

A group of eight people, including young adults and children, are posing on a large, reddish-brown rock formation in a desert canyon. The group is arranged in two rows, with some standing and some sitting or kneeling on the rocks. They are wearing outdoor gear like hats, long-sleeved shirts, and shorts. The background shows the layered rock walls of the canyon under a clear blue sky.

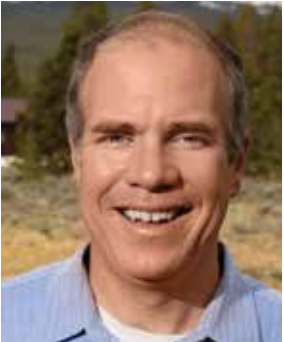
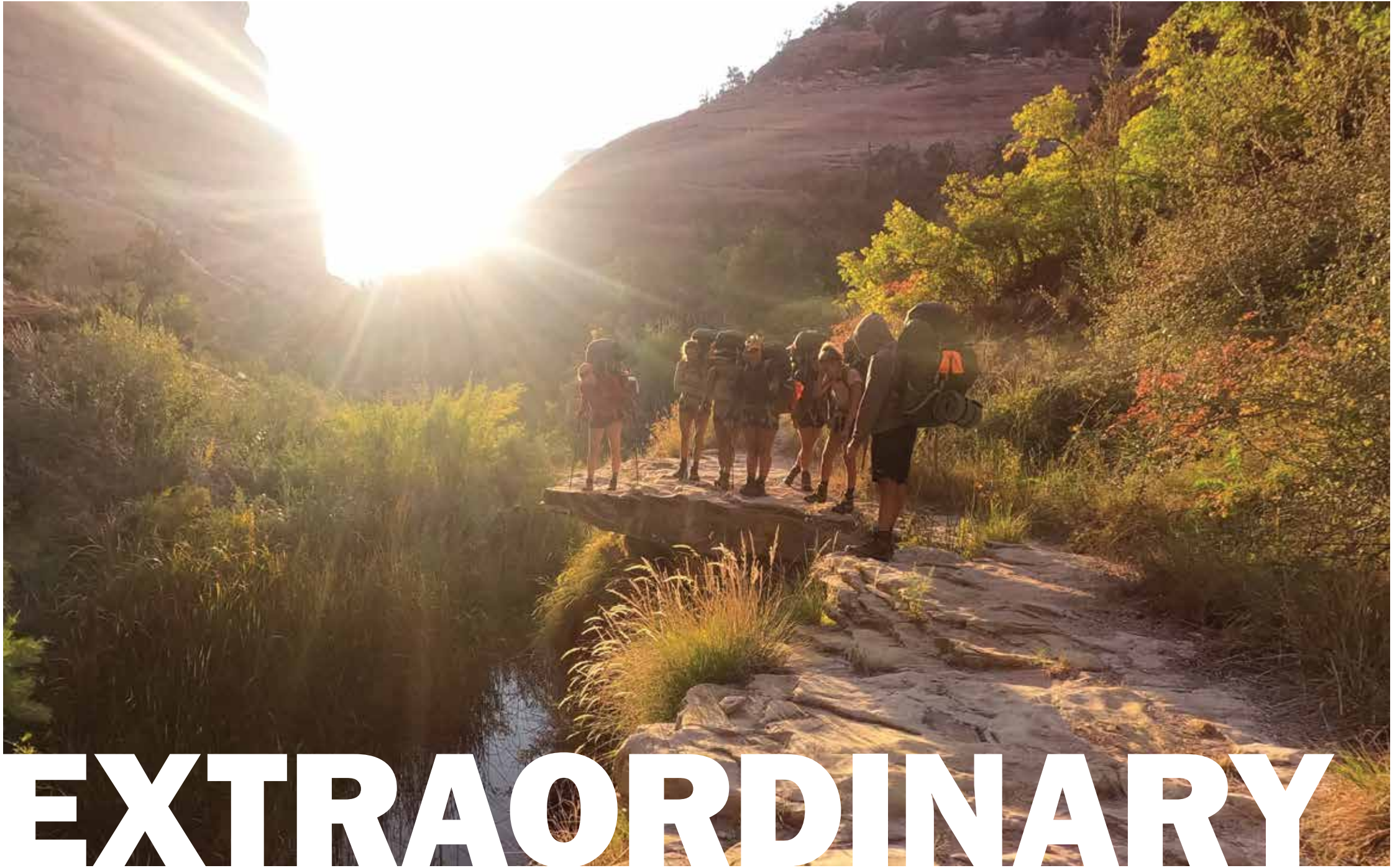
HIGH *when nature & minds meet* **MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE**

IMPACT REPORT

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING MAY 31, 2021

OUR MISSION

The High Mountain Institute engages students with the natural world. Our school boldly unites rigorous intellectual inquiry, experiential learning, wilderness expeditions, and shared responsibility in a strong community. Our students realize their potential—as leaders, independent thinkers, and thoughtful citizens.



**FROM THE
HEAD OF SCHOOL**

Extraordinary.

This might be the word we forever associate with the last eighteen months, both for our country and our school.

Against a backdrop of immense challenges, I am proud to report that HMI rose to the occasion last year, proving once again that transformative outcomes occur when nature and minds meet. Over the last year, with some modifications to our summer session, we ran every major program on our calendar. HMI served more students than ever before, received record numbers of applications, increased Gap enrollment by 100%, achieved new records for annual and capital fundraising, continued to realize the dream of our campus master plan with on-time and under-budget construction, and made significant progress toward achieving our diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. Next year, for example, we will award over \$1,000,000 in need-based financial aid to over 30% of our students. Additionally, over 40% of Semester 47 students self-identify as people of color, and we are adding a new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Finally, we transformed the model of our apprentice program to one that offers a stipend in order to attract more socio-economic diversity to our apprentice cohorts.

This extraordinary time has also highlighted the work we have to do to achieve the promise of HMI’s mission. We continue to ask ourselves how our school can better represent the diversity of the United States, increase access to the outdoors writ large, and adapt our program to serve all students who wish to take advantage of what HM offers to us.

HMI has risen to the challenges of the past year thanks to the extraordinary community who supports us. The names on the following pages of this impact report ensure that our small school is also a mighty one. You inspire and sustain us; we are deeply grateful. Thank you.

