Earthplace
The Nature Discovery and Environmental Learning Center

Annual Report 2016

Earthplace is now a beehive of program activity seven days a week with visitors enjoying the trails from dawn to dusk. Our continued top-line revenue growth from programs and individual contributors has enabled us to complete multiple projects that will benefit visitors for years to come. I am especially grateful to the Board, staff and volunteers who helped us to finish off an impressive array of projects and initiatives. Our front lobby has been redesigned and refreshed; our three entrance gardens are now home to beautiful donated native plantings; the pond education platform is finished and in daily use by students and visitors; and our two new trails, Wolf and Foxtail, add new circuit routes for our hikers.

• Over the Finish Line. After two years of planning, we managed to bundle a group of energy saving initiatives into a funding model that resulted in only a small out-of-pocket expense. We now have a significant solar installation, all new LED lighting, 15 wireless controlled Thermostatic zones, four new fresh air handlers for the Preschool, and two state of the art heat pumps! We have many suppliers to thank, including the CT Green Bank for helping us reach 68% renewable energy use and provide an award winning showcase for area businesses and homeowners alike.

• No Fear. I recently visited the neighborhood where I grew up, and it was all cleaned up. Gone were the prickly bushes, overgrown fields, tangled vines, and hidden bogs that could suck your shoes off. But, the long remembered opportunities for childhood adventure were missing. In contrast, this past year Earthplace has added selected sites around our campus where kids can test themselves and play within their own self controls. We now have safe areas for tree climbing, fort building, stream crossing and the occasional mud fight. We value opportunities for fun and adventure in our shared community backyard.

• Expanding our Reach. Playing well and sharing with others is an important childhood lesson which translates at the community level where we look to combine resources to create richer results. We were pleased to collaborate on programs with the Sherwood Island Nature Center, Wakeman Town Farm and the Nature Conservancy. Our Earthplace Festival and Winterfest now attract thousands to our site, our K-5 afterschool program tripled in size, and the Earthplace Summer Camp set enrollment records—all exciting results from a mission perspective.

We are so very grateful to our many supporters who continue to give generously and in so many ways. Financially, we are on solid footing as we continue to balance needed improvements with sustainable growth. We invite you to come by for a visit and let your inner Nature Boy or Nature Girl spring back to life at Earthplace!

See you on the trails,

Tony McDowell
Executive Director
It is with our deepest thanks that Earthplace recognizes and honors each and every donor to our Annual Fund. With your support, we become partners together in our vision of building a community where conscious regard for the natural world guides individual action. All gifts listed are from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. We have made every effort to be accurate and hope you will contact us if you see errors or omissions.
In Fiscal Year 2016, we improved our financial performance with a year-over-year revenue gain of $155,223 and an operating surplus of $103,846 before depreciation. Our financial position and flexibility were enhanced by a one-time gift which allowed us to complete several small capital projects and strengthen our working capital reserves; and by strong attendance growth across our programs. Our percentage of earned income kept pace with our overall revenue growth, and 78% of our expenses were allocated to program delivery—both good signs of program health. Maintenance of our nature sanctuary and much of our nature programing depend on public and private contributions and the generous support of our many volunteers.

EARTHPLACE REVENUE: $2,262,753 Audited

EARTHPLACE EXPENSES: $2,158,907 Audited
Members

Thank you to our members who help us every day to build a passion in our community for nature and the environment through education, experience and action. All members listed were active during our fiscal year, from July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016. We have made every effort to be accurate and hope you will contact us if you see errors or omissions.

