

Durango Nature Studies 2004 Annual Report



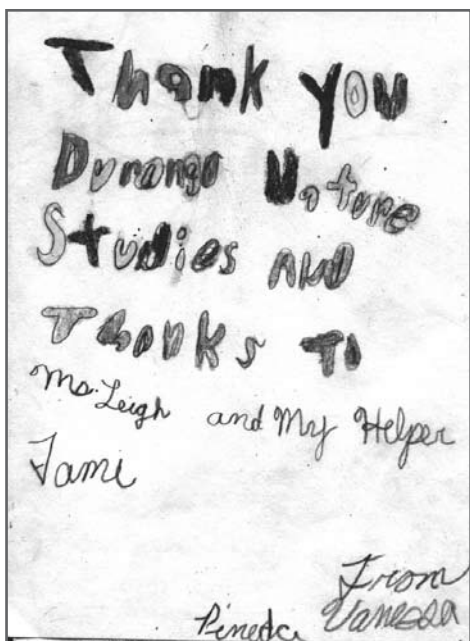
In winter 1993, four friends, Winston Dines, Caroline Johnson, Janet Kenna and Ann Rilling, gathered over coffee to give voice to a dream—their dream of educating communities in the Four Corners about the wonders of the natural world. Over the course of ten years, that vision has been forged into a reality by a host of dedicated community members. Since its inception a decade ago, Durango Nature Studies has grown from a fledgling nature center into a thriving environmental education organization with an expanding impact on the region. We have accomplished a great many things in that time, including:

- Established the 140 acre Durango Nature Center
- Served 64,000 people of all ages
- Trained more than 265 volunteer naturalists
- Brought hands-on learning experiences to 60 different schools in Colorado and New Mexico
- Provided outdoor teaching techniques to more than 300 educators and agency professionals.



"Kids are so eager to absorb information. It is pretty amazing how little experience many kids have with the outdoors and nature. Nothing feels better than introducing new concepts or ideas into these bright youngsters. Hopefully we have sparked an interest or maybe just a little respect and awe for the outdoors, both big and little, beautiful or ugly, awesome or simply awestruck."

Spring 2004 volunteer naturalist training alum.



Today, Durango Nature Studies offers a wide array of programs and services an average annual audience of close to 10,000 people, from Silverton to Farmington and Pagosa Springs to Cortez.

Nature hikes, classroom outreach, educational talks and films, summer camps, snowshoe expeditions, and workshops on topics as diverse as geology and nature drawing bring the wonders of nature to young and old alike.

As Durango Nature Studies launches into its second decade of service to the community, our goal remains to enhance our community's understanding and appreciation of the natural world. From the delicate silk of a spider's web to the rugged beauty of a mountain cliff, our natural surroundings are teeming with lessons about our world and ourselves. We plan to bring hands-on outdoor nature education to our community long into the future.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The educational programming offered by Durango Nature Studies continued to grow in 2004 with 9,136 people served during 17,861 contact hours. Our Day Camps and Special Youth Programs showed a tremendous increase of 203%, with 435 additional participants from 2003. This was in large part due to new partnership programs with Durango Mountain Resort, Sun Ute Recreation Center, Dalton Ranch, the Children's Museum and the Cortez Library.

In celebration of our 10 year anniversary, a renewed effort was made to "get the word out" about Durango Nature Studies during Community Outreach events. Thanks to the efforts of two dedicated long term volunteers, DNS has a presence at events ranging from an Earth Day Celebration in April to the Durango Marathon Harvest Festival in October. Due

to this huge effort, DNS saw an increase of 196% in Community Outreach contacts in 2004.

Adult and Family offerings ranged from our ever popular full moon hikes to outdoor workshops on Sustainable Living Skills and Mushrooms of the San Juans. Indoor events included Wild Words author readings featuring Craig Childs, Katie Lee and Ken Wright, and showings of the films Microcosmos and Windhorse at the Abbey Theatre.