Warmly,

Danny O’Brien, Head of School
dobrien@hminet.org | 719-486-8200 x101

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We spoke with two HMI donors about why they commit to making a difference by supporting our school. Here is what they had to share:



Nikki Welch,
*Parent of Semester 43 alum Nathan Curl,
Evergreen Donor*

What does HMI mean to you and what impact has it had on you and your family?

My son was selected to participate in HMI's 43rd Semester during his sophomore year in high school. I had never heard of HMI and had extremely limited information about the program. My son was excited to be selected to attend HMI and as I spoke to parents whose children had attended HMI, their enthusiasm for the program was evident. It was not until Family Weekend that I began to see the true impact that the program had not

only on my son, but on all of the students present. The weekend was so special, everything from the family dinner, to touring the campus and being able to witness the sparkle in every child's eyes, was absolutely amazing.

Why do you give to HMI every month?

My son returned home a different person. More confident, independent, and introspective about his aspirations. Although I do not know every detail of how he spent his time at HMI, I see the impact it has had on his life every day. I want to thank the wonderful staff for creating and supporting a great program. HMI definitely changes lives and that is one of the main reasons I donate monthly. I want other kids who come to HMI to have the same life-changing experience as my son.

Why should other people consider supporting HMI?

I would encourage everyone to make either a monthly or one-time donation to the HMI program. The staff at HMI are exceptional and the program is life-changing for not only students, but families too.



We are so grateful for the many people who help make HMI possible.

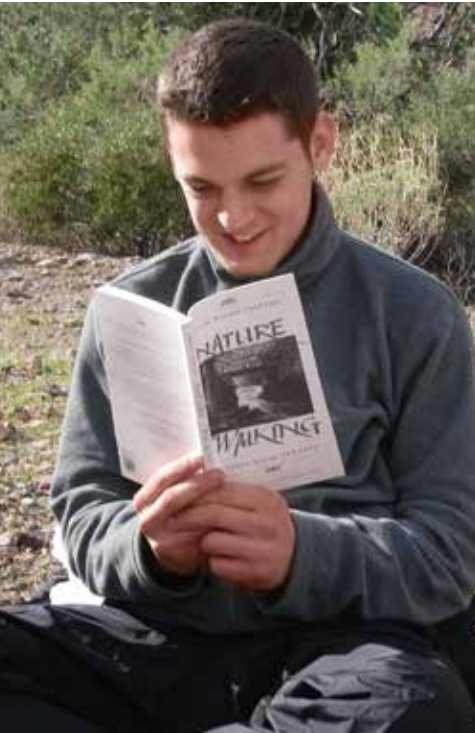
Brandon Kaplan,
Semester 24 Alum (pictured right, 2010)

What does HMI mean to you and what impact has it had on you?

It's hard to put into words what HMI means to me and the impact it's had. Being a part of Semester 24 made me grow astronomically, because it was such a beautiful, very challenging, and unique shared experience. Our surroundings, the natural wonders we saw and climbed, P&P readings, daily happenings, and just developing as a person there made me pay more attention to the world around me and massively kickstarted my sense of adventure. I still frequently think about my time there, and it even has a profound impact on the music I compose to this day. Being at HMI utterly and completely changed me, and I think I am still discovering how big its impact is. That's just how special HMI was and continues to be.

Why do you give to HMI each year?

HMI made me believe I could do the impossible. I give each year because I see it as a way of giving back for what was given to me as a result of my experiences at HMI. It is my way of saying thank you, and I wish I could say thank you a thousand times over. I also give to help HMI for the future, because I want to see them continue to succeed and be amazing.



Why should other people consider supporting HMI?

Think about the impact HMI had on you. What does it mean to you? How do you want to share and honor your experience? Supporting HMI is a small yet impactful way to say thank you, while helping push HMI ever forward into the future and make it more accessible for future generations. It's always said that it takes a village, and this is a village worth supporting.

CAMPAIGN FOR COMMUNITY

THE FINAL PHASE

BREAKING GROUND ON THE FACULTY & STUDENT CENTER

The Faculty & Student Center will address current space limitations to ensure that our facilities match the ambitions of our program.



This spring we broke ground on the Faculty & Student Center which will better enable HMI to deliver on the promise of teaching and learning in the twenty-first century.

The design of the Faculty & Student Center remains aligned with HMI's value of "simple in means, rich in ends." It will match our current campus buildings with natural wood, big windows, and neutral colors—not to

mention stunning views of Mount Elbert and Mount Massive. It will be fully solar powered, along with the rest of campus.

Although campus is undergoing some big physical changes, HMI is still the same school that excitedly welcomed its first students with a piece of swinging plywood standing in for a permanent front door!

THE NEW FACULTY & STUDENT CENTER
WILL PROVIDE MUCH
NEEDED SPACE FOR:

- Three **new classrooms**
- A fully equipped **natural science lab**
- **Dynamic work spaces** for students
- **Productive work spaces** for faculty
- **Gender neutral bathroom facilities** that will help every community member feel at home
- Additional much needed space for our **wilderness gear and rations rooms**



We are excited to announce that thanks to generous donors we soared past our \$6.1 million goal and raised \$6.8 million for the Campaign for Community!





STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

HMI Fund donors make it possible for students to attend HMI regardless of their financial background.

We could not offer generous financial aid without support from YOU!

Our Financial Highlights

We are grateful for and buoyed by the generosity of our community, especially in the wake of such a tumultuous year.

Your generosity emphasizes the importance of our mission and our ability to make positive change in the lives of young people, now more than ever. To the alumni, families, friends, corporations, foundations, and all who contributed, thank you.