James and Cori Adams
Christopher and Genny Agnew
Phyllis Allen
Wilhelm AlIanach and
Sabine Schweizer
Craig and Tamara Allan
Lawrence and Sarah Anastasia
Walt and Kristen Ancker
Christopher and Anna
Carolina Annesi
Daniel and Elizabeth Aronson
Dick and Elizabeth Aubre
Richard and Rebecca Aurilio
Edyta Awan
Chris and Michelle Backus
Stephen and Elizabeth Bae
Stefan Baer and Leslie Hand
Ty and Annie Bailey
John and Christina
Lundell Baker
Keith and Sarah Baker
Ted and Rebekah Balagtas
Phil and Lauru Balatosa
Reed and Melissa Balla
Matthew and Meryl Barkoff
Margaret Barnetti
Gary Bartunek and Lisa Ryan
Edward and Jennifer Basane
Robert and Michelle Baskay
David and Renee Bauer
David and Alexa Baxt
Anthony and Dione Bazile
David and Jen Greely
Kevin and Kathryn Gray
Karlin Gray
Ian Grauel and Elizabeth Ganga
Jill Gordon
David and Rachel Gordon
Elizabeth Goossen
Brian and Sarah Goodman
Jeff and Sharon Fiarman
Michael and Monika Filipek
Richard and Dorothy Fincher
Clifton and Justine Fink
Robert and Sally Galan
Emily Fischer
James and Molly Fisher
Dave and Dorothy Fitton
Kevin and Kenny Fitzgerald
Brian and Alana Flinn
David Flueck and Paige Francis
Jason and Lorin Fogelson
Kelcey and Rick Folbaum
Angela Fontanez and
Raymond Currytto
Tim and Kathie Forling
Matthew and Francesca
Fournier
Dean and Kristina Fracassini
Michelle Fracasso and
Jonathan Spitzer
Carlo and Josie Fraioli
Linda Francis
Heather Frank
Jay and Rachel Frank
Richard and Leona Frank
Brandon Flavel and
Nicoi Lilley
Judith Freedman
Eric and Raquel Freeman
Roger Freeman and Rory O'Neill
Keith and Judy Frey
Mark Frey and Laurel Reitman
Eneas and Nancy Freyre
Mark and Chong Friedman
Scott and Sandra Friesen
Robert and Sally Gahan
William and Sharon Gallagher
Paul and Tiffany Garner
Philip and Rochelle Garrison
Michael and Meghan Gault
Daniel Gaviria and Anca Micu
Ludwig and Ashley Gayanilo
Dennis and Karen Geelan
Jonathan and Hilary Gerber
Frank and Shima Giacobbe
Mike and Ryan Giannone
Brenden and Kathleen Gibbon
Paul and Caroline Gibson
Richard Ginsberg & Heidi
Gagner-Ginsberg
Daniel and Sabrina Gimcher
Sean and Elizabeth Glyn
Brian and Leslie Gold
Peter Gold
Sheila Goldman
Hortencia Gomez and
Rachael Teixeira
Jeff and Karen Gomez
Brian and Sarah Goodman
Edward and Susan Goodwin
Elizabeto Goossen
David and Rachel Gordon
Jill Gordon
Victoria Goulats
Derek and Danielle Graser
Ian Grauel and Elizabeth Ganga
Daniel and Julie Gray
Karen Gray
Kevin and Kathryn Gray
David and Jen Greely

