A Grand Vision at 100 Years

Capturing the Canyon on Canvas

The Field Institute: Learn and Be Amazed
When I think of Grand Canyon, I am filled with awe—I’m sure you are too. There are so many things to love about this breathtaking place, so much to take in at every turn. Sunlight casting a glow on rock walls, the rush of the Colorado River, stars shimmering in the night sky.

It’s easy to see why more than 100 years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt was so taken by Grand Canyon, and urged its protection in perpetuity as “the one great sight which every American should see.”

Today, so many years later, I am immensely grateful for those like him, who had the foresight—and commitment—to preserve this natural wonder. I’m grateful for the park staff who are committed to protecting its many treasures, and to helping people from around the world learn about this unique place.

And I’m so deeply thankful for friends like you. As dedicated partners of Grand Canyon Association, your support makes it possible to continue the work of protecting and enhancing Grand Canyon National Park for today . . . and always.

As we look ahead to 2019, our 100th birthday as a national park, we are proud to announce our A Grand Vision Centennial Campaign, which you will learn more about in this issue of Canyon Views. This is an exciting opportunity for all who love this place to ensure its health and vitality. What you and I do today will allow our children and children’s children—and generations beyond—to enjoy and learn from the canyon. It has much to teach.

In this Canyon Views, you’ll see the amazing impact you’ve had through Grand Canyon Association—including the 25th anniversary of the Field Institute—and you’ll learn how you can be part of the future.

Today, I invite you to remember what you love most about Grand Canyon—a fun memory with family, an unforgettable sunset, an exciting wildlife encounter, the wonder of looking at the stars. Just knowing it is there, and appreciating the importance of the wild places it symbolizes. Then, please join our Grand Vision and help preserve the canyon for another hundred years!
When President Theodore Roosevelt encountered the “grandeur, sublimity, and loveliness” of Grand Canyon in 1903, he made a statement urging Americans to “keep it for your children, your children’s children, and all who come after you.”

His wonder and his commitment to preserve this precious gift is what continues to drive the vision of Grand Canyon Association today.

An incredible six million annual visitors put real pressure on park resources, including the canyon’s world-renowned trails and historic buildings—the sights that have inspired so many people from around the world. Many of the park’s facilities are in urgent need of repair, and without help, many projects lack sufficient funding to preserve the park in the way it deserves.

While American Indians have called the canyon home for millennia, in 2019, our nation will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Grand Canyon National Park. What better time than now to ensure the park is protected and preserved for the next 100 years? What better time to make sure our children, and their children, and the children after them can experience the life-changing beauty of this national treasure?

By giving to A Grand Vision Centennial Campaign, you will join Grand Canyon Association and the National Park Service at Grand Canyon in their strategic vision for improvements at the park that celebrate the centennial while positioning the park to flourish for the next 100 years.
Join Grand Canyon Association in this campaign to protect and enhance the magnificent and timeless Grand Canyon National Park. Your contribution in any amount will help continue the quest to keep Grand Canyon for your children—and for all people—forever.

For more information or to give to A Grand Vision Centennial Campaign, visit grandcanyon.org and view Our Work/A Grand Vision Campaign.

A Grand Vision Centennial Campaign will raise $15 million to support critical park projects in the following priority areas:

**Trails Forever**

Tens of thousands of hikers travel from around the world each year to enjoy one of nature’s greatest treasures—our Grand Canyon. Day after day, wind, water, and time take their toll on these historic trails. Our vision, with your help, is to provide current and future funding to continually maintain and preserve the canyon’s network of trails, while honoring traditional craftsmanship, protecting natural habitats, and improving hiker safety. We are also building an endowment for trails, creating a permanent fund that will provide ongoing annual support to Grand Canyon’s trails in perpetuity.

**Dark Sky Preservation**

Grand Canyon National Park is one of the best places in the United States where you can still experience the wonder of a star-filled night sky. One third of the world’s population—including 80 percent of Americans—can no longer see the Milky Way because a dome of glow from artificial light blocks our view of our galaxy. Grand Canyon National Park has been designated a Provisional Dark Sky Park by the International Dark-Sky Association. To help us achieve full International Dark Sky Park status, you’ll make possible an ambitious project to retrofit thousands of old light fixtures and bulbs with state-of-the-art lighting that minimizes glare, light trespass, and light pollution throughout the park.
Desert View Inter-tribal Heritage Area
Together with the National Park Service, the Inter-tribal Advisory Council, and supporters like you, we’ll transform the Desert View area into a thriving cultural space that celebrates the tribal heritages of Grand Canyon. To achieve this, the Grand Vision Centennial Campaign includes an investment in preserving and restoring Desert View Watchtower and immersing visitors in American Indian life and culture. We’ll also expand tribal youth opportunities for education and job training while encouraging tourism to tribal lands.