- **HMI's served a record number of students (180) and recorded more revenue (\$5,203,243) than ever before!**
- **We increased the percentage of our operating budget going towards financial aid from 21% to 23% in order to provide COVID-19 hardship assistance.**
- **We have successfully surpassed our \$6.1 million Campaign for Community goal by raising \$6.8 million!**
- **Donors contributed a record \$592,432 to the HMI fund, providing financial aid, investing in our faculty and staff, and allowing for critical campus improvements.**
- **Our endowment has grown to \$8,953,432.**

FOR DETAILED AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,
please contact Barrett Donovan, our Director of Communication & Engagement
at bdonovan@hminet.org

Your generosity in action:



\$913,200

granted in need and merit-based
financial aid



23%

of our entire

operating budget

went directly to financial aid,
almost double the national average



27

students received

**100% free
gear rental**



100%

of our

endowment draw

went to financial aid



10

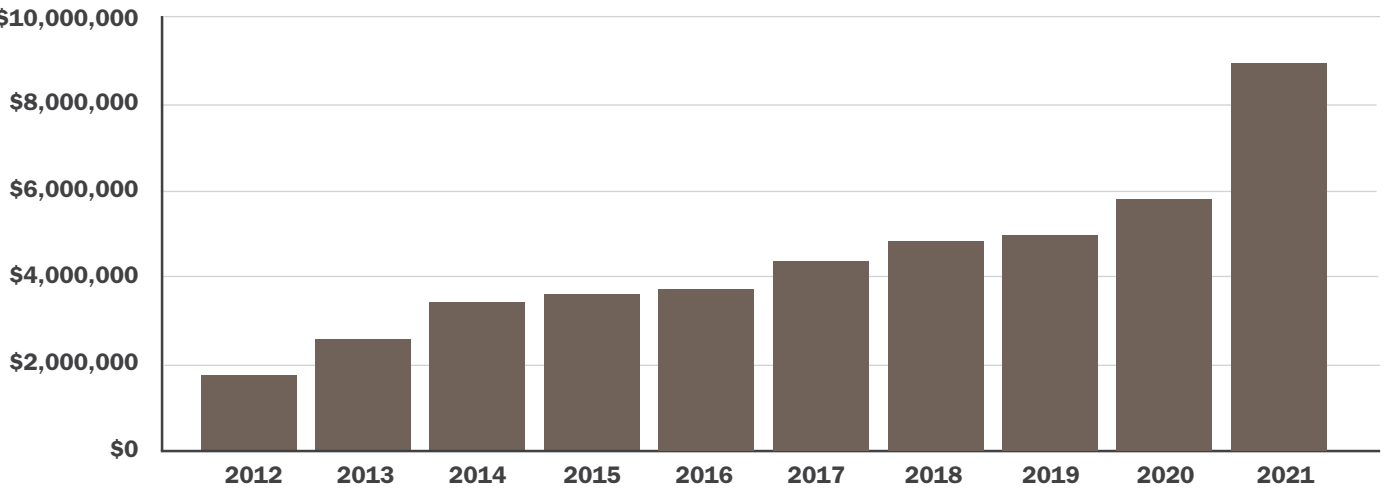
round-trip flights

purchased for students
receiving financial aid

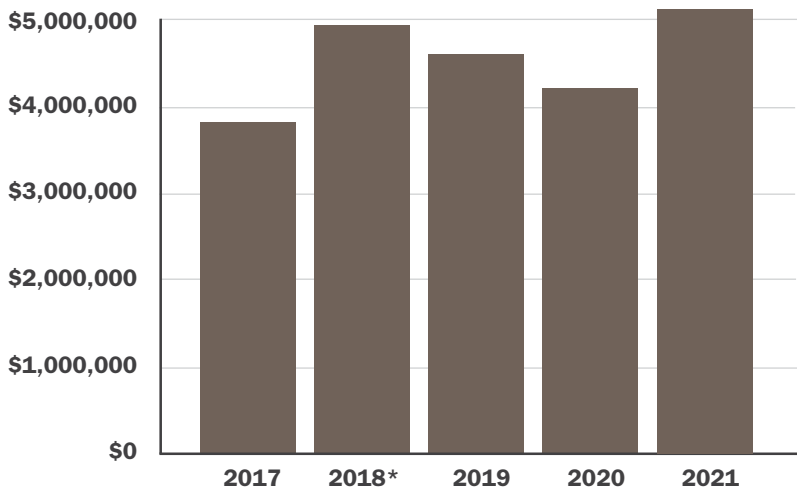
OUR NUMBERS
SPEAK FOR
THEMSELVES

We are proud of our growing endowment and commitment to financial aid, and we are grateful to everyone who helped make such growth possible.

ENDOWMENT GROWTH



OPERATING REVENUE



*adjustment to our end of fiscal calendar caused this number to be larger

APPRENTICE PROGRAM UPDATE

EDUCATION THROUGH EXPERIENCE



Apprentices are college graduates who immerse themselves in a semester-long apprenticeship with the HMI Semester. Each apprentice specializes in a specific academic subject area, helps lead expeditions, and supports residential life activities. Needless to say, the HMI Semester would not be possible (or as vibrant) without them.

