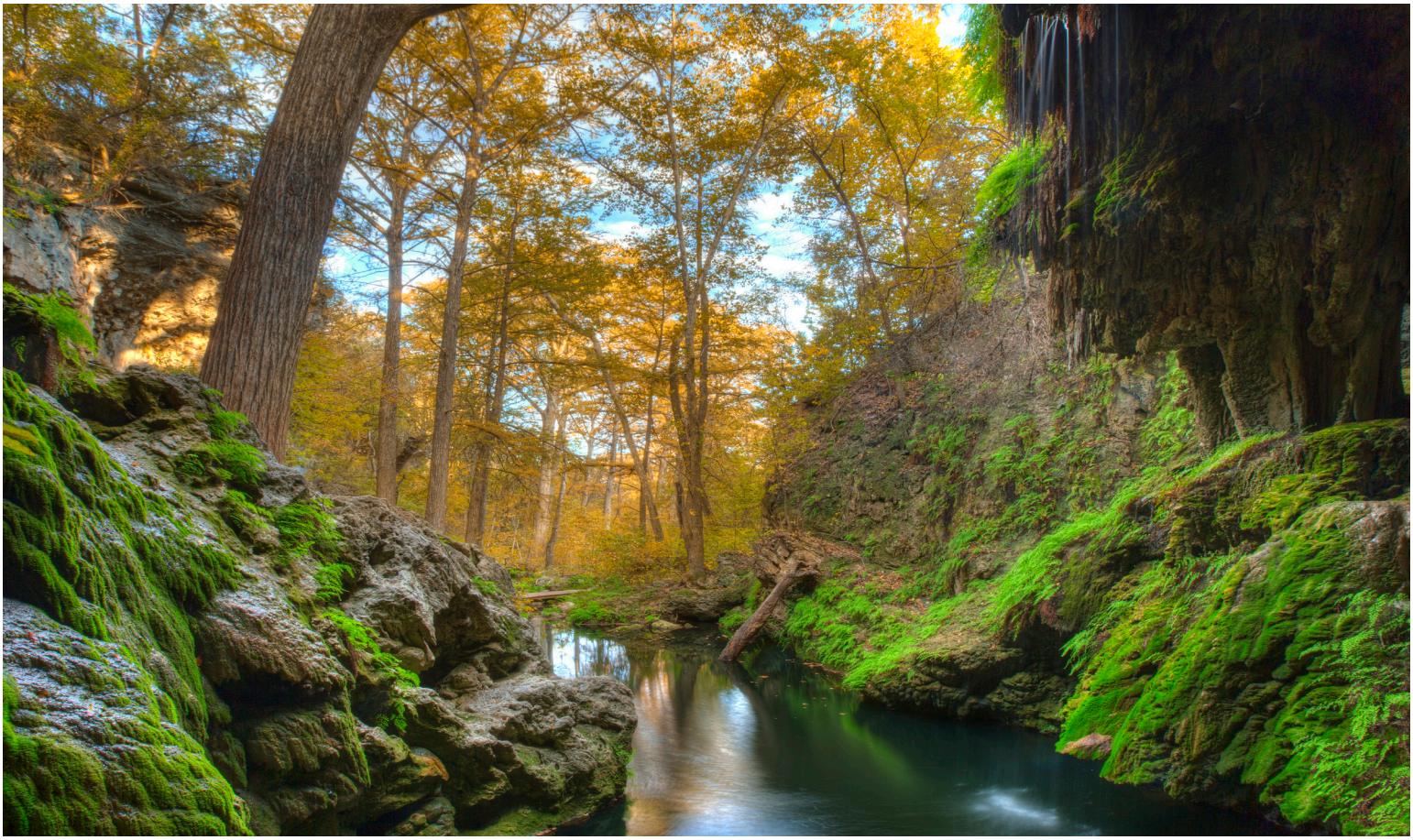
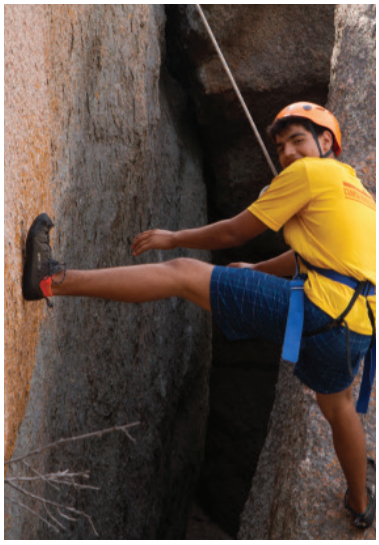


