



## a celebration of children in nature awards presentation and dinner



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



**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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Evan Smith, Master of  
Ceremonies

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 10th Annual Celebration of Children in Nature.

Funds raised through this event support the good work of the Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin (CiNCA). CiNCA is a mighty force for good, catalyzing 50+ 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 2018, 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



## 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	Locke Lord LLP
American Youthworks	The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
Austin EcoNetwork	National Parks Conservation Association
Austin Independent School District	National Wildlife Federation
Austin Parks Foundation	Native Plant Society of Texas
Austin Parks and Recreation Department	Newland Communities
Austin Youth River Watch	Not Your Ordinary School (NYOS)
Barton Springs Conservancy	Paleontological Society of Austin
Biomimicry Texas	Partners for Education Agriculture & Sustainability
Boy Scouts of America	Premier High School
Camp Fire Central Texas	Science Mill
City of Austin Watershed Protection Department	The Sierra Club
City of Austin Parks & Recreation	Sustainable Food Center
Colorado River Alliance	TBG Partners
Earth Native Wilderness School	Texas Children in Nature
EcoRise Youth Innovations	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
El Buen Samaritano	Travis Audubon Society
El Ranchito	TreeFolks
The Expedition School	Waller Creek Conservancy
Explore Austin	Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center
Families in Nature	Wortham Insurance
The Inside Outside School	YMCA of Austin
Keep Austin Beautiful	
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center	<b>100+ Teachers and Individuals</b>



## 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. Westcave and its partners are also gearing up to host a 2nd regional camp in 2018 with a goal of doubling the size of the current network.

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.



## Honoring Those Who Lead the Way

This year, Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center will host its **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:

- 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

### Underwriting 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





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](http://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

\_\_\_ \$5,500 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.