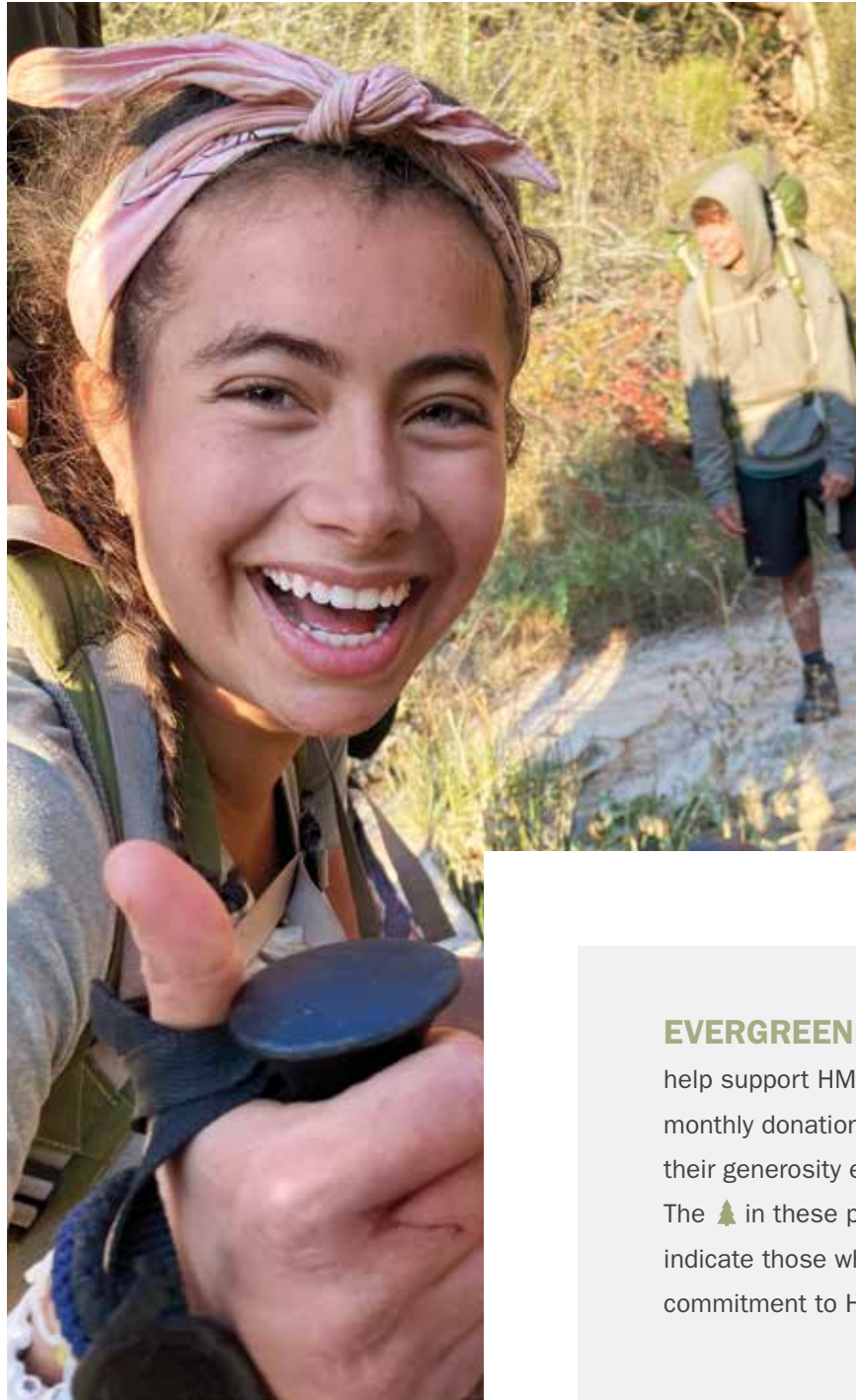
Starting this fall with Semester 47, we are transitioning the Apprentice Program from a tuition-based model to a stipend-based one. Apprentices will receive a \$4,500 stipend in addition to room and board on campus. This transition is intended to help break down barriers to access for wilderness-based employment and to help attract a more economically diverse group of applicants.

As HMI grows and becomes a more accessible and therefore diverse institution, it is important that our apprentice, faculty, and staff cohorts reflect that as well. Historically, many apprentices have returned to HMI as full-time employees and our hope is that as our apprentice cohort diversifies, so too will our employee cohort.

Please contact Avery Kernan, Apprentice Program Coordinator, at akernan@hminet.org or 719-486-8200 x108 with any questions or to learn more about the program.

At HMI, we believe deeply in the philosophy of education through experience.





THANK YOU, DONORS!

With sincere gratitude we list the following donors who have supported HMI in fiscal year 2021 by making gifts to the HMI Fund, Campaign for Community, or endowment. Through their generosity, support, and commitment to our school we can continue to offer transformational experiences when nature and minds meet.

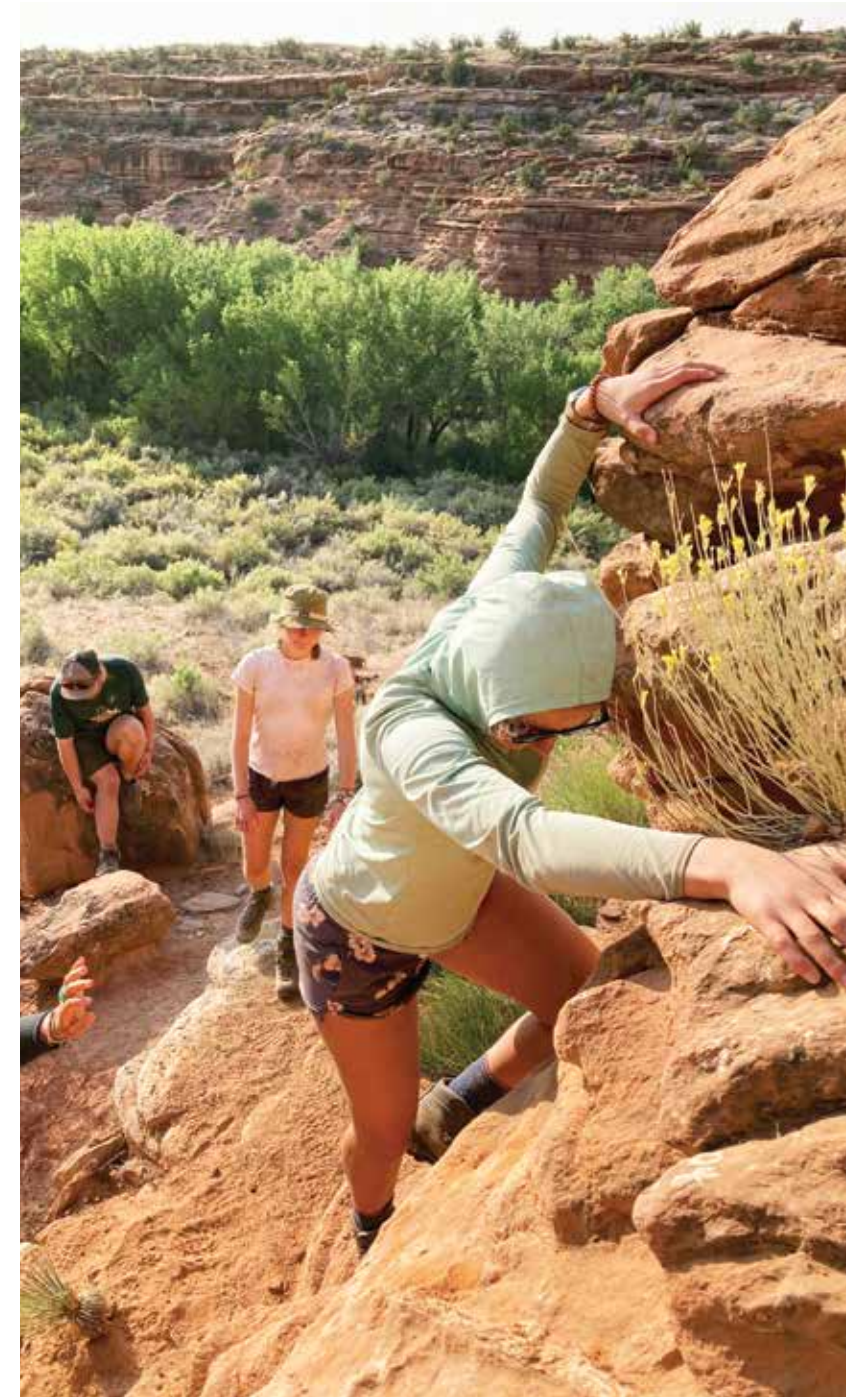
This list reflects donations made to the High Mountain Institute between June 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021. We have made every effort to ensure that this list is complete and accurate. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Barrett Donovan, our Director of Communication & Engagement, with any corrections at bdonovan@hminet.org.