a celebration of children in nature
awards presentation and dinner



September 20, 2018
6 - 9 pm
Fairmont Hotel

A delightful event benefiting
Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center and the
Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin (CiNCA)

Presenting Sponsor

H-E-B

WESTCAVE
OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER

"Westcave's Celebration of Children in Nature is becoming one of those must-do affairs."

– Michael Barnes, social columnist for the Austin American-Statesman

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Josh Winkler

Dear Friends,

Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center invites you to come together with more than 300 community leaders and friends for one of the most enjoyable and meaningful events of the year – the 11th Annual Celebration of Children in Nature.

Funds raised through this event support the good work of the Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin (CiNCA), a core program of Westcave. CiNCA is a mighty force for good, catalyzing 60+ nonprofit and business member organizations with environmental educators, health professionals and business leaders working together to connect children with the outdoors. Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center leads this collaborative, because we believe forming such strategic alliances always yields the best possible results.

Please join us for our 11th Annual Celebration of Children in Nature Awards Dinner, as we honor the most innovative leaders dedicated to creating our next generation of environmental stewards.

We also ask you to consider supporting the critically important work of CiNCA by becoming a sponsor for this year's Celebration of Children in Nature. Attached to this letter is a description of the sponsorship opportunities and the benefits associated with each.

We would be happy to meet with you regarding your possible attendance and sponsorship, and look forward to contacting you soon. In the meantime, please know how much we appreciate all of the good work you do in our community, and thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

William "Buddy" Steele
Attorney, Locke Lord LLP
Chairman, Board of Directors
Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center

Peggy Winkler
Honorary Committee Chair
Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center

Evan Smith, Master of Ceremonies

Why we're working so hard to get kids outside:

- The average American boy or girl spends more than 8 hours each day in front of electronic screens.
- Some of our most disturbing childhood trends, such as the rise in obesity, attention disorders and depression, are linked to this increasing divide between children and nature.
- Research shows that children who spend time outside in nature are healthier, happier, and perform better academically.
- Engaging children with the natural world helps them succeed in school and in life.

Who is participating and working together?

Funds raised at our 2018 event will support the Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin, or CiNCA. CiNCA is comprised of these member organizations, joined with numerous teachers and other community leaders – all working together to connect children with the outdoors.

American Realty
American Youthworks
Austin EcoNetwork
Austin Independent School District
Austin Parks Foundation
Austin Parks and Recreation Department
Austin Youth River Watch
Barton Springs Conservancy
Biomimicry Texas
Boy Scouts of America
Camp Fire Central Texas
Child, Inc.
City of Austin Watershed Protection Department
City of Austin Parks & Recreation
Colorado River Alliance
Earth Native Wilderness School
EcoRise Youth Innovations
El Buen Samaritano
El Ranchito
The Expedition School
Explore Austin
Families in Nature
The Inside Outside School
Keep Austin Beautiful
Locke Lord LLP
The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
National Parks Conservation Association
National Wildlife Federation
Native Plant Society of Texas
Newland Communities
Not Your Ordinary School (NYOS)
Paleontological Society of Austin
Partners for Education Agriculture & Sustainability
Premier High School
Science Mill
The Sierra Club
Sustainable Food Center
TBG Partners
Texas Children in Nature
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Travis Audubon Society
TreeFolks
Waller Creek Conservancy
Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center
Wortham Insurance
YMCA of Austin

100+ Teachers and Individuals

Collaboration Strengthens Our Impact!

