## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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## **ONE FINAL THANK YOU**

In 2022, the Wildlife Leadership Academy celebrated 16 years of engaging youth in Pennsylvania and beyond. Over these 16 years, the Academy has grown its own identity as a highly regarded state-wide youth leadership program that inspires our students and alumni, 914 strong, to be a voice for the conservation of our natural resources. The Academy now has six field school curriculums, three full time employees, two seasonal curriculum coordinators, a summer leadership team employing 20+ alumni, and 100+ volunteer expert instructors from the state's conservation agencies and organizations.

More recently, we were humbled by the challenge of the pandemic and how our team of amazing staff and instructors came together to modify the Academy's curriculum in creative ways and engage full classes of students over two summers all the while maintaining funding from many contributors.

In 2022, the Academy was grateful to return to a full in-person five program field school season. We were also proud to engage in equity and inclusion efforts by encouraging staff education, providing an all-gender cabin option at field schools, and being awarded a grant to work with the Novalia Collective to evaluate and continue to evolve into a more inclusive and equitable program.

The end of 2022 brought change for myself, as I looked towards a new professional chapter and resigned my position as Wildlife Leadership Academy's Executive Director at year-end. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to have served the Academy's vision for 10 years – to educate and empower the next generation of conservation leaders.

The future of the Academy is in excellent hands with the new Executive Director, Dr. Sara Mueller, Ph.D., talented and committed staff, and the unwavering support of the Board of Directors. Additionally, I am working in a contractual role that supports the organization's leadership transition through 2023.

I am grateful in this report to have one final opportunity to celebrate the amazing students we call Conservation Ambassadors and give you one final **THANK YOU for your enduring support of the Wildlife Leadership Academy.** 

Yours in doing what matters,

Alchel Litter Connolly

Michele Kittell Connolly



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## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Wildlife Leadership Academy is to engage and empower high school age youth to become Conservation Ambassadors to ensure a sustained wildlife, fisheries and natural resource legacy for future generations.

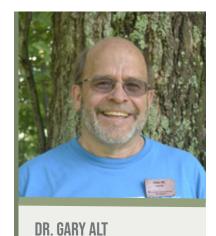
### **OUR TEAM**



**DR. SARA MUELLER** Executive Director

**KATIE CASSIDY** Alumni Engagement





**KATIE MACE** Social Media Specialist

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

JOSEPH REIBMAN, ESQ. President

JOHN KLINE Treasurer

**RALPH MARTONE** 

**JAMES BRETT** 

Vice President

**TRACIE WITTER** 

Honorary Director



Director of Outreach and

Terrestrial Curriculum Coordinator



ANN DEPAULIS, ESQ. Secretary

**PAUL PIERPOINT** 

PETER DUNCAN Honorary Director



**LEXI CHISHOLM** Field School and Office Manager

### **ADVANCEMENTS IN EQUITY AND INCLUSION**

In 2022, the Academy worked with Odelia Younge and Vina Vo of the the Novalia Collective to assess equity and inclusion of the program (field school + student and alumni outreach) and organization. Both Odelia and Vina attended the Academy's PA Brookies field school and immersed themselves in the intensive educational experience. Work with the Novalia Collective included facilitated conversations with students and their families who are part of communities that are currently underrepresented in the program to learn about the experiences of these individuals.



Odelia Younge and Vina Vo of the Novalia Collective attended the PA Brookies field school to access equity and inclusion within the program and organization

Conversations were also facilitated with staff and alumni about the field school experience regarding equity and inclusion. Based on these engagements, the Novalia Collective prepared to use their joy based approach with the staff and board during brainstorming and design sessions to redesign the field school experience to support increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in 2023.

Implementation of the design sessions in 2023 and the resulting redesign plans will create an Academy experience that engages and attracts more students from underrepresented communities because these individuals and their families feel they are safe, they are welcomed, and they belong.



Chelle McIntyre and her daughter Lorelei taught an Indigenous Natural Perspectives session at all 5 field schools



#### **ALL-GENDER CABIN OPTION**

For all summer field schools, our participants and staff were given an option to choose all-gender housing along with male and female options for their overnight accommodations.



#### INDIGENOUS NATURAL PERSPECTIVES

Alum, Lorelei M-B., and her mother Chelle McIntyre shared their Cherokee heritage through an active learning lesson called Indigenous Natural Perspectives at each field school, modifying their lessons and stories for each field school based on the species being studied.