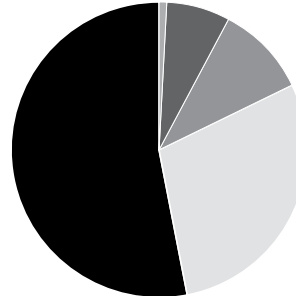
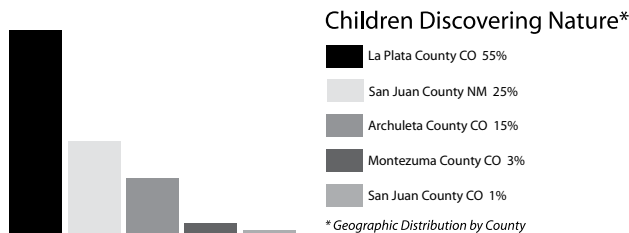


In line with our mission, 88% of the contact hours from all of our program offerings had some outdoor component!

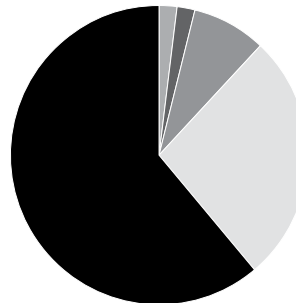


Children Discovering Nature Program Reaches Record Attendance in 2004

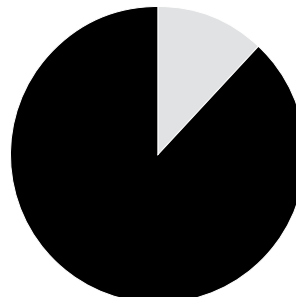
Our flagship program, Children Discovering Nature, also saw additional growth, with 7.6% more participants than the previous year. We continue to max out this program every season.



2004 Program Participants: 9,136



School Program Participation



Youth Programs: Indoor vs Outdoor*

* Based on Participation Hours
* Includes School Based and Non School Youth

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Independent Sector (www.independentsector.org), a non-partisan coalition of more than 550 organizations that tracks the value of volunteer time, estimated that in 2003, the average value of all volunteers, from highway clean up crews to lawyers doing pro bono work, was \$17.19 per hour.

In 2004, Durango Nature Studies' board and volunteers donated more than 4,400 hours, for an estimated in-kind donation value of more than \$75,000. More than 150 individuals donated their time and energy to a variety of activities like leading students on nature walks, helping serve participants at our annual earth day silent auction, and slaying weeds at the nature center.

Our hard working board of directors is also volunteer and put in countless hours at fund raisers, meetings and retreats.

What a tremendous show of community support for the Durango Nature Studies mission!



CAEE AWARD!

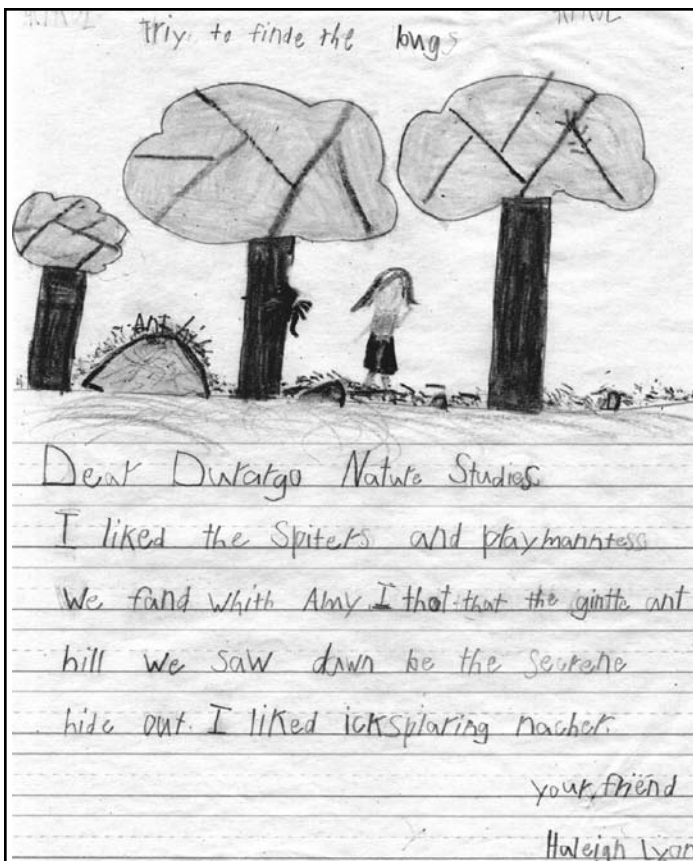
What happens when you bring diverse community members together, teach them about local plants and animals, and then set them loose with a bunch of kids? Something excellent, according to the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education, who granted our Volunteer Naturalist Training the 2004 Citizen/Community Award.