CiNCA members are doing amazing work in our community. Here are just a few examples:

LEGACY CAMP: Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center, through the Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin, hosted its first ever regional Legacy Camp, a five-day, four-night camping retreat for young, diverse leaders (ages 18 - 29). The camp helped develop the next generation of conservationists by focusing on leadership and outdoor skills, building relationships through outdoor experiences, and networking with local government and nonprofit leaders.

Partners: The Children & Nature Network (C&NN), Shield Ranch, Texas Children in Nature (TCiN), Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center and CiNCA partners: El Ranchito, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Families in Nature, Explore Austin and Austin EcoNetwork.

CITIES CONNECTING CHILDREN TO NATURE (CCCN): A national initiative of the National League of Cities (NLC) and the Children & Nature Network aiding cities in planning and implementing new strategies that enable all children to play, learn, and grow in nature. The City of Austin (COA) is one of 6 cities selected, out of more than 80 applicants, participating in the first roll-out of this program.

Partners: The City of Austin, Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center, and CiNCA partners: Austin Independent School District, University of Texas Health Science Center and YMCA of Austin.

THE ROADRUNNER OUTDOOR ADVENTURE BUS: Transportation is a barrier for too many low-income families who want to spend time in nature. That's why Westcave and other CiNCA member organizations created a campaign for The Roadrunner Outdoor Adventure Bus! The bus is being used by Title I schools for outdoor adventures at free or reduced costs, as well as many other schools and nonprofit organizations looking to allow kids to participate in programs hosted by dozens of environmental nonprofits in Austin. Within it's 1st year of operation, over 2,000 children and families have traversed to outdoor spaces via the Roadrunner.

Partners: Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center, Austin Independent School District, Impact Austin, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 3M and all CiNCA member organizations.

TEXAS YOUTH HUNTING PARTNERSHIP: Working with the Texas Youth Hunting Program (TYHP), Families in Nature, and local landowners, we are connecting children and their families with a lost piece of Texas heritage. While espousing the values of land conservation and individual land ethic, TYHP instructors teach hunter safety and help new youth hunters decide if and when they should harvest their first animal. This unique program leverages our connections across the conservation spectrum and unites children with a unique form of outdoor recreation which is rarely enjoyed by those living in cities.

Partners: Texas Youth Hunting Programs, Families in Nature, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas Wildlife Association.

GIRLS OUTSIDE: In partnership with TPWD and AISD, Westcave launched the Girls Outside program to provide a unique experience for 300 girls from title I schools. These girls have taken a journey through the Pedernales Watershed, while growing through mentorship, learning about environmental science and discovering career opportunities in conservation.

Honoring Those Who Lead the Way

This year, Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center will host it's **10th Annual Celebration of Children in Nature** to honor the best and brightest in our community working to connect children and families to the outdoors.

Award recipients for the past 5 years include:

E. Lee Walker Award for Collaboration

2017 - City of Austin, Parks & Recreation Department, Cities Connecting Children to Nature
2016 – Marya Fowler - National Wildlife Federation &
Anne Muller - Austin ISD
for Discovery Hill Outdoor Learning Center
2015 - Sebastian Casarez
2014 – EcoRise Youth Innovations
2013 – Sustainable Food Center: Sprouting Healthy Kids Program

John Covert Watson Award for Vision

2017 – Dr. Bonnie Baskin, Science Mill
2016 – The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
2015 – Luci & Ian Family Garden at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
2014 – Texas Parks and Wildlife: Texas Buffalo Soldiers Program
2013 – Heather Kuhlken, Founder of Austin Families in Nature

John F. Ahrns Award for Environmental Education

2017 – Keep Austin Beautiful
2016 – Collins van Nort, Earth Kids at Barton Hills Elementary School
2015 – Rachel Brice, Inside Outside School
2014 – Mrs. Lauren Maples, Cunningham Elementary School
2013 – City of Austin Earth Camp

Westcave Award for Enduring Dedication

2017 – Jennifer L. Bristol, Texas Children in Nature
2016 – Phyllis Schunck, The Casis Forest at Casis Elementary School
2015 – Terri Siegenthaler, El Ranchito and Shield Ranch
2014 – Austin Youth River Watch

