. Students worked with Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and 4H staff to learn about Maine animal habitats, and each team was invited to share about their home state. We were proud to receive many accolades at the conclusion of the event.

In September Schoodic Institute was host to the Organization of Biological Field Stations annual meeting. This meeting moves around the globe and we were elated to host roughly 160 participants from far and wide. This big event tested our capacity to host large events and we succeeded!

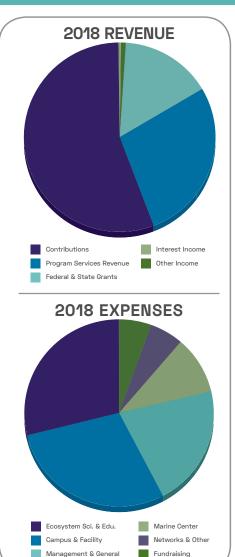
Megan Moshier, Sales and Hospitality Manager



D18 FINANCIAL SUMMARY:	CONSOLIDATE	DSTATEMEN	T OF FINAN	CIAL POSIT
cember 31, 2018	W/O Donor	With Donor	Total	Total
ASSETS	Restrictions	Restrictions	2018	2017
Current Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 23,942	\$ 876,402	\$ 900,344	\$ 948,401
Accounts receivable	120,610	-	120,610	76,607
Contributions receivable	2,000	-	2,000	-
Total Current Assets	146,552	876,402	1,022,954	1,025,008
Contributions receivable	-	-	-	12,000
Investments	-	2,992,386	2,992,386	2,934,459
Property and equipment, net	488,320	-	488,320	669,303
Deposit	47,500	-	47,500	47,500
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 682,372	\$ 3,868,788	\$ 4,551,160	\$ 4,688,270
	\$ 682,372	\$ 3,868,788	\$ 4,551,160	\$ 4,688,270
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 682,372	\$ 3,868,788	\$ 4,551,160	\$ 4,688,270
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities:		\$ 3,868,788		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable	\$ 48,034	\$ 3,868,788	\$ 48,034	\$ 4,548
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue	\$ 48,034 31,407	\$ 3,868,788 - -	\$ 48,034 31,407	\$ 4,548 55,733
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue Accrued payroll and related expens	\$ 48,034 31,407 ses 25,595	\$ 3,868,788 - - - -	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595	\$ 4,548 55,733 22,184
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue	\$ 48,034 31,407	\$ 3,868,788 - - - - - -	\$ 48,034 31,407	\$ 4,548 55,733
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue Accrued payroll and related expens Other Liabilities	\$ 48,034 31,407 ses 25,595 600	\$ 3,868,788 - - - - - -	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 600	\$ 4,548 55,733 22,184 750
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue Accrued payroll and related expens Other Liabilities Total Liabilities	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 <u>600</u> 105,636	\$ 3,868,788 - - - - - -	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 <u>600</u> 105,636	\$ 4,548 55,733 22,184 750 83,215
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue Accrued payroll and related expens Other Liabilities Total Liabilities Net Assets:	\$ 48,034 31,407 ses 25,595 600	\$ 3,868,788 - - - - - -	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 600	\$ 4,548 55,733 22,184 750
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue Accrued payroll and related expens Other Liabilities Total Liabilities Net Assets: Unrestricted With Donor Restrictions:	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 <u>600</u> 105,636	\$ 3,868,788 - - - - - - 876,402	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 <u>600</u> 105,636	\$ 4,548 55,733 22,184 750 83,215
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue Accrued payroll and related expens Other Liabilities Total Liabilities Net Assets: Unrestricted	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 <u>600</u> 105,636	- - - -	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 600 105,636 576,736	\$ 4,548 55,733 22,184 750 83,215 823,185
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS Current Liabilities: Accounts payable Deferred revenue Accrued payroll and related expens Other Liabilities Total Liabilities Net Assets: Unrestricted With Donor Restrictions: Time and purpose restrictions	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 <u>600</u> 105,636	- - - - - 876,402	\$ 48,034 31,407 25,595 600 105,636 576,736 876,402	\$ 4,548 55,733 22,184 750 83,215 823,185 817,077