EVERGREEN DONORS

help support HMI all year long by making monthly donations. We are grateful for their generosity each and every month. The 🌲 in these pages of donor listings indicate those who have made a monthly commitment to HMI.

THE MT. ELBERT CIRCLE

recognizes donors who have given consecutively for the last five years or more. This is a remarkable demonstration of loyalty and we are grateful for their steadfast support. The ▲ in these pages of donor listings indicate those who have made this exceptional commitment to HMI.



EXPEDITION LEADERS

The following donors have set themselves apart by making major gifts to our school. It is an honor to acknowledge the tremendous role they play in helping us provide transformative outcomes for our students.

Darren Acheson
& Dr. Carol Peterson ▲
Anonymous
Arctos/Vojta
Christopher & Darcey Bartel
Richard & Sarah Barton
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Frederick Wang ▲
Thomas Wheeler



10,200' CIRCLE

Named after the elevation of Leadville, these donors help us reach extraordinary heights by making donations of \$1,000 or more.



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Molly & Christopher Barnes ▲
Roshan & Sima Bhakta
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Zack Lechter
Erik Levy ▲
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Ben Small
Ellen Smith
Andrew Spina
Taylor Strasburger
Seton Talty ▲

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Our vibrant community of supporters inspires us and
is a testament to the far-reaching impact of our school.



Sprague Ackley & Anna Portinga
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Carolee Shubert ▲	
Diane Silvestri	
Adam & Amy Simon	
Murray Sinclair	
Janet Slate ▲	
Zandy Smith & Chris Beeson	



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Bo Holleran
Angela Page
Eli Robinson ▲

SEMESTER 3

David Barahona ▲
Sam Harlow ▲

SEMESTER 4

Sean Bowditch
Susan Getty ▲
Natalie Niksa
Louise Peppe
Jess Stonberg ▲

SEMESTER 5

Yasmine Dumorné ▲
Jeremy Loeb
Maggie Mink
Carter Stepanovsky
Reyn Whitman ▲

SEMESTER 7

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Amanda Dooley
Jacque Hastings
Meg Hishmeh
Whitney Leonard ▲
Erik Levy ▲
Sam Timberg ▲
Jamie Van Pelt ▲

SEMESTER 8

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Andrew Bernstein ▲
J.P. Bleibtreu
Leigh Browning
Megan Denault ▲
Em Ducharme
Finn Finn
Adam Klaffky
Dan Lustick ▲
Grace Machin ▲
Michelle May ▲
Ruth Poland
Odile Schalit
John Shubert ▲
Abby Smith
Isaiah Thomas 🌲 ▲

SEMESTER 9

Sophie Berglund
Harrison Buck
Liza Cohen
Bern Kenneally
Jen McInnis
Emily Ostroff
Phil Quinn
Zack Redlitz