Peter and Lindsey Blaivas
Andrew and Jennifer Blake
Natalie Blanchfield
Adam Blank and
Melissa Iacovacci
Adam Blank and
Melissa Iacovacci
Edward and Carol Bloch
Jay and Gabriella Bockhaus
Nils and Alexandra Boenicke
Chris and Megan Bolan
Eveline Bonfim
Steve and Amee Borys
Kurt and Martie Boulton
Tony and Cindy Bowers
Justin Boxwell
Beth Boyce
Peter and Jody Boyd
David Lee Brandon
Marlene De Bellis
Didier Curvat and
Natalie Dunagan
Richard Bratton and
Rachel Derken-Bratton
J. Scott and Geralyn Breig
Bridgeport Public Library,
Black Rock Branch
Bridgeport Public Library,
Burroughs-Saden Branch
Bridgeport Public Library,
Newfield Branch
Bridgeport Public Library,
North Branch
Bridgeport Public Library,
Old Mill Green Branch
William and Elizabeth Britten
Polly Brody
Brittany Brown
Taylor and Leah Brown
Wayne Brown
Frank Bruce and Barrie Rosen
Katie and Robert Bruce
Chris Buckley and Mark Ciano
Eileen Buckley
Chris and Kristin Budden
Bryan Bughman and
Skye Phillips
Isabel Burch
Carol Burgess
Tom and Jan Burigo
Carolyn Butler
Diane Cady
Jeffrey and Jacqueline Cahill
Matt and Gabriela Calish
Steve and Susan Calzone
Steve Camhi and
Theresa Shea Camhi
Christopher and Erin Cancro
Yves Cantin and Regina Olsham
John and Maria Capano
Steven and Hazel Capella
Tom and Michele Moody
William Carmell
Josh and Katie Carmody
Anne Carter
Stephen and Katie Carter
Mike and Terry Castellano
Frank and Leigh Cataudo
Eugene and Carol Cederbaum
Canyon and Kim Ceman
Kyle and Kito Cetrulo
Andrei and Elizabeth Chahine
Alexander and Mary Chan
Alexander and Sarah Chapman
Kimberly Chariott
Yunyun Chen
Victor and Emily Chaves
Pavel Chernyshev and
Anastasia Gorgutsa
Cheshire Public Library
Tony Mariani and Carol Chinn
Tyson and Cristen Chittenden
Amit and Viorica Chokshi
Jamie Cochrane and Chris Vatis
Blake and Elizabeth Coe
Josh and Ilana Cohen
Chris and Sophia Coleman
Gavin and Michal Coman
Ryan Comerford and Petra
Barguss-Comerford
Djhoer Constandaki
Amy Cook
Jim Cooper and Susan Sherman
Patrick and Bethany Cooper
Jim Corbett and Emily
Bootrhyd
George and Maehgan Corbo
George and Amanda Corey
Dan and Kati Carrigan
Paullette Corso
Frank and Gayle Costello
Kevin and Olja Couloumbis
Angelica Couto
Darrin Cozzolino and
Maria Pettit
Charles Crape and Karen Kent
Stanley and Tina Crouch
Marc and Sara Culver
Thomas and Betty
Lou Cummings
Adrian and Rosie Curtis
Paul and Bridget Curtis
Didier Curvat and
Natalie Dunagan
John and Emma Cusato
Gretta Cushing
Kyle and Kathleen Custis
Premius H Booth Library
Sterling and Elizabeth Daines
John and Diana Dalamagas
Karina Dale
Amanda Dalzell
Danbury Library
Indrani Datta and
Prithviraj Bhadra
Jo Ann Davidson
Charles and Christen Davis
Dan and Heidi Davis
Benny and Kristyna Dawson
Carlos and Caroline deLasa
Marc and Katherine de Mul
John Deacy and
Jennifer Gormley
Jim and Julie DeAngelis
Jorge and Lesley Deleon
Brett and Jolina D'Elia
Matt and Kara Della Croce
Matthew and Monika DeMonte
Robert and Allison DeNicola
Jennifer Denkin
Matthew Deppe
Jessica Geary DeRosa
Diane Desmond
Peter and Amanda Zakowich
Jay Devassy and Litnette
Mookanampambali
Thomas and Marieluth Devine
Chris and Shay Devito
Erika Dewan
Bernie and Daniellle
DeWynter-Graves
Jane DiCarlo
Douglas and Kim Diconsson
Caesar and Jenny DiMauro
Katie and Michael DiMeglio
Jason and Anita Dinwoodie
Stephane and Kieran DiTullio
Aimee Dolan
Kevin and Nadine Donalds
Matthew and Alexis Donovan
Nicholas and Jennifer Doria
Brian and Allison Doubles
William Douglass and Bis Misra
Alex Drought and Pamela Dixon
Steve and Natalie Drucker
Anthony and Priya D’Souza
Diana Duney
Cary and Christine Dunst
David Dussell and
Christie Liborio
Jane Eason-Purdue
Graham and Kara Eckelberg
John and Amanda Elliott
Jon and Melissa Ellis
Tim and Adria Ellis
Arlo and Susan Ellis
Debbie Elison
Ralf and Angelika Enders
Frank Enos and Robin Cautin
Donald and Martha Ercol
Tony and Kanti Evans
Peter and Jane Eyes
Fairchild Nichols Library
Fairfield Public Library
Fairfield Woods Branch Library
Harris and Elizabeth Falk
Derrick and Paige Faunce
Thomas and Ann Feeley
Joseph and Michelle Feeney
Ferguson Library
Victor and Josephine Ferrante
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Greg and Kristen Russo
Robert and Caroline Sadowski
Matt and Elizabeth Salem
Salem Free Public Library
Amy Sandak
Chris and Michelle Sanford
Dave and Sarah Santisi
Jackson Saucedo and
Leslie Flinn
Chris and Sarah Saven
Justine and Mackenzie Saverine
Jeremy and Joclyn Schaap
Tracy Schanzner
Lee and Brooke Scharfstein
Chris and Jackie Schiavone
Zach Schiller and
Jeremy Magid
John Schluter and Jean Ryan
Timothy Schmutte and
Elenee Argentinis
Jesse and Patricia Schwartzman
Dan and Megan Scofield
Jesse and Patricia Schwartzman
Elizabeth Shoup