Every year, approximately 40 adults representing a variety of community sectors participate in our intensive 17-hour training and then lead four Children Discovering Nature hikes with schoolchildren.

Covering topics like child development, behavior management, and local flora and fauna, this training provides life skills and resume building experience, while offering opportunities for meaningful community involvement.

More than 265 community members have participated in this program since 1994. Their donations of time, talent, and energy are what make the Children Discovering Nature program truly excellent and we couldn't do it without them!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ali Baird, *Officer*—Durango, CO. Environmental Consultant, NewFields International. Co-President GIS Colorado Board of Directors. Member Women's Resource Center, Trails 2000, and Society for Conservation GIS. Current DNS Volunteer Naturalist.

Jean Behr, *Officer*—Durango, CO. CPA, Ute Mountain Tribe. Member, St. Columba Catholic Church, Four Corners CPA Society, Salvation Army.

Susan Blackman, *Officer*—Mancos, CO. Self-employed CPA. Adjunct professor Fort Lewis College. Member, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Colorado Society of Public Accountants.

Liz Cahill, *Treasurer*—Durango, CO, Salinas, CA. Retired small business owner. Member, Seniors Outdoors and Saint Columba Choir. Former DNS Volunteer Naturalist.

Rose Chilcoat, *Officer*—Durango, CO. Program Director Great Old Broads for Wilderness. Deacon First Presbyterian Church, former DNS Volunteer Naturalist.

Cathy Cowles, *Secretary*—Durango, CO. Landscape Designer Organic Grower and Certified Master Gardener. Former Program Director for Southwest Youth Corps. Former Instructor/Site Manager for Outward Bound's Baja Sea Kayaking Program, Loreto, Mexico.

Gay Grossman, *Officer*—Bayfield CO. Retired educator of more than 25 years. Co-founder, Durango Early Learning Center.

Member, Durango Choral Society and Heartwood Co-Housing Community. Current DNS Volunteer Naturalist.

Janet Kenna, *Co-President*—Durango, CO. Special Educator Durango 9R School District, Co-founder Durango Nature Studies, Special Exhibits Coordinator, Durango Children's Museum, Owner, *For The Birds* store.

Allison Pease, *Officer*—Durango, CO. Marketing consultant, freelance graphic designer, copy writer. Former engineer and computer applications specialist for Mobil Corporation. Former Co-Chair of Needham Elementary School PTO. Current DNS Volunteer Naturalist.

Mick Souder, *Officer*—Durango, CO. Senior Technical Solution Manager, IBM. Vice-Chair, E-Democracy.Org. Former educator with 15 years experience. Co-edited "Hands On/Minds On: Science Activities for Children" for the American Indian Science and Engineering Society.

Laurie True, *Officer*—Durango, CO. 3rd Grade Teacher, Needham Elementary School. Active in Needham Elementary School PTO. Teacher-participant in DNS programs.