SEMESTER 10

Liz Bubriski
Michael Gregory
Eliza Parsons ▲
Katie Pehlivan
Sarah Tooke ▲

Alison Ward
P-H Weiner
Kyle Zaffin 🌲 ▲

SEMESTER 11

Alison Kelman
Madeline Wallace O'Brien
Harden Wisebram

SEMESTER 12

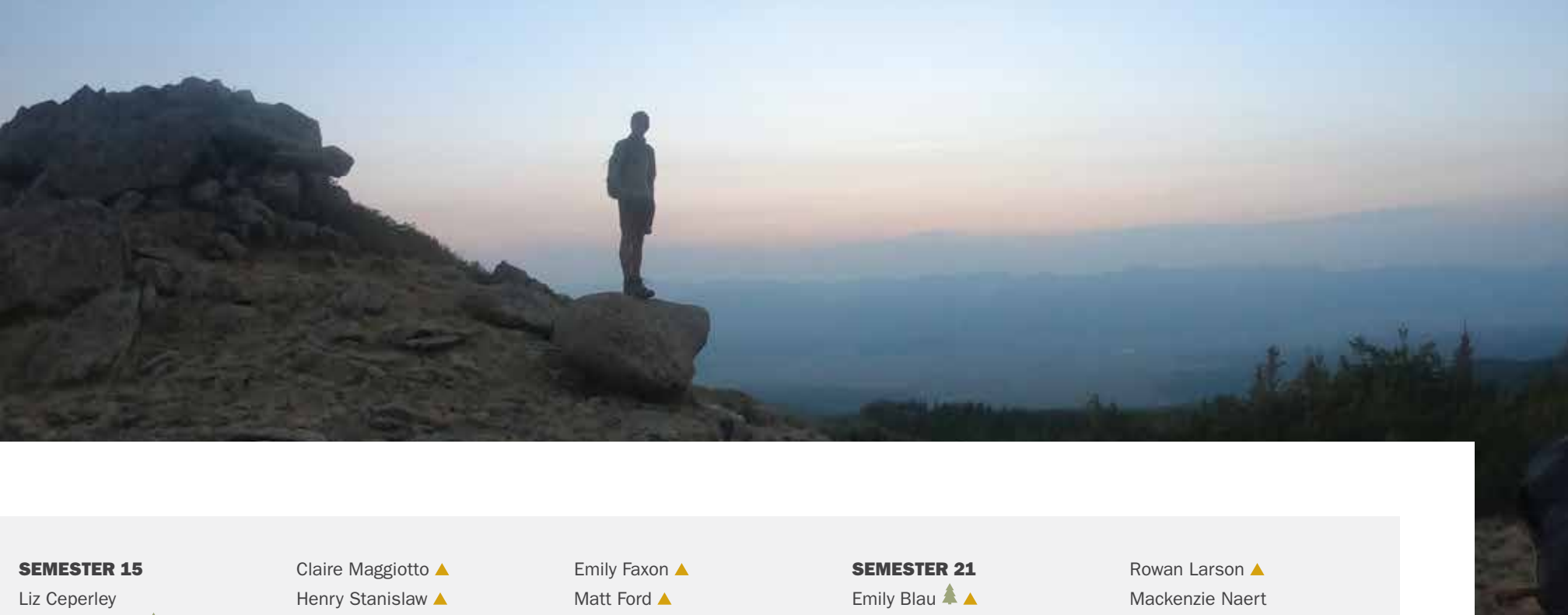
Ali Ashburn
Beth Bai Do ▲
Jess Jong ▲

SEMESTER 13

Frances Chase ▲
Kassie Garfield
Eva Luderowski ▲
Elizabeth Sinclair ▲
Grant Sunderland
Phil Thurner

SEMESTER 14

Clare Ashburn ▲
Jamie Cohen ▲
Hannah Darrin ▲
Lia Engelsted ▲
Kat Engelsted
Emily Gasperetti ▲
Pete Gossens 🌲 ▲
Michael Kearns ▲
Amanda Kesselman
Paul Landsberg ▲
Chris Offensend ▲



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Richard Freund 🌲 ▲
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Peter Kernan
Ray McGaughey ▲
Ali Miller
Hannah Mook ▲
O'Mara Taylor ▲

SEMESTER 16

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Sylvie Lam
Joy Shure
Terrence Word

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Leah Heal ▲
Dana Leonard ▲

Claire Maggiotto ▲
Henry Stanislaw ▲
Robbie Stone
Peter Wilson ▲

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Clare Boals
Sydney Chun ▲
Catie Czajkowski ▲
Nubia Galindo
Hannah Lovejoy
Cori McGinn ▲
Hildy Schott ▲
Cakey Worthington ▲

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Chelsea Dieck ▲
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Matt Ford ▲
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Katie Fellows ▲
Cayla Marvil ▲
Haley Preston ▲
David Scott
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Merrill Clerkin
Fletcher Coleman
Sam Davidson ▲
Becca Doll
Geoff Long ▲
Sophie Ohaus ▲
Will Potter ▲
Rebecca Smith ▲
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Will Smart ▲
Ari Solomon ▲
Andrew Spina
Clark Sulloway ▲
Seton Talty ▲
Micaela Tepler ▲
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Kat Geppert
Melissa Grip
Sarah Hunter
Robby Kuster
Natalie Margolin
Keith Morency
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Alex Potter ▲
Emy Takinami

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Kevin Chun
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Julia Fisher ▲
Mariah Foley ▲
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Scott Fuller ▲
Jill Gardiner
Sunshine Gardner ▲
Alex Garner ▲
Erinn Geyer
Sophie Gibson
Maddi Ginsberg
Mary Loomis ▲
Sarah McGowan
Dan Norton
Annie Preston ▲
Max Silverman
Ellen Smith
Stephany Subdiaz ▲

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Jake Bazilian
Tate Castro 🌲
Olivia Chartier
Leslie Dinkin ▲
Katie Eaton ▲
Kelsey Hoekstra ▲
Dylan Kingsbury
Celeste Murtha
Colleen Orr 🌲 ▲

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Alexa Adams ▲
Phillip Engh
Grace Fowler ▲
Ryan Gilbane
Sam Jacobson
Alex King
Madeline Polese
Rebecca Roman
Andrea Silvestri

SEMESTER 29

Mary Brady
Emily Kelman
Hannah Lufkin
Nate Tsimikas
Duncan Wheeler ▲
Karina Wohlhieter ▲

SEMESTER 30

David Bai ▲
Julia Borges
Laney Feighan ▲
Victoria Garner ▲
Jack Gilbert ▲
Katie Goodman ▲
Jackie Kumble ▲
Josh McCartney
Jesse Metzger ▲
Gretchen O'Brien ▲
Hayley Oliver-Smith ▲
Halle Payne ▲
Barlow Peelle
Griffin Peer ▲