Event Attendees

Our major fundraisers are crucial to helping us build revenue and affinity for Earthplace. We offer the sincerest of thanks to everyone who has supported our efforts by attending one of our events. We have made every effort to be accurate in listing all attendees and hope you will contact us if you see errors or omissions.
Christian and Jessica Stauder
Jill Greenberg

Spring Auction
David and Pippa Bell Ader
Reed and Melissa Balmer
Brian and Kathleen Boland
Steve and Amee Borys
Peter and Jody Boyd
David Lee Brandon and
Martene De Bellis
Barbara Brookes
Liz Bubico
Pavel Chernyshov and
Anastasia Gorgutsa
Blake and Elizabeth Cole
Patrick and Bethany Cooper
Sara Cronquist
Aaron and Liane Dahlke
Cassandra DelGatto
Spencer Djeu
Andrea Dobi
Cary and Christine Dunst
John and Ellen Ehl
Thad and Martha Eidman
Harris and Elizabeth Falk
Jackie Fenley
John and Sandi Fifield
Michael and Monika Filipek
Scott and Sandy Friesen
Helen Garten
Dylan and Mandy Germishus
Amanda Glendinning
Randy and Susan Glendinning
Josh and Kate Hariton
Tom and Jennifer Hassell
Stuart and Doelie Hawley
Seth and Anne Healy
John and Sarah Howe
Edel Keane
Cathy Kochi
Jonathan and Natalie Kroft
Art and Mary Ellen Lemay
Singapore Lemp
Mitchell Lester and
Jill Greenberg
Anthony and Lauren LoFrisco
Brian and Moira Lynch
Michael and Dabney Mahoney
Ryan and Lisa Malin

Matthew and Cara Mandell
Fernanda Marchi
Mark and Nancy McDade
Tony and Dede McDowell
Chris and Kristen McGinness
Ryan and Jennifer McMurry
Alex and Tina McNulty
Judy Michaelis
Travis and Laura Murphy
Cristiane Palai
Jessica Palmer
Rob Pascarelli
Stephen and Brooke Paster
Michele Perino
Timothy Plunkett, DVM
Matthew Reyher
Linda Roberts
Gregory Rodriguez and
Stephanie Fabian
Jim Rossman and
Lisa Cummings
Danielle Rossioni
Lars and Lindsay Shurman
Jeffrey and Laurie Stefanowicz
Cathy Talmdge
Abby Tolan
David and Susannah Toy
Carel van der Merwe
Anthony Villanueva
Svea Vocke
Peter and Amanda Zakowich

Cocktails and Clams
David and Pippa Bell Ader
Maria Arenas
Mark and Paula Argosh
Robert and Tracy Barclay
Ridgway and Maria Barker
Greg Bazydola
Don and Dorothea Bell
Rick Bellefueille
Kathy Berger
Robert Berger
Norm and Debbie Bloom
Francois Bohn
Peter Boyd
Ned and Wendy Brokaw
Betsy Burleson
Miggs Burroughs
Brendan Byrne
Polly Campenni
Peter and Pam Cantatore
Randy Christopherson
and Joan Beer
Cynthia Clarke
Karin Coakley
Ellis Cooper and Marti Coleman
Robert Corman
Sheila Crowe
Amber and Peter Cunha
Michael and Kate Davis
David and Amelia Dickson
Tim Dunne
Severn P. C. Duvall
Harris and Elizabeth Falk
Mary Clay Fields
John and Sandi Fifield
Benjamin and Naomi Fisher
Kevin and Perry Fitzgerald
Matt and Anne Foskett
Stacy Fowle
Peter J. Fraboni
Elizabeth Frawley
Robert and Christine Griffith
Camille Guthrie
Al and Hope Hageman
John and Clare Hare
Pam Harriman
Richard and Patricia Harris
Alex and Nora Jinishian
John and Lucy Jinishian
Gordon Joseloff
Wendy Kalan
Stephen and Anna Keegan
Helen Klisser-During
Ralph and Beth Kolb
Liz-Knn Koos
Joel Kopol
Paula Lacy
Marcia Lafayette
Kimberly Lake
Ann and Howard Lathrop
Jean-Henri and Gail Laville
Calvin and Anne Lee
Art and Mary Ellen Lemay
Mitchell Lester and
Jill Greenberg
Jeffrey and Elizabeth Lilien