#### **INCLUSIVE LEARNING**

The Academy has always thrived on an inclusive educational environment bringing students together from all walks of life. This year we were proud to support two students in particular. Caty S., an autistic student, attended the PA Brookies field school. Caty's positive attitude at field school was contagious - everyone was grateful to continue to support her passion for learning and empower her love of teaching others. At PA Gobblers, the Academy also hosted two American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters for the week to support a student who is deaf, Kierra O. Kierra has cochlear implants, but the ASL interpreters served as an additional aid for her throughout the week.

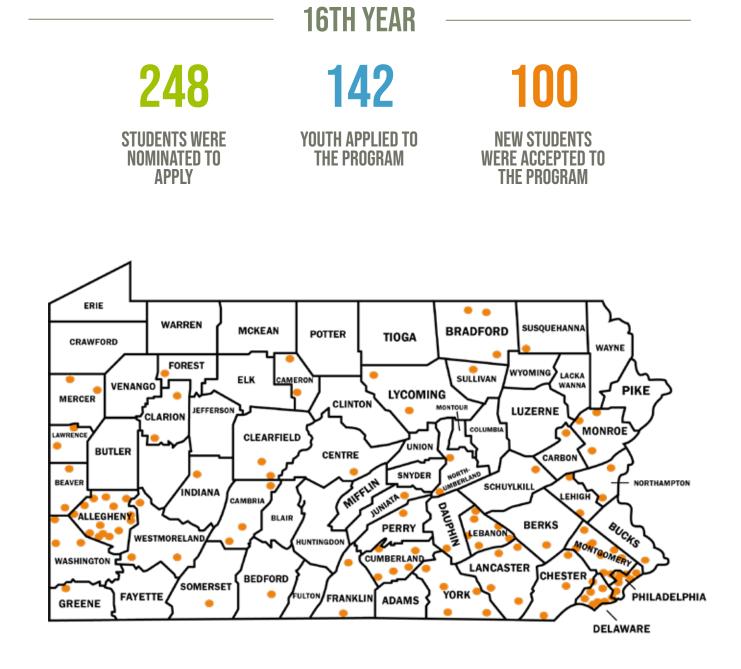


#### LANGUAGE BRIDGING

This year, the Academy worked with Latino Connections translators to engage the parents of our students whose first language is not English. Conversations with these parents included ensuring the parents understood what their child would be doing at field schools, reviewing logistics (rides, meals, etc.), and addressing any potential needs with the opportunity for parents to ask us questions.

### **CLASS OF 2022 CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS**

A year round program, the Academy begins with nominations of students across the state. Those who are selected attend one of our rigorous summer field schools that focus on wildlife/fisheries biology and conservation as well as leadership skills development and continues with community outreach.







(bottom right).





Focusing on the white-tailed deer and their habitat, students participated in a mock town hall meeting focused on environmental issues (bottom left), practiced using radio telemetry equipment for locating deer (middle right), and learned about native plants by mounting their own herbarium specimens







#### JUNE 21-25, 2022

Focusing on bass and the Susquehanna River watershed, students spent an evening bass fishing (middle left), learned about stream health through macroinvertebrate surveys (bottom left), and participated in a habitat construction project at Bald Eagle State Park (bottom right).



#### JULY 19-23, 2022

Focusing on brook trout and cold water conservation, students tried their hand at fly fishing (bottom left), learned what fish eat through macroinvertebrate surveys (middle right), and tied their own flies (bottom right).















#### JULY 26-20, 2022

Focusing on the wild turkey and the management of their habitat, students honed in their archery skills (middle left), learned about native plants that are useful to turkeys (bottom left), and were taught how to use a turkey call (bottom right).



# URSIDS

AUGUST 2-6, 2022 Focusing on bears and the management of their habitat, students connected with their surroundings through their nature journals (bottom left), assessed forest health (middle right), and developed their leadership skills through team building exercises (bottom right).













## POST FIELD SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT

In order to ensure the success of our students after the field school, Katie Cassidy, Director of Outreach and Alumni Engagement, mentored the Class of 2022 through 2023 by offering professional development opportunities to Academy Conservation Ambassadors through:



#### **A MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER**

A monthly e-newsletter was sent to all participants at the first of the month including **tips for community outreach**, a **"student of the month"**, and timely **engagement opportunities**.



