



2017 STATISTICS

44

Children served in
Junior Rangers and
Presidio Trekkers

3,080

Camp contact hours

57%

of campers received
scholarships

3

Organizations helped pilot
the no-fee partner camp

107

youth and 22 adults
participated in
partner camp

601

partner-camp
contact hours



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Crissy Field Center facilitates multiple 10-day outdoor environmental day camps, providing children with meaningful experiences in the Golden Gate National Parks and beyond. Youth ages 6 to 11 learn what it takes to create thriving parks, healthy communities, and just societies. Kids build lasting memories and experience self-discovery, forging friendships while learning in national parks. For these camps, 50% of registrations are reserved for families experiencing economic hardship, allowing for a diversity of youth who historically have not participated in this type of programming.

Younger children embark on national park adventures close to home in Presidio Trekkers, where small groups foster community with children and instructors during coastal bluff hikes and volunteering at the Presidio Native Plant Nursery. Older children explore further afield in Junior Rangers, venturing to park sites like Alcatraz, Muir Woods National Monument, and Point Reyes National Seashore. For the capstone experience, campers sleep outdoors at Rob Hill Campground before their swearing-in as official Junior Rangers.

New Experiences: Piloting a new summer opportunity for community-based organizations, the Center offered day camps to groups without existing environmental curriculum or outdoor summer programming. East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAYC), Hamilton Families, and Up on Top participated in exploration activities, restoration, and watershed education. Programs focused on developing observational skills, building healthy communities, and encouraging youth as leaders. Staff connect the outdoor activities and experiences, such as a marsh “mud grab,” to universal concepts like how water sustains life. Using the park as a classroom, staff are able to find connections and be culturally responsive to the experiences of the program participants.





PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

Nicholas looked forward to camp every day. He often spoke about how he made sure to be on-time and not miss the Performing Stars shuttle from Marin City to the Center. Performing Stars believes that art, music, theater and other enrichment opportunities for low income children helps reach for the stars, become strong people who make good decisions. The organization works with children and youth who lack supports and opportunities such as adult support, proper nutrition, and experiences to build confidence in new situations. This past summer marks our first collaboration with this organization, providing young people a chance to practice teamwork and communication skills while building new relationships.

Junior Rangers Summer Camp provided Nicolas many firsts including kayaking and tide pooling. He worked really hard to ensure he was steering the kayak well for his partners. While tide pooling at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, Nicholas was giddy with excitement when hermit crabs crawled over his hand.

Nicholas is friendly and got along well with everyone. He initially arrived with close friends but became buddies with other kids in camp. Upon graduation, Nicholas had a leading role by reenacted the work of a Buffalo Soldier, whom they had learned about during the week. Nicholas finished camp having made new friends, exploring new environments, and connecting with caring adults



TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



Urban Backpackers is the next step to the Junior Rangers program. Piloting in 2018 this summer program acts as a bridge between summer camps and middle school leadership programs.

12 youth developed leadership skills through challenging hikes, place-based learning and camping. They'll carry their personal and specialized gear on a trek of city and national parks navigating themselves from majestic Monterey Cypress trees in Golden Gate Park to starry skies atop Rob Hill Campground down to crashing waves at Kirby Cove.



OUR THANKS

Special thanks to outside instructors who greatly contributed to our programs:

- East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAYC)
- Hamilton Families
- Up on Top
- Performing Stars