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We would also like to thank the following who provided generous support to the programs at Crissy Field Center over the past year:

- |                                                            |                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
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| National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, B-Wet program | Members of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy |

**DONATE**

Support for the Crissy Field Center’s educational and community programs is made possible in part by the 12,785 members of the Parks Conservancy, and by numerous foundations and corporate donors. Please contact the Parks Conservancy’s membership coordinator at (415) 561-3060 to find out about tax-deductible contributions and membership benefits.

# crissy field center



**OUR MISSION**

Crissy Field Center programs encourage new generations to become bold leaders for thriving parks, healthy communities, and a more environmentally just society. The Center’s highly trained, diverse staff provides multicultural programming that instills environmental values, civic responsibility, park stewardship, leadership development, and a commitment to sustainability. By taking a “ladder of learning” approach and offering multiple, stepped programs that promote long-term relationships, the Center nurtures youth both personally and professionally, introducing them to career opportunities within the park.

*Average years of experience of Center staff member: 6 years*



**CRISSY FIELD CENTER**

1199 East Beach (at Mason St.), Presidio San Francisco, CA 94129  
 General Information (415) 561-7690  
 Beach Hut (415) 561-7761  
 Warming Hut (415) 561-3040  
 Crissy Café (415) 561-7756  
[www.crissyfield.org](http://www.crissyfield.org)



Crissy Field Center is a partnership project of the nonprofit Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, the National Park Service, and the Presidio Trust.

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**ABOUT US**

With our focus on engaging people who traditionally have had little, if any, access to national parks, the Center has developed strong partnerships with schools and community centers in underserved areas, providing a majority of its programming for free or at low cost.

Since its opening in 2001, the Center has served more than 800,000 youth and their families through school field trips, public workshops, after-school programs, summer camps, and more. Our award-winning programs are internationally regarded as innovative models of education for sustainability.

**OUR SPACE**

In January 2010, Crissy Field Center moved out of the Presidio Parkway (Doyle Drive) construction zone to interim structures on the eastern edge of Crissy Field. Designed by locally based Project FROG, the Center’s new facility is wheelchair-accessible and includes a media lab, arts workshop, science lab, and gathering room, which all meet strict environmental and technological criteria for classroom use and provide healthy environments to optimize learning. The new site not only acts as a hub of sustainability programming in the Golden Gate National Parks, but also as a convening spot and resource for local community organizations.

The adjacent Beach Hut café is open to the public and offers locally and sustainably grown food and beverages. All proceeds from the Beach Hut, Crissy Café (603 Mason St.), and Warming Hut (west end of Crissy Field), support the Center’s educational programs.

**youth • leadership • environment**





## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

**Community events** such as our annual Earth Stroll festival invite all people to access the distinctive resources of the national park through engaging activities that promote the building of a healthy, strong, and more sustainable community. Through the **Parks to People** and **People to Parks** programs, community groups can arrange for a national park ranger to visit their after-school program, community center, or church, and take a memorable field trip to the Presidio. For a more in-depth experience, **People to Park Stewards** is a five-part program designed for youth ages 12 to 18 to learn about San Francisco's distinct habitats, work directly with park naturalists, and initiate their own neighborhood project.

## DAY CAMPS

In **Things with Wings**, **Seaside Sleuths**, **Junior Rangers**, and our other park-based camps, elementary school-aged youth combine outdoor investigation and field outings with fun hands-on projects. Youth entering grades 9 through 12 can continue their camp experience by leading and mentoring children as **Counselors in Training (CITs)**. Driven by the belief that all youth deserve an enriching and memorable summer experience, the Crissy Field Center strives to offer as many scholarships each year as possible.

**Amount of summer camp financial aid given away in the last two years: \$108,000**



## YOUTH LEADERSHIP

As **Urban Trailblazers**, San Francisco Unified School District middle school students spend the summer learning about environmental issues through workshops, field trips, and service projects while gaining valuable skills in their "first job." As interns in the **Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders (I-YEL)** program, a diverse group of high school students are empowered to initiate and implement projects that expand beyond traditional environmental activism and education. Other opportunities for high school youth include the **Counselors in Training (CIT)** program, **Youth Reception with Goldman Environmental Prize winners** and **Point Reyes National Seashore Adventure** in which students conduct habitat restoration and wildlife monitoring.

**Number of "green jobs" for youth provided since 2001: 465**



## SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS

Half-day interdisciplinary programs such as **My Favorite Marsh** and **It's Electric!** offer students in grades K through 12 the opportunity to investigate ecosystems of their national park and the "living classroom" setting of Crissy Field Center. All programs support California State Academic Standards. In **Project WISE (Watersheds Inspiring Student Education)**, a collaboration with Urban Watershed Project, nontraditional science students use the Presidio's watersheds as their lab for hands-on scientific discovery, technological exploration, and civic engagement. They acquire the skills needed to pass the AP Environmental Science exam while devising solutions to issues that face both the park and local neighborhoods.

*"This program is not all fun and games. This class will teach you things very differently than any other class because it's hands-on rather than directly textbook. If you don't like hands-on activities, maybe this class isn't for you."*

— 2010 PROJECT WISE STUDENT



## EDUCATOR TRAININGS AND RESOURCES

Teachers, educators, and community leaders can participate in a number of trainings to increase their understanding of local resources and build their skills in the outdoors. The **Finding Urban Nature (FUN) Guide** is a tool for educators to learn about the seven unique watersheds of San Francisco and promote the discovery of nature in their neighborhood. As a **Teacher to Ranger to Teacher**, San Francisco public school teachers can become park rangers during the summer and take their experience back to the classroom during the school year, dressing in their ranger uniform during National Park Week and hosting their class on a visit to their national park next door. In **CAP Leadership Training**, educators gain the knowledge and skills needed to feel comfortable bringing their group camping at the Presidio (see below).

## CAMPING AT THE PRESIDIO (CAP)

Designed for community organizations and schools that ordinarily lack the resources to bring their group on an overnight outdoor experience, CAP provides a meaningful gateway camping experience for children and youth from around the Bay Area. By training teachers and group leaders and providing them an affordable way to bring their youth on an overnight trip to the park, CAP has served over 4,800 individuals from underserved communities since 2007. This is a partnership project with Bay Area Wilderness Training.

**Percent of CAP participants who believe that spending time outdoors could help them become better people: 70%**