#### SOCIAL MEDIA/MEDIA ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Students were recruited to apply for positions as **NexGen Blog Correspondents** to write for the Academy's weekly blog and/or **Photo Friday Specialists** to submit their own nature photography for our Facebook page's "Photo Friday" posts. **10 students** were recruited as Photo Friday Specialists and **6 students** were recruited to be Monthly Blog Correspondents – **471 youth-written blogs** (and counting!) have been published to date.



Photo Friday post submitted by Grace Z., a PA Bass alumni



Photo Friday post submitted by Skylar S., a PA Gobblers alumni



#### **VIDEO CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS**

Three video conference calls were offered to all participants on **mentoring and volunteering** (14 students attended), **community outreach wrap up** (25 students attended), and **how to stay involved with the Academy** (25 students attended).



#### **COLLEGE VISIT DAYS**

The Academy partnered with several universities to provide college tours created exclusively for Academy students. Four college tours took place this past fall/spring at **Penn State Dubois** (Wildlife Technology program), **Kutztown University** (Biology Department), **Chatham University Eden Hall** (Sustainability program), and **Susquehanna University** (Biology Department).



18 Academy students attended the Penn State Dubois college visit day on September 21, 2023



#### PROFESSIONAL MEETING ATTENDANCE

Students are offered the opportunity to attend various professional meetings including the **Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association conference** (1 attended) and the **Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology** (2 attended in person and 2 attended virtually).

## **EDUCATIONAL WINNER'S WEEKEND**

Our Educational Winner's Weekend was held at Krislund Camp and Conference Center on October 14-16, 2022. The individuals and parents from the "top team" at each field school were extended an invitation for a weekend gathering that included outdoor and team building sessions - stream exploration, a birding walk, hikes, and a ropes course. Thirty-eight (38) students and parents attended for the full weekend.











#### **BUCKTAILS REWARD TRIP - PHEASANT HUNT**

The winning team from the PA Bucktails field school received a mentored pheasant hunt sponsored by Southeast PA Chapter of the National Deer Association. Four (4) participants attended the hunt on September 24, 2022.



Jonathan M., Bruno D., Sam W., and Kaden R. attended the pheasant hunt reward trip

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH** ACCOMPLISHMENTS

After attending a summer field school, the Academy asks youth to return to their communities to conduct a minimum of four outreach projects, sharing their knowledge throughout their communities through education, service, media engagement, creative arts, and outdoor mentorship.

**SINCE 2007** 

153,000

**CITIZENS ENGAGED** 

**BY CONSERVATION** 

AMBASSADORS



*Skylar S. taught others about sexing and aging wild turkeys as an educational outreach project* 

8.819

OUTREACH

PROJECTS

COMPLETED



Jonathan H. took part in a roadside clean up as a service project

### **RALPH ABELE EXCELLENCE** IN OUTREACH AWARD

Named in honor of conservation leader Ralph Abele, each year, this award is given to students who excel as Conservation Ambassadors. For each field school, a \$500 scholarship is awarded to the student who is top in their class for outreach. Receiving their awards in 2022 are the following Class of 2021 recipients.

MARY G. PA BUCKTAILS Gave 282 hours to her community. Reached 960 people with her outreach.

**KAELA S. PA BASS** Gave **25 hours** to her community. Reached **204 people** with her outreach.

JOANNA G. PA BROOKIES Gave 72 hours to her community. Reached 171 people with her outreach.

STEPHEN P. PA GOBBLERS Gave 58 hours to his community. Reached 452 people with his outreach.

LIZZY B. PA URSIDS Gave 143 hours to her community. Reached 50 people with her outreach.

34,000

HOURS OF WORK Given Back to Communities



Sam W. painted this landscape as a creative arts project



Rachel N. earned her boaters safety certificate as an outdoor mentorship project



Mary G., recipient of the Ralph Abele Excellence in Outreach Award at PA Bucktails



Joanna G., recipient of the Ralph Abele Excellence in Outreach Award at PA Brookies

## PAY IT Forward

The Pay It Forward challenge encouraged students to raise \$500 each to "Pay It Forward" to next year's incoming class of Conservation Ambassadors. In 2022, the Pay It Forward team was challenged by a 1-to-1 to matching grant from the Campbell Foundation up to \$11,000!

**141** INDIVIDUAL DONORS

**93%** Donations under \$250



Claire C. was awarded the "Top Fundraiser" award during the 2022 field schools for her efforts from the 2021 Pay It Forward campaign

IN TOTAL \$13,172 WAS RAISED BY THE CLASS OF 2022

### **BLUE POLO SOCIETY** \$500+ RAISED





LYNDEN B.