Sponsorship Opportunities

PRESENTING: H-E-B
- 20 tickets to the exclusive VIP reception and Celebration of Children in Nature event
- Opportunity to speak from the podium
- Primary logo recognition on event invitations
- Prominent logo recognition at event and on all print and electronic event materials
- Primary inclusion in press release and social media

GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER: $10,000 (LIMIT FIVE)
- Invitation to a private tour of the beautiful Westcave Preserve for 20 friends
- 10 tickets to the VIP reception and Celebration of Children in Nature event
- Logo recognition on event invitations
- Logo recognition at event and on all print and electronic event materials
- Inclusion in press release and social media

MONARCH BUTTERFLY: $6,000 (LIMIT TEN)
- Westcave Passes to Westcave Preserve for 10 friends
- 10 tickets to the Celebration of Children in Nature event with 4 tickets to the VIP reception
- Logo recognition on event invitations
- Logo recognition at event and on all print and electronic event materials
- Inclusion in press release and social media

WILD ORCHID: $3,500
- Westcave Passes to Westcave Preserve for 4 friends
- 10 tickets to the Celebration of Children in Nature event
- Logo recognition on event invitations
- Logo recognition at event and on all print and electronic event materials
- Inclusion in press release and social media

Underwritting Opportunities:

DESSERT PARTY: $7,500

COCKTAIL RECEPTION: $8,500

A/V & LIGHTING: $6,500

All underwritten portions of the evening include 10 tickets to the event and name recognition on all event materials and unique signage throughout at the event.

We kindly request confirmation of sponsorship by July 10 to be included in the printed and email invitations, and by August 10 to be included in the printed program and signage.

Thank you to our recent past sponsors!

Austin Parks Foundation
Holly & Jim Bohart
Lynn & Hayden Brooks
Laura Scanlan Cho & Ken Cho
Robin & Malcolm Cooper
Camp Fire Central Texas
El Ranchito
H-E-B
Henna Chevrolet
Terry Hershey
Locke Lord
Jackson & McElhaney Architects
Carolyn & Jack Long
The Cynthia & George Mitchell Foundation
Kathleen C. Mack & John Blazier
Jennifer Mull Neuhaus & David Neuhaus
National Wildlife Federation
Newland Communities
Patagonia
Pam & Mike Reese
Suzy & Ken Rowley
Nancy Scanlan & John Covert Watson
Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation
Margot & Grant Thomas
Thundercloud Subs
Jennifer Vickers & E. Lee Walker
Wells Fargo
Peggy & Matt Winkler
Whole Earth Provision Co.
YMCA of Austin

WESTCAVE
OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER

A Celebration of Children in Nature • A delightful event benefiting Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center and the Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin (CiNCA)

Please return this form with payment by July 10 to be included in the printed and email invitations, and by August 10 be included in the printed program and signage. Please mail to Westcave's administrative office, at the address below:

Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center,
c/o Addie Broussard
603 W. 13th Street
Ste. 2D
Austin, TX 78701

If you would prefer to give online, please visit www.westcave.org to make your secure contribution.

Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization. Your payment is tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowable by law. Note: for tax purposes, the estimated fair market value of a table for 10 is $750, or $75 per individual.

____ $25,000 Presenting Sponsor - includes 20 tickets

____ $10,000 Golden-cheeked Warbler Sponsor – includes 10 tickets

____ $6,000 Monarch Butterfly Sponsor – includes 10 tickets

____ $3,500 Wild Orchid Sponsor – includes 10 tickets

____ I would like to purchase _____# of tickets ($200 each) in addition to those included with sponsorship benefits above

Sponsor Name (Please list name as you would like it printed in event materials.)

_____

Name of Contact Person:_____

Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone:_____

Email:_____

I / We would like to remain anonymous: ____Yes ____ No

____ Check enclosed. Please make payable to Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center.

____ Please charge sponsorship level (and additional event tickets, if ordered) to my:

____Visa ____ MC ____AMEX

Total to be charged: _____

Name on Card: _____

Card #: _____

Exp. Date:_____ CVC Code: _____

For more information, please call Addie Broussard at (512)276-2257, ext. 101.