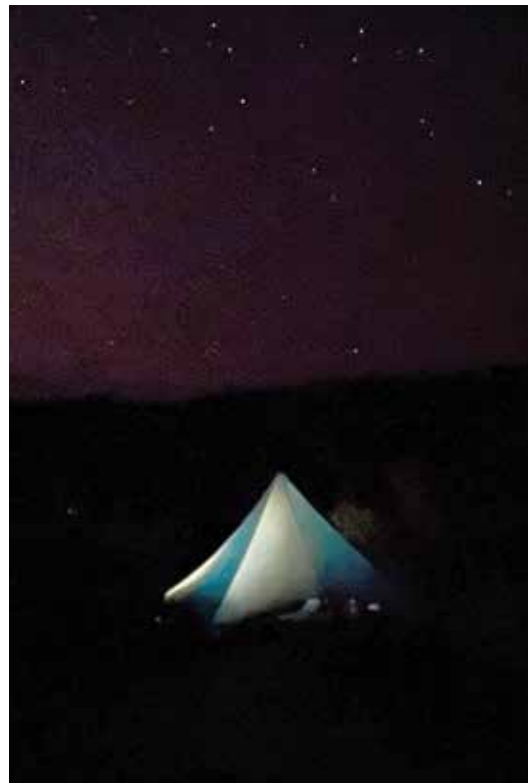
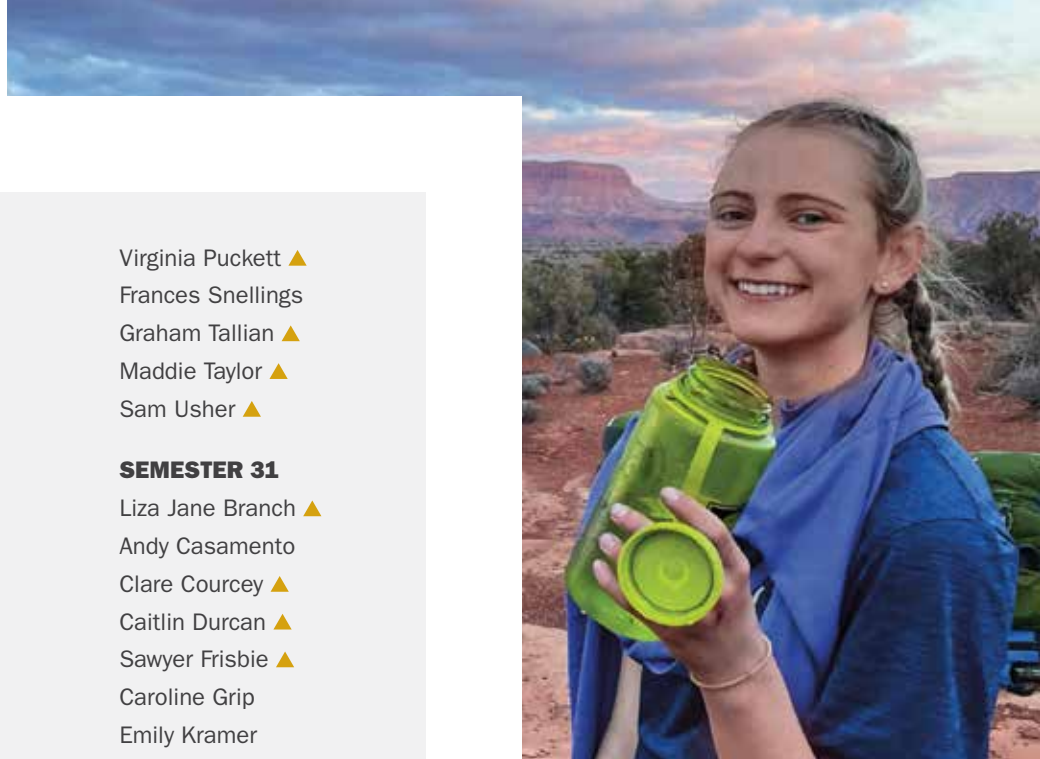
Virginia Puckett ▲
Frances Snellings
Graham Tallian ▲
Maddie Taylor ▲
Sam Usher ▲

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Liza Jane Branch ▲
Andy Casamento
Clare Courcey ▲
Caitlin Durcan ▲
Sawyer Frisbie ▲
Caroline Grip
Emily Kramer
David Lamis
Anna Malvin ▲
Louisa McBride
Isabel Merrell ▲
Liza Potter ▲
Maddy Runyon
Emily Shannon ▲
Freddy Short
Caroline Zerilli ▲

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Sophie Drew ▲
Ethan Goroff ▲
Sophie Jensen ▲
Alex Pachter
Sydney Stein
Livia Wallick ▲
Rebecca Wertheimer





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Wayan Buschman
Jasmin Dickinson
Colin Eaton
Frances Erlandson
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Evan Holland
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Cian McGillicuddy
Grace Moses
Elizabeth Orr ▲
Jonathan Schmidt
Caitlin Webers ▲
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Chris Brakey
Anya Carter
Natalie Cohen
Claire Cousineau
Laura Davison ▲
Lorin DeMuth
Will Donaldson
Altana Elings-Haynie ▲
Tressa Fallon ▲
Jessi Friedman ▲
Zack Glosser
Hannah Goldstein ▲
David Henderson
Westly Joseph ▲

Andrew Koning
Gigi Lavigne
Claire Maurer
Echo Miller-Barnes ▲
Grace Murray ▲
Alex Naddaff
Gabe Nass ▲
Brooke Petterson
Lars Schuster
Helen Sears
Eric Wilke

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Molly Gardner ▲
Sam Kwon
Molly Lovett ▲
Hannah Lucas
Rachel Nahirny
Charlotte Schwebel ▲
George Sidamon-Eristoff
Alex Tomb ▲
Emma Trapani ▲

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George Cole
Jay Hamel ▲
Liv Henrikson
Jason Holzberg
Stokes Kandzari ▲
Zoe Loomis
Erin Paglione ▲
Noah Richmond

Emma Rubinson
Dimitri Somoff
Nick Tzannes
Jack Viergever

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Joji Baratelli ▲
Nicholas Becker ▲
Miles de Loayza ▲
Luke Dewees ▲
Emma Galambos
Mia Gates ▲
Leah Granger ▲
Emilia Hoppe
Jesse Leener ▲
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Nick Schine ▲
Hannah Scott ▲
Patrick Stevenson ▲
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Anonymous

Meaghan Cuniffe
Nora Greeley
Victoria Joseph
Jake Lamazor
Apple Lieser
Drew Manning ▲
Everett Metchick
Owen Oktay
Tether Preston
Luke Robins
Isabelle Ross
Kate Simon
Hillary Swimmer

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Cricket Barnes
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Jessie Cali
Hannah Constable
Hazel Delehey
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McKinlay Daggatt
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Brittney Randle
Abi Reigel
Sophie Schadler
Amelia Smith

Anna Solomon
Benjamin Stein
Roya Touran

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Leah Antonatos
Sam Asher
Lizi Barrow
Emma Bartholomay
Sydney Berger
Jenny Bram
Patrick Cambria
Nathaniel Cutler
Cole Dupee
Wyatt Ellison

Eunice Gao
Zane Hankin
Courtney Horner
Jack Horowitz
Paige Indritz
Lexi Kaminski
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Lucia-Rae Ginsberg
Virginia Norfleet
SJ O'Connor
Eli Webb
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Kendall Bartel
Spencer Billings
Gus Boden

Mae Browning
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Lucy Chant
Nathan Curl
Gwen Field
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Julia Scott
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Drew Bolotsky
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Molly Egan
Charlie Garcia
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Eloise Hartford
Nnennaya Ihejirika
Sophie Johnson
Anna Keon