**KIERRA O**.





**STEPHEN P.** 

"I want to Pay it Forward because I myself benefited from a scholarship that helped me attend field school, which turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life, and I wouldn't want someone to miss out on that just because of money."

MATTHEW C.

JOSEPH P.



KEIRA M.



NADIA P.



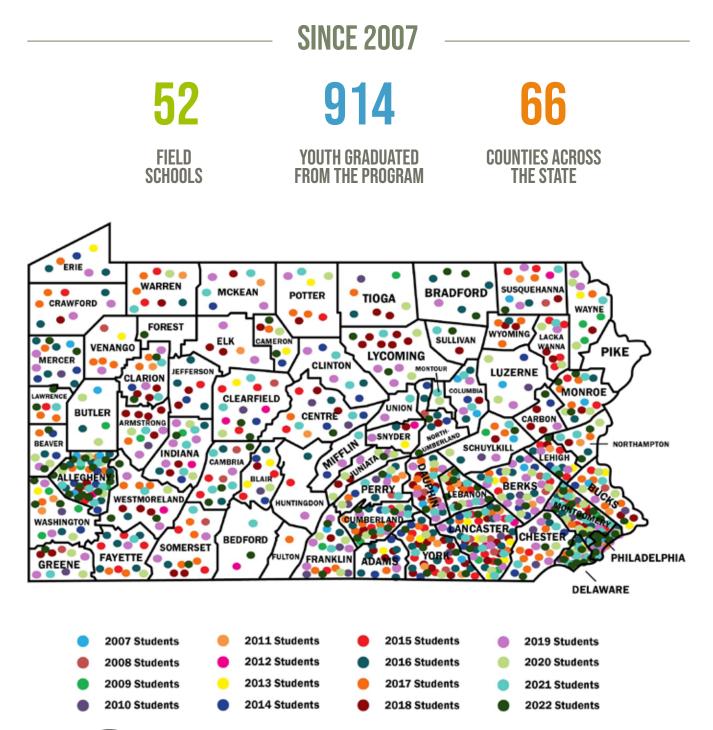
ALLISON R.



LEO U.

Leo U. PA Brookies

## THE ACADEMY **ALUMNI NETWORK**





22

Other states were represented by alumni. Students from the District of Columbia, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Virginia, Vermont, and West Virginia have attended the program.

### **SUPPORTING OUR COHORTS OF ALUMNI**

The Academy Alumni Network offers support, connection, and service as our students grow from high school to college and/or career. The Academy aims to connect our students with opportunities, conservation resources, and provides information on how to reconnect with the organization. This engagement looks different for each of our cohorts.

:8

### **CURRENT CLASS**

Those who just attended a summer field school and are conducting community outreach projects.

This cohort is supported through their outreach journey.

### **ENGAGED IN EDUCATION**

Those who are choosing to continue their education in trade schools, certificate programs, and universities.

This cohort is supported with assistance in finding and linking opportunities.

### **EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS**

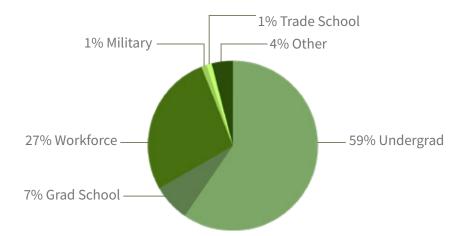
Those who are entering the workforce, starting their own business, and exploring career paths.

This cohort is supported with networking opportunities and the chance to give back to the program.

## **ACADEMY ALUMNI** SURVEY

In 2022, an online survey was conducted with our Academy Alumni that included retrieving up to date contact information, additional information about their career trajectories, and the impact of their Academy experiences. As of July 2022, **101 alumni** responded to the survey.

#### WHAT ARE OUR ALUMNI DOING?



Of the 66% of alumni who are in undergraduate or graduate school, **58%** indicated that they are also employed while furthering their education.



" WLA is where I met the people who would be my first employers. I got my first wildlife job because of being involved in WLA and doing outreach activities. I also met some of my closest friends and now can call them colleagues as well. Not many people can say that and I think that speaks volumes to the impact of WLA"

#### Alec Baker 2013 Bucktails Alum

At the time of the survey, Alec was studying Wildlife and Fisheries Science at Texas A&M University, where he researched white-tailed deer and tick interactions.