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Stuart Hawley, Board Chair
Kerry Fitzgerald, Vice President
Cathy Talmdge, Vice President
Elizabeth Falk, Secretary
Jeffrey Stefanowicz, Treasurer

Board listed was current at the end of our fiscal year, on June 30, 2016

Peter Boyd
John Fifield
Helen Garten
Mary Ellen Lemay
Brian Lynch
Timothy Plunkett, DVM
Lisa Shufro
Peter Zakowich

HONORARY TRUSTEES:
Al Beasley, MD
Barbara Brit
Bob Chasin
Randy Glendinning
Jackie Hamilton
Ted Hampe
Julia Malloy
Diane Mangano-Cohen
Tom Pajolek
Carolyn Trabuco

John Horkel, Executive Director Emeritus

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Dan and Eloise Bawden
Michael and Karen Speller
Randy Glendinning
Jane Vadeboncoeur
Linda Roberts
Kathleen Whitefoord
Robert and Gayle McGill
James Meaney
Lailani Metzler
Tracy Mendenberg
John and Barbara Moeling
Griffen Molloy
Rob and Katie Natale
Phyllis Palmer
Joseph and Gesa Racz
Beth Reilly
Matthew and Valerie Reyher
Tony and Amy Riggio
Alison Rinaldi
Linda Roberts
Luz Rodriguez
Ana Rogers
Amy Rumf
Ashley Schapiro
Kelly Shackelford
Jeff Simon and Arline Gertzoff
Steve and Susan Smith
Tom Smith and Toni
Nagel-Smith
Jeffrey and Laurie Stefanowicz
Edward Stillwagon
Ted Sullivan and Faith Taylor
Jeff Swearingen and
Gately Ross
Cathy Talmdge
John and Kris Tookey
Steven and Susan Wallerstein
Louise B. Washer
Diane Wendroff
Jane Wenk
Cline Werner
Michael Wiseman and
Helen Garten
Anne Wolf
Peter and Amanda Zakowich
Zachary and Emily Zion

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Earthplace by the Numbers
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

HARBOR WATCH:
208 unique testing sites on 16 waterways in 14 towns in Southwestern CT
7 presentations of Harbor Watch data at 3 conferences across the East
49 student interns (high school and college) trained in water quality research

TRAILS:
42 native plant species placed in gardens to benefit pollinators
8 freshwater mussels discovered by summer campers in Stony Brook
5 pileated woodpeckers living in the sanctuary
5 pairs of snowshoes now available for public use

ANIMAL HALL:
50 hissing cockroaches multiplied to become 500
1 snake that outgrew its tank
1 American Bald Eagle (Chatty) consumed 1400 lbs. of rodents and fish
1 domestic rabbit (Barley) logged 54 hours in school programs

NATURE PROGRAMS:
40% enrollment increase in after school nature programming
1 beehive installed for observation in Natureplace
5 teens hired as Natureplace summer Docents
2500+ students in K-8 school outreach programs

PRESCHOOL AND CAMP:
103 times Over in the Meadow was sung in 1 school year
2 children who conquered their fear of spiders
4 shoes lost during stream walks
15 lean-to’s built and dismantled
32 tree climbing lessons
17 salamanders found and released in one day

Earthplace has received the highest rating from Charity Navigator, four stars for sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.