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The Sun Foundation



The Sun Foundation for Advancement in the Environmental Sciences and Arts, Inc. is dedicated to investing in educational opportunities for children and the general public by:

- *Providing innovative and environmental sciences and arts programs;*
- *Engaging audiences and students with outstanding artists, engineers, architects, geologists, archeologists and scientists; and*
- *Promoting in-depth knowledge, creativity, firsthand learning and stewardship.*

CLEAN WATER CELEBRATION ENVIRONMENTAL CLASSROOM

The 25th annual Clean Water Celebration engaged more than 2,000 middle and high school students, 180 teachers and the general public in discovering the many ways we can conserve and restore our most precious resource, water, and other natural resources of Planet Earth.

This year's theme was "Prospecting for Water on the Moon." Dr. Jacqueline Quinn, NASA engineer, inventor and payload manager for the Resource Prospector Mission, gave an overview of the mission and addressed career opportunities for students at NASA. Poised to launch in 2021, the mission is a three-day journey to the moon to search for subsurface water, hydrogen and other volatiles.

In addition, dozens of interactive exhibits, breakout sessions and workshops by artists and scientists were presented. The Clean Water Celebration promotes stewardship and helps schools meet their state learning goals and standards. Awards are given to schools, individuals and organizations for outstanding

contributions in community water-quality projects.

The program is made possible by a volunteer committee, Illinois American Water Company, grants, public donations and other sponsors. For the past 25 years, more than 56,000 students and their teachers have learned how to become active community stewards through the Clean Water Celebration Environmental Classroom.

ART AND SCIENCE IN THE WOODS

Art and Science in the Woods will take place June 12-16, 2017 at the Sun Foundation's Art and Nature Center. In nature's classroom, 460 students ages six to 18 will learn and have fun in the beautiful Illinois River Valley. Students will be taught by inspiring artists, engineers, archaeologists, geologists, scientists and survival skills instructors, while taking in the natural beauty of the outdoors. Students will study in six habitats: a freshwater marsh, oak-hickory forest, million-year-old fossil beds, restored wetland and prairies, and ponds.

One hundred volunteers serve as teaching assistants, medical staff, and maintenance and administrative assistants. Sharon Obery, program coordinator, and dedicated staff will provide support for Art and Science in the Woods' 43rd year.

The program now serves the third generation, reaching 19,780 students. Several former students, now professionals, have returned to become instructors for the program. This year, 96 Art and Science in the Woods financial-need scholarships were awarded to central Illinois students.



The Sun Foundation

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Mission

To strengthen and advance the arts and environmental sciences in rural and urban communities by providing quality and innovative programs, services, publications, research, re-granting financial support, and cooperative efforts for the general public, underserved groups, schools, Illinois artists and local arts organizations.

Community Arts Access

The Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, awarded the Sun Foundation a \$9,870 grant for community and public arts programs for re-granting in Bureau, Marshall, Stark and Woodford counties. With this grant and matching community funds, the Sun Foundation awarded \$11,500 to 13 schools, arts organizations and community groups throughout Woodford, Bureau, Marshall and Stark counties.

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How to Help

Tax-deductible donations to support the programs and financial-need scholarships can be made online at sunfoundation.org or via postal mail to the address above. For in-kind donations and volunteer opportunities, please contact us at info@sunfoundation.org.