"WLA made me learn that even if you don't end up working in conservation, you can still be a part of the process. I still hike, garden, volunteer, go birding, and appreciate nature after work.

#### Noelle LaFaver 2017 Bucktails Alum

At the time of the survey, Noelle was working as a Scientist at Eurofins Lancaster Labs, where she performed testing on pharmaceutical products.

#### **SUPPORT**

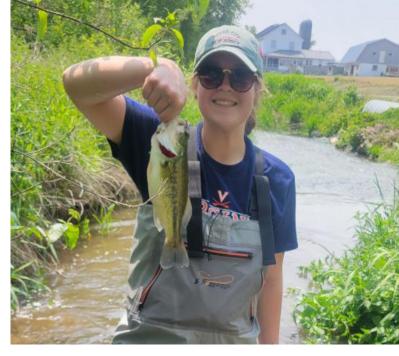
Katie Cassidy, Director of Outreach and Alumni Engagement, supports and mentors alumni through professional development opportunities including facilitating special college visit days and their attendance at professional meetings as well as serving as a career counselor as their career interests evolve.

#### **CONNECTION**

The Academy Alumni Network website offers resources dedicated to continuing education, college and career exploration, and scholarship opportunities. There are also diversity and accessibility pages highlighting affinity groups and other supportive information in the areas of conservation and the outdoors.

#### SFRVICE

Alumni can take advantage of the opportunity to give back to the Academy by volunteering, working, or teaching at our summer field schools.



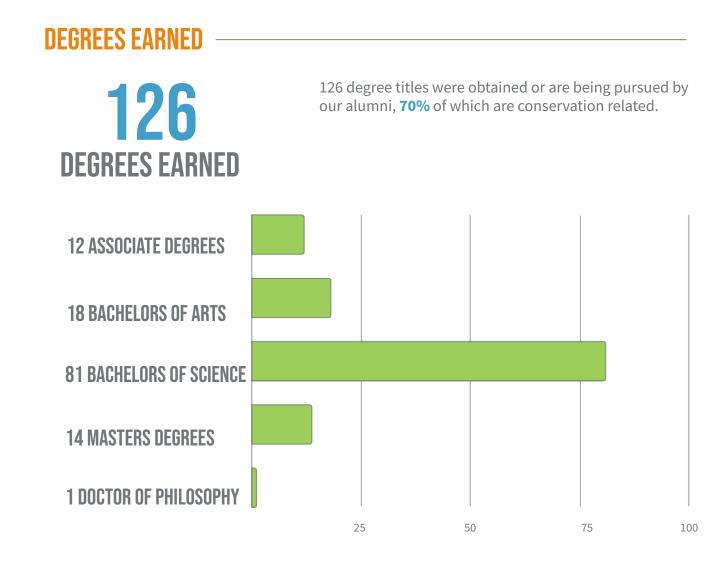
### 3%

Of alumni responded that they would like to receive continued support from the Academy.

### 38%

Of alumni responded that they are interested in resources such as scholarships, jobs, other opportunities.

### Of alumni are interested in returning to the Academy.





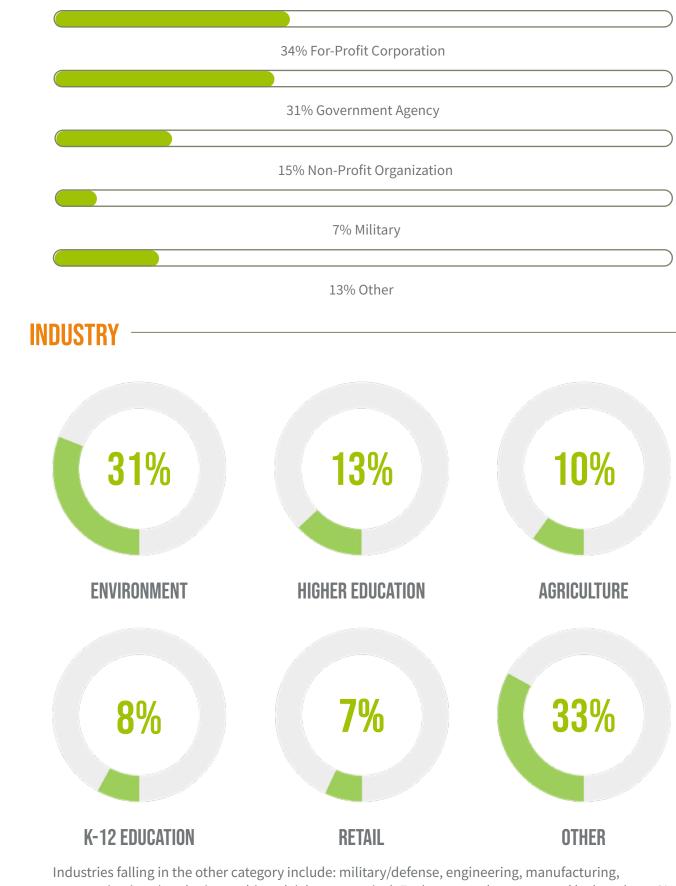
"WLA made me passionate about teaching the younger generation about forestry, wildlife, habitat, etc. I want to pass on the opportunities that I had to learn and correct preconceived notions before children reach adulthood and become adults who don't understand conservation and management at all."