Carrie Whitley, *Co-President*—Durango, CO. Served as Executive Director Santa Fe Destinations, Santa Fe, NM, Sales Manager for Eldorado Hotel, and volunteer Fundraising Coordinator for the Santa Fe Children's Museum. 20 years executive marketing experience in Santa Fe, NM, Dallas, TX, Los Angeles, CA.

MAJOR DONORS

Ballantine Family Fund

Basin Coop

Bio-Hab Inc.

Bob's Johns

BP America

Brainstorm Industries

City Market Cares Program

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Colorado Trails Ranch

Coutts and Clark Western Foundation

D.J. Simmons, Inc.

The Denver Foundation

Ecosphere Environmental Services

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First Southwest Bank

Flexible Flyers

For the Birds

Four Corners Bird Club

Four Corners OBGYN

Gardenswartz Outdoors

Giant Industries

H.O. Peet Foundation

Harris Water Engineering

Hawkeye Graphics

Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation

Jon Sherer Agency

Kearns Family Foundation

Kinder Morgan Foundation

Kiwanis Club of Durango

Kiwanis Club of the Narrow Gauge

La Plata Co Conservation Trust Fund

LPEA RoundUp Fund

Maria's Bookshop

Moreno Surveying and Geographics

Mountain Stream Builders

National Recreation Foundation

Nature's Oasis

New Belgium Brewing

Nini's Taqueria

Peterson Office Supply

Pine River Valley Bank

Roadrunner Catering

San Juan Audubon Society

San Juan Hand Therapy

San Juan Mountain Mustards

Sky Ute Casino

SW Water Conservation District

The Wells Group

The WIT Company

Trails 2000

Wright Water Engineers

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying statement of financial position of Durango Nature Studies (a Colorado not-for-profit corporation) as of December 31, 2004 and the related statements of activities, cash flows, and functional expenses for the year then ended was prepared by Susan R. Blackman, CPA, in the capacity as Treasurer of the Board of Directors of Durango Nature Studies.

DURANGO NATURE STUDIES
(A COLORADO NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2004

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Permanently Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS:				
Current Assets:				
Cash and equivalents	\$ 12,635	25,229	\$ -	\$ 37,864
Grant receivables	-	25,500		25,500
Inventories	1,114	-	-	1,114
Prepaid expenses	<u>2,203</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,203</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>15,952</u>	<u>50,729</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,681</u>
Property and Equipment:				
Land	271,500			271,500
Improvements	40,545			40,545
Furniture and fixtures	8,146			8,146
Habitat play space	4,775			4,775
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(25,747)</u>			<u>(25,747)</u>
Property and Equipment, net	<u>299,219</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>299,219</u>
Investments	<u>3,124</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>13,124</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 318,295</u>	<u>\$ 50,729</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 379,024</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:				
Current Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6
Accrued liabilities	<u>4,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,683</u>
Total Current Liabilities	4,689	-	-	4,689
Net Assets:				
Unrestricted	313,606			313,606
Temporarily Restricted		50,729		50,729
Permanently Restricted	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>313,606</u>	<u>50,729</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>374,335</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 318,295</u>	<u>\$ 50,729</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 379,024</u>