Jenna Koerner
Dylan Kotlowitz
James Lane
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Caroline Loescher
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Fritze Mayer
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Angie Oscar Orrego
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Harry Robison
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Lucie Schwarz
Annabelle Swenson
Sophia Vlastaris
Ben Wagner
Sam Yolles

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Gideon Berrie
Sedi-Anne Blachford
Geonna Bowers
Henry Burkhardt
Oziel Cime
Lucy Faulkner
Gemma Fink
Kate Flaherty
Sophie Frandsen
Asa Gartrell
Grace Gassel
Levi Goldberg
Maggie Green

Molly Hackett
Geir Hartl
Grant Helgestad
Perrin Hinds
Jeremy Jarecki
Tuleh Jennings
Liam Kelly
Lilia Klingler
Sydney Locke
Emily Lopez
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Declan Myers-Brown
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Mariema Tall
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Skyler Williams
Aksel Young

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THE LEADING EDGE ALUMNI**
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Alexandra Fogel
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Emma Hochberg

Bella Lucente
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Katie Overstrum ▲
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We are grateful to the following corporations who so generously support their employees' philanthropic efforts and provided matching gifts to HMI.

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Alliance Bernstein Corporation	Nike
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Apple	Rucker Properties
Bank of America	T-Rowe Price
Brookfield Property Partners	Yelp
Cardinal Health	Yum
FTI Consulting	Zoo

MATCHING GIFTS INDIVIDUALS

We are grateful to the following individuals who helped to secure matching gifts for HMI from their employers.

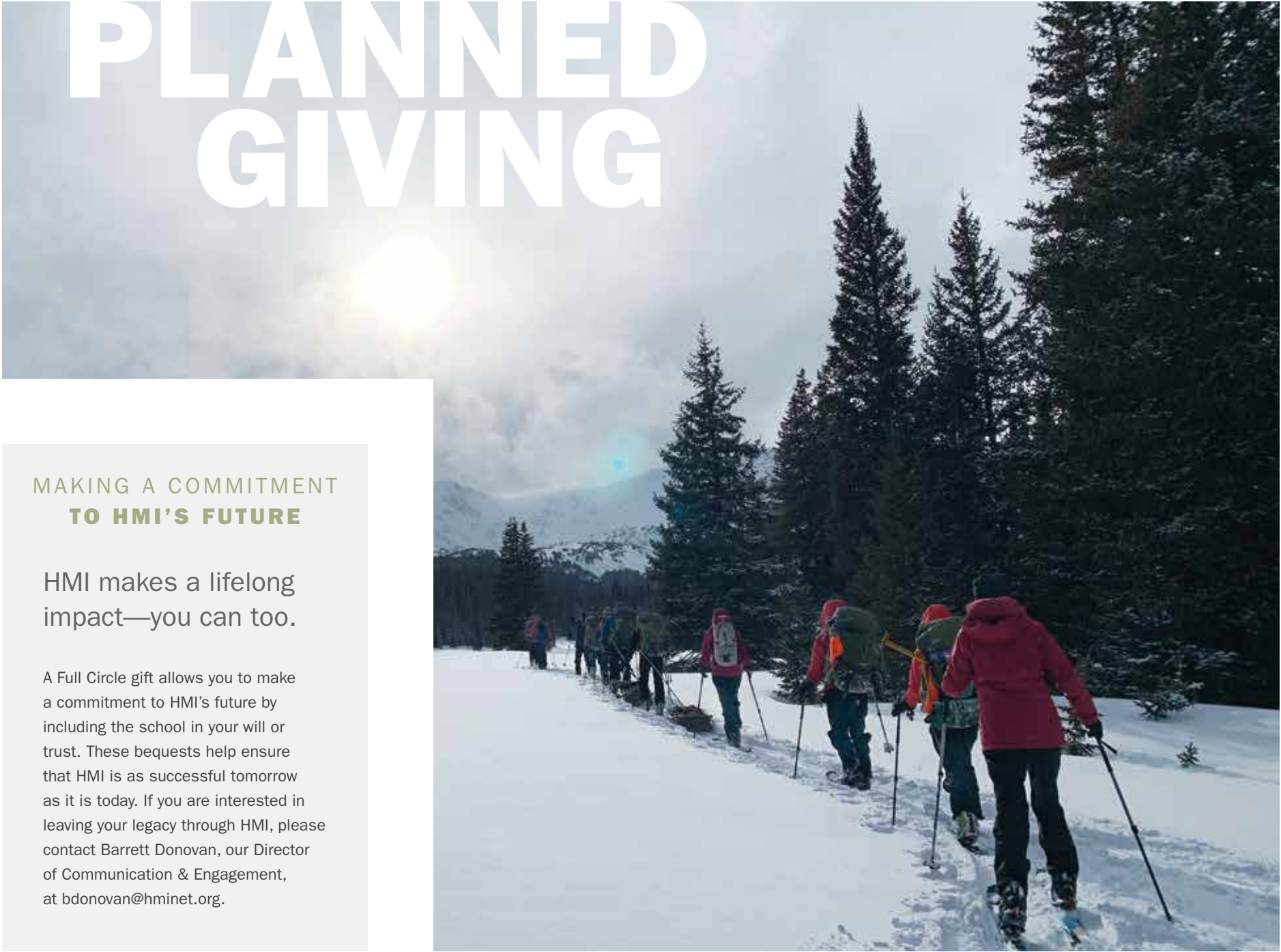
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Mark Brown & Terry Meyers	Leo & Katrinka McCallum
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Chelsea Dieck ▲	Timothy Prister
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Joede Schoberlein
& Civic Forum Associates, Inc

Wilderness Sports
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TO HMI'S FUTURE

HMI makes a lifelong
impact—you can too.

A Full Circle gift allows you to make a commitment to HMI's future by including the school in your will or trust. These bequests help ensure that HMI is as successful tomorrow as it is today. If you are interested in leaving your legacy through HMI, please contact Barrett Donovan, our Director of Communication & Engagement, at bdonovan@hminet.org.

THANK YOU TO **OUR VOLUNTEERS**

The following lists recognize just some of the people who have contributed their time and talent to advance HMI forward. Their generosity and spirit of service is inspiring! These volunteers give to HMI in many different ways and we are fortunate to have them as such integral parts of our community.

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- Misha Charles
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