#### Katie (Schmidt) Brooks (far left in photo) 2009 Bucktails Alumni

At the time of the survey, Katie worked for Penn State Extension as a Forestry and Wildlife Educator. She conducted hands-on educational programs and worked with local, state, and federal entities to identify forestry and wildlife issues. Katie has also returned to the Academy as an instructor.

### **SECTOR OF EMPLOYMENT**

of respondents.



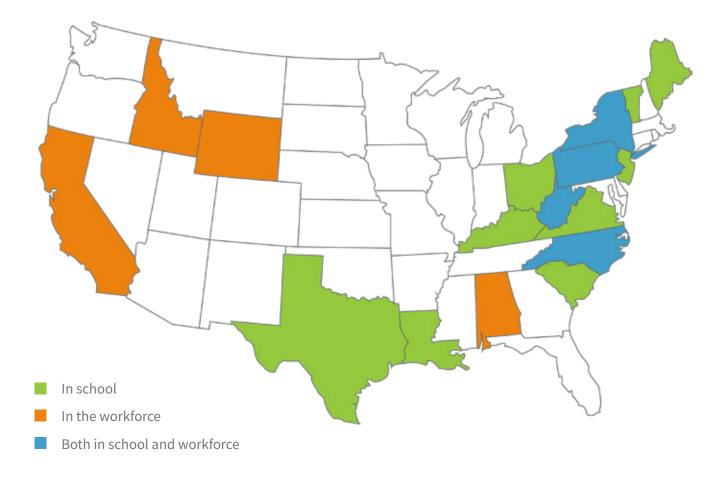
rofit Corporation	
ernment Agency	
Profit Organization	
% Military	

communications/marketing, or biotech/pharmaceutical. Each were each represented by less than 5%

#### WHERE ARE OUR ALUMNI?

Of the 76% of alumni who are continuing their education, 66% remain in Pennsylvania. The remaining 34% are studying in Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas, Maine, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia, and Canada.







Of the 27% of alumni who are in the workforce, 74% remain in Pennsylvania. The remaining 26% are working in Alabama, California, New Jersey, New York, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

" WLA gave me leadership training and confidence at a time of life in which it was much-needed, and it gave me a taste of the world of conservation and the outdoors which has made it irresistible ever since, even though my field of study is in the liberal arts. My knowledge of PA's ecosystems and natural resources is so much greater, and I have the tools to share it now (and I do whenever I get the chance!). I will always treasure the relationships I forged there, even though we may be spread out across the state."

#### Helen Fielding 2014 Brookies Alumni

At the time of the survey, Helen was a full-time reporter/journalist for the Derrick and the News-Herald newspapers.

### **ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHER CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS**

**39%** of alumni reported that they were involved with a conservation organization. On average, alumni are affiliated with one to five organizations.

Allegheny Forest Health Collaborative Allegheny Front Hawk Watch Allegheny Plateau Invasive Plant Management Association American Fisheries Society Appalachian Mountain Club Audubon Society Central PA Conservancy Chesapeake Bay Foundation Creek Connections Delta Waterfowl **Ducks Unlimited** French Creek Valley Conservancy Land Conservancy of Adams County Leave No Trace Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Master Watershed Stewards



- National Deer Association
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Neshaminy Watershed Association
- Pennsylvania Association of Environmental
  - Educators
- Pennsylvania Trappers Association
- **Roach Bauer Forum**
- Ruffed Grouse Society
- Society of American Foresters
- Society of Range Management
- Texas Wildlife Association
- The Student Conservation Association
- The Wildlife Society
- **Trout Unlimited**
- Watersheds of South Pittsburgh
- Wildlife Disease Association
- Women In the Outdoors