2018 FINANCIAL SUMMARY: CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE Program Services Revenue Contributions Federal and State Grants Other Income Interest Income Assets released from restrictions TOTAL REVENUES, SUPPORT AND OTHERS	W/O Donor <u>Restrictions</u> \$ 764,935 568,438 425,857 23,833 5,167 882,532 2,670,763	With Donor <u>Restrictions</u> \$ - 969,450 - - - (882,532) 86,918	Total 2018 764,935 1,537,889 425,857 23,833 5,167 - 2,757,681	Total 2017 \$ 621,113 4,299,706 391,519 16,813 3,111 - 5,332,262
EXPENSES:				
Program Services Expenses:				
Ecosystem science and education	798,144	-	798,144	715,038
Campus and facility	796,516	-	796,516	745,027
Networks, associations, other programs	159,741	-	159,741	309,045
Schoodic Marine Center	276,804	-	276,804	211,380
Total Program Services Expenses	2,031,205	-	2,031,205	1,980,490
Supporting services expenses: Management and general Fundraising and development	581,863 152,371	-	581,863 152,371	536,651 137,781
Total Supporting Services Expenses	734,234	-	734,234	674,432
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,765,439	-	2,765,439	2,654,922
Change in Net Assets Before Net Investment Return	(94,676)	86,918	(7,758)	2,677,340
RETURN ON INVESTMENTS				
Unrealized gains on investments	-	(203,352)	(203,352)	78,576
Realized gains on investments	-	1,348	1,348	2,230
Interest and dividends	-	62,910	62,910	10,345
Investment fees	-	(12,679)	(12,679)	-
Reclassification of investment return				
based on donor restrictions	(151,773)	151,773		
Total Return on Investments	(151,773)	-	(151,773)	91,151
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	(246,449)	86,918	(159,531)	2,768,491
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	823,185	3,781,870	4,605,055	1,836,564
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 576,736	\$ 3,868,788	\$ 4,445,524	\$4,605,055



We thank the following members and partners who made our work possible in 2018:

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

TOTAL LIFETIME GIVING OVER \$100,000

Alan and Victoria Goldstein American Association for the Advancement of Science Anonymous David and Robin Reis Dianna and Ben Emory Earthwatch Institute Edith R. Dixon Fllin and Bruce Miller Elmina B. Sewall Foundation Friends of Acadia Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust Fund at The Boston Foundation Jim and Nathalie Andrews Maine Coast Heritage Trust National Park Foundation Roxanne Quimby

2018 CONTRIBUTORS

\$100K+

Earthwatch Institute Edith R. Dixon National Park Foundation

\$25K-\$99,999

Alan and Victoria Goldstein Ellin and Bruce Miller Elmina B. Sewall Foundation Friends of Acadia

\$5K-\$24,999

David and Marilyn Ellwood Dianna and Ben Emory Dick and Carol Habermann Elizabeth Saltonstall Frank Moya Jim and Nathalie Andrews Mark and Sandra Kryder Peter and Betsy Snow Roxanne Quimby Steven and Lalage Rales Thomas and Carol Kirchhoff

\$1,000-4,999

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up to \$999

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IN-KIND GIFTS AND SERVICES

BaySide Shop 'N Save Brian Skerry Ed and Deb Hawkes Jean Girmscheid Kathleen Rogers The Grand Theater

*deceased

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(As of December 2018)

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SCHOODIC INSTITUTE STAFF (As of December 2018)

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SEASONAL STAFF

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SEASONAL HOUSEKEEPERS

Molly Garnett Stacy Grant Gloria Moore Judith Newenham Amie O'Hara Margaret Rush Linda Thornton Lori White

> We are particularly grateful for community support and to work in close partnership with the National Park Service

VOLUNTEERS AT SCHOODIC INSTITUTE

Volunteers are essential to the success of Schoodic Institute! You contribute in a multitude of areas and projects; we are grateful to all.

Schoodic Institute encourages your engagement and feedback. We look forward to hearing from you. Subscribe to our email newsletter and receive updates on upcoming events and programs. Follow us at Schoodic Institute on Facebook. All photos not otherwise credited: Schoodic Institute.

Please contact us immediately if we made any errors or omissions in compiling this list of 2018 contributors. Thank you.

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Pursuing collaborative solutions to critical environmental challenges through discovery and learning.



P.O. Box 277, Winter Harbor, ME 04693 207-288-1310 www.SchoodicInstitute.org Thank you for your generous support.