Unaudited. Prepared by Management.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DURANGO NATURE STUDIES
(A COLORADO NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION)
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Permanently Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
REVENUES AND SUPPORT:				
Grants	\$ 2,000	\$ 35,375	\$	\$ 37,375
Government grants	180	22,200		22,380
Contributions	35,436	4,541		39,977
Donated services and goods	742	1,465		2,207
Tuition, fees and other income	18,906			18,906
Special events revenues	15,161	4,592		19,753
Merchandise sales	496			496
Less: Cost of goods sold	(378)			(378)
Earnings from endowment	878			878
Interest income	191			191
Net assets released from restrictions: Satisfaction of program restrictions	<u>56,336</u>	<u>(56,336)</u>	-	-
Net Revenues	<u>129,948</u>	<u>11,837</u>	-	<u>141,785</u>
EXPENSES:				
Program Services:				
Children discovering nature	41,118			41,118
Nature in the classroom	7,993			7,993
Snowshoe fieldtrip program	1,995			1,995
Summer camp workshops	11,366			11,366
Adult and family workshops	20,360			20,360
Nature center	16,864			16,864
Volunteer, education and Naturalist training program	<u>10,220</u>	-	-	<u>10,220</u>
Total Program Services	<u>109,916</u>	-	-	<u>109,916</u>
Supporting Services:				
Management and general, including \$742 of donated professional services	27,529			27,529
Fund raising	<u>20,458</u>	-	-	<u>20,458</u>
Total Supporting Services	<u>47,987</u>	-	-	<u>47,987</u>
Total Expenses	<u>157,903</u>	-	-	<u>157,903</u>
Change in Net Assets	(27,955)	11,837		(16,118)
Net Assets December 31, 2003	<u>341,561</u>	<u>38,892</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>390,453</u>
Net Assets December 31, 2004	<u>\$ 313,606</u>	<u>\$ 50,729</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 374,335</u>

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DURANGO NATURE STUDIES
(A COLORADO NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION)
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

Cash flows from operating activities:

Decrease in net assets	\$ (16,118)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash used in operating activities:	
Depreciation	4,384
Increase in grant receivables	(21,000)
Decrease in inventories	(290)
Increase in investment from earnings	(878)
Decrease in accounts payable	(994)
Increase in other accrued liabilities	2,774
Decrease in payroll taxes payable	<u>(1,523)</u>
Total adjustments	<u>(17,527)</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(33,645)</u>

Cash flows from investing activities:

Acquisition of property and equipment	<u>(1,314)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(1,314)</u>

Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents (34,959)

Cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2003	<u>72,823</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2004	<u>\$ 37,864</u>

Supplemental data:

Non-cash investing and financing activities:	
Donation of professional services	\$ 1,972
Donation of supplies	235

Unaudited. Prepared by Management.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DURANGO NATURE STUDIES
(A COLORADO NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION)
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	Children Discovering Nature	Nature in the Classroom	Snowshoe Fieldtrip Program	Summer Camp Workshops	Adult and Family Workshops	Nature Center	Naturalist Training Program	Fundraising	Management and General	Total
Salaries	\$ 29,457	\$ 5,733	\$ 1,621	\$ 7,690	\$ 11,117	\$ 4,204	\$ 6,975	\$ 13,218	\$ 13,790	\$ 93,805
Payroll taxes	2,180	425	120	569	817	308	516	966	2,663	8,564
Insurance	1,089	66	19	90	354	1,427	82	29	1,212	4,368
Depreciation	331					3,513			540	4,384
Outside services	2,540	318		1,640	1,960	4,655	1,209	350		12,672
Office Rent	2,070	386	110	526	663		479	706	1,793	6,733
Utilities	925	173	49	235	316	709	214	202	305	3,128
Supplies	519	431			733	672	93	683	1,950	5,081
Printing	100	67		226	137	132		2,338	442	3,442
Postage	35				191		62	846	1,127	2,261
Professional fees									1,560	1,560
Advertising	38				1,263	29		654	95	2,079
Staff development	475							65	76	616
Facility rents	60				2,079			8	692	2,839
Travel and meals	1,001	329	29	29	673	149	148	47	148	2,553
Bank charges and credit card fees										
License and permits	298			105	57	150	284		354	354
Other expenses	-	65	47	256	-	916	158	346	377	2,165
Total Expenses	\$ 41,118	\$ 7,993	\$ 1,995	\$ 11,366	\$ 20,360	\$ 16,864	\$ 10,220	\$ 20,458	\$ 27,529	\$ 157,903

Unaudited. Prepared by Management