## 2022 FINANCIALS

INCOME	
Government Grants	\$ 230,978
Foundation Grants	\$182,400
Individual/Business Contributions	\$43,842
Pay it Forward	\$14,378
Camp Tuition Scholarship Fund	\$10,894
Field School Tuition	\$45,300
Field School Tuition Scholarships	(\$9,600)
Dividends	\$0
Misc Revenue	\$1,800
Interest Income	\$50
Realized Gain/Losses	(\$107)
TOTAL INCOME	\$449,262

#### **IN KIND SUPPORT**

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

staff from partners serving as instructors 76 instructors volunteering for 25+ organizations and agencies with a total of 434 hours of instructional support with an estimated cost of **\$14,706**.

#### **VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

adult mentors, youth mentors, and alumni 55 individuals volunteering **3,736 hours** of support with and estimated cost as \$83,004.

#### DONATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

At an estimated cost of **\$15,466** includes items such as printing of educational binders for students by PGC, donation of telemetry equipment by ATS, Inc., and water quality test kits from Izaak Walton League of America -Harry Enstrom Chapter.

Special Note: As per accounting standards, all income is reported in the year received. Therefore, our surplus not only reflects as operating reserve but also multi-year grant surpluses that are allocated to support the operating budget.

EXPENSES	
Salaries and Wages	\$165,716
Payroll Tax Expense	\$13,708
Workers Comp Insurance	\$1,646
Program Meals	\$34,695
Program Facility	\$33,067
Program Supplies	\$27,999
Curriculum Coordinator/ Instructor Services	\$49,920
Program Transportation	\$10,518
Equip Rental/Maint	\$1,470
Printing	\$13,244
Postage	\$4,578
Event - Reward Weekend	\$6,124
Fundraising Supplies	\$1,094
Rent	\$12,077
Utilities	\$274
Office Supplies	\$1,217
Telephone	\$1,744
Software & Computer Supplies	\$7,206
Internet Expense	\$1,537
Travel	\$10,656
Advertising and Promotion	\$1,849
Accounting and Auditing	\$12,743
Payroll Service Fees	\$313
Other Professional Services	\$23,118
Website Services	\$874
Dues and Subscriptions	\$1,033
College Scholarships Provided	\$2,500
Outreach Project Support	-
Insurance	\$6,867
Bank and Finance Expenses	\$1,451
Miscellaneous	\$25
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$449,262
NET OPERATING RESERVE	\$70,672

### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Many of our Academy students apply for financial assistance based on need and academic qualifications. To achieve this, we actively work on expanding our scholarship fund through generous donations from our community, alumni, and supporters. These contributions enable us to provide financial aid to our students, empowering them to excel as Conservation Ambassadors.

### In 2022, **47 students** were provided with **\$14,500** of tuition support from **32 donors** as well as the Academy.







"The financial help that I received gave me the opportunity to learn so many new things about the world, my state, and even nature itself. The field school honestly contributed so much to the perspective that I have on life, this helped me open my eyes to the plenty of opportunities there are in the world. I also wanted to add that I really appreciate the fact that I was presented with such a huge opportunity because I was never really able to explore the wild being from a very urban area, this allowed me to really escape my natural habitat of the city and urban life and explore into the primitive and wilderness world."

Jairon V. PA Ursids

## THANK You

The Wildlife Leadership Academy is only possible because of support from every level. From sponsorships to our partners in state agencies and conservation organizations, these folks are the reason we can continue to educate and empower the next generation of conservation leaders!

#### HABITAT \$10,000+





#### HEMLOCK \$5,000+





#### OAK \$2,500+





AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE

### **GRASSROOTS \$250+**

American Fisheries Society, PA Chapter Appalachian Audubon Society Black Forest Conservation Association Crossroads Foundation Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, Inc. Earth Conservancy Forest Hills School District Franklin County Conservation District Lebanon County Conservation District North Central PA Pheasants Forever 630 Northampton County Federated Sportsmen's Club National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) Cameron County Longbeards Lakeland Longbeards Chapter 41 Peters Creek Trail Chapter SUN Area Chapter PA Trappers' Association Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association Potter County Conservation District Safari Club International, Lehigh Valley Chapter Sendell Motors The Wildlife Society, PA Chapter Trout Unlimited, Iron Furnace Chapter White Ash Land Association York Audubon Society

#### **FOUNDATION SUPPORT**

Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds
Keep PA Beautiful and the GIANT Company, Healing the Planet Grant
NRA Foundation
PA DCNR Community Conservation Partnerships Program

### **PARTNERING AGENCIES**

American Fisheries Society Back Country Hunters and Anglers Bucknell University Chesapeake Bay Foundation **Clinton County Conservation District** Southern Clinton County Sportsmen's Club Huntingdon County Conservation District Kutztown University National Deer Association PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources PA Department of Environmental Protection PA Fish and Boat Commission PA Game Commission PA National Wild Turkey Federation PA Conservation Heritage Project PA Outdoor Writers Association Pennsylvania State University Penn State Extension **PSU Dubois PSU Hazelton Penn Vet** Wildlife Futures Program PA Trappers Association Shaver's Creek Environmental Center The Wildlife Society - PA Chapter Trout Unlimited - Pennsylvania Council US Fish and Wildlife Service USDA-APHIS Wildlife

- PNC Charitable Trusts PPL Foundation Reidler Foundation Richard King Mellon Foundation Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- The Campbell Foundation

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

#### **THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Tuition is \$600 and at least 50% of our students request support each year. Your donation will help us continue to provide this support and keep tuition low.

#### **PLANNED GIVING OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **GIVE #10FORTHENEXTGEN**

Make a one time gift or give monthly and invest in the next generation of conservation leaders! Even \$10 makes a difference!

Create a lasting legacy by including the Wildlife Leadership Academy in your final estate plans.

### **GIFTS OF STOCK, IRA, OR RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS**

Ask your financial advisor about these other ways to give to WLA. Some may offer you tax advantages!

#### **CREATE A GIVING PAGE FOR YOUR NEXT SPECIAL OCCASION**

Do you have a birthday, anniversary, or another special occasion coming up? We'll create a personalized giving page for you on our website. Share it on social media and raise funds for WLA in honor of your next special occasion.



"Thanks to your contribution, I was able to attend the PA Ursids Field School and I grew exponentially as an aspiring Conservation Ambassador. We had a wide range of lectures from different professionals and learned so much about wildlife and conservation in Pennsylvania. My life was changed after this experience and now I'm pursuing a long future with the Wildlife Leadership Academy."

Josiah R-L., note to funder PA Ursids

YOUR SUPPORT can help us to continue to reach more students like Josiah - whether it be a one time give or a legacy gift.

YOUR DONATION WILL TRULY MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

### **BECOME A FIELD SCHOOL SPONSOR**

Engage our youth. Promote your brand. Strengthen Your Conservation Legacy. Giving at the sponsorship level offers a unique opportunity for you, your company or your organization to support the next generation of conservation leaders! Below are the levels of sponsorship and the benefits to your organization!

To learn more and discuss giving to support the next generation of conservation leaders, please reach out to Executive Director, Sara Mueller at smueller@ wildlifeleadershipacademy.org or 570-245-8518.

### HEMLOCK \$5,000+

#### OAK \$2,500+

School

School Logo and link on

our website

Logo on sponsorship banner at Field

Logo in each field schools' closing ceremonies program

Logo on Youth PowerPoint Presentations

Logo in Annual Report Logo and link on our website

Name on sponsorship banner at Field

Name in each field schools' closing ceremonies program

Logo in Annual Report





#### HABITAT \$10,000+

Logo on sponsorship banner at Field School

Logo and link on our website

Logo in each field schools' closing ceremonies program

Logo on Youth PowerPoint Presentations

Logo featured in Annual Report



#### MOUNTAIN LAUREL \$1,000+

Name on sponsorship banner at Field School

Name and link on our website

Name in each field schools' closing ceremonies program

Mention in Annual Report



#### GRASSROOTS \$250+

Name on banner at Field School

Name on our website

Name in each field schools' closing ceremonies program

Mention in Annual Report





7 East Water Street Lock Haven, PA 17745

570-245-8518

#### WILDLIFELEADERSHIPACADEMY.ORG

As a part of the Academy Alumni Network survey, alumni were asked to describe their Wildlife Leadership Academy experience in one word. The reponses are represented in the word cloud above.



The Wildlife Leadership Academy, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is a cooperative educational initiative involving state agencies and conservation organizations.

The official registration and financial information of Wildlife Leadership Academy may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.