Discovery and Exploration
For school children and scientists alike, Grand Canyon is a living laboratory and an outdoor classroom. From rim to river, the canyon offers an unparalleled journey through seven life zones and five ecosystems. Encompassing more than a million acres, it is home to more than 2,000 species of plants, birds, mammals, amphibians, and fish. More than a mile deep, it tells the story of the Earth across three eras of geological time. Your support funds science and education programs, historic building preservation, and Preventive Search and Rescue (PSAR) efforts at Grand Canyon that are expansive in scope, connecting people to the canyon, to the land, to nature, and to each other. And you help bring new knowledge and discoveries to engage children, students, visitors, volunteers, scientists, researchers, and more.

A Grand Vision Campaign Leadership Gifts
The following donors share our Grand Vision to help protect and enhance this magnificent and timeless place. Thank you for your gift to the A Grand Vision Centennial Campaign for Grand Canyon National Park.

Anonymous (3)  
Susan and William Ahearn  
American Express  
APS Foundation  
Gail and David Bell  
Barb and Bill Berkley  
Arch and Laura Brown  
Sally and Craig Clayton  
Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation  
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Liz and Bill Sweeney  
The Carl A. Thomsen Family  
Elizabeth and Stephen Watson  
Kathleen and Peter Wege  
Daryl and Chip Weil  
Karen and Howard Weiner
Summer is the busiest time of the year at Grand Canyon National Park, and for many, it’s their only chance to explore the Inner Canyon. But summer also brings blistering heat to the canyon’s depths. It’s normal to experience triple-digit temperatures, and even experienced hikers can find themselves in trouble if they aren’t prepared.

While at the canyon, you can learn more about hiking smart from the Preventive Search and Rescue (PSAR) team. You’ll see these dedicated volunteers on the trails talking to hikers and answering questions. And Grand Canyon Association supporters like you fund the PSAR program!

To learn more about the HIKE SMART program, visit nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/hike-smart.htm.

Use the information below to HIKE SMART this summer:

- ✔ If you’re headed down the trail, be sure to take advantage of the “cooler” hours (early morning and late afternoon).
- ✔ Carry up to a gallon of water per person, but don’t force fluids. Drink when you are thirsty.
- ✔ The less you carry, the more enjoyable the hike. The heaviest items in your pack should be food and water.
- ✔ Rest often. Take a 10-minute break at least once every hour.
- ✔ Eat often and include lots of salty snacks.
- ✔ Soak your shirt in a creek or the Colorado River whenever possible—the evaporative cooling this provides can be a lifesaver.
- ✔ Watch the time. Coming back up is hard! Allow 1/3 of your time to descend and 2/3 of your time to make your return.
It’s hard to imagine anything further from a typical office work environment than Grand Canyon. No cubicles, no conference rooms, no computer screens for miles around. Grand Canyon National Park’s corporate volunteering program gives people the chance to leave the office behind and become part of something bigger—protecting the canyon.

Employees from Arizona Public Service and American Express, as well as companies like the American Automobile Association, Global Travel Alliance, Pink Jeeps, REI, and Wells Fargo, have invested their time and resources in protecting Grand Canyon, many coming year after year.

For Scott Colbath of American Express, the highlight was getting “to experience the canyon like those who maintain it.” Corporate volunteers get a chance to see behind the scenes, learning the impact the park’s millions of visitors have on the natural environment.

“I learned that there are condors that live in and around the canyon that are in danger because of tiny bits of micro-trash,” said Lisa Payne of American Express.

Though the condors are giant—three-and-a-half feet tall, with a nine-foot wingspan—small pieces of micro-trash, including bottle caps, cigarette butts, and candy wrappers, pose a grave danger. Since the birds don’t have a sense of smell, they rely on their eyesight to find food, but sometimes they confuse viable food sources like bone fragments with small pieces of trash. When ingested, the trash causes the birds to get sick and some may potentially die.

“By volunteering,” Payne said, “we can pick up that micro-trash and help to protect those beautiful condors.”

It’s valuable work, with far-reaching results, and it bolsters the efforts of the park’s staff of more than 400. With so many miles of trails, and so many acres of beauty, there’s lots to care for, but when each of us take ownership we can preserve the canyon for the generations ahead.

“Arizona is where we work, live, and play,” said Rachel Regnier of Arizona Public Service. “We want to take care of our state.” She brought her 6- and 8-year-old daughters along to pick up trash on the trails.

Lori Reischl, an avid hiker of the canyon who works at American Express, urges others to take advantage of the opportunity to get out of the office and make a difference—“Take the family, pitch a tent and enjoy the canyon under the stars. You won’t regret it.”

If your company would like to participate, contact Elizabeth Wilkinson at (602) 819-4248 or ewilkinson@grandcanyon.org.
Capturing the Canyon on Canvas

Celebration of Art has drawn talented artists for 10 years running

In 2009, the inaugural Grand Canyon Celebration of Art was held at the South Rim, bringing talented artists from around the country together to bring their vision of the canyon to life on canvas.

Ten years later, Celebration of Art is an annual tradition, providing a vibrant experience for visitors, a venue for artists inspired by the canyon, and a successful fundraiser to benefit a future art and programming venue at the South Rim.

Since its inception, Celebration of Art has invited participating artists to paint “en plein air” (outside on location) for a week at Grand Canyon. The works created during this time are shown alongside studio-produced pieces at the historic Kolb Studio in an exhibition and sale that extends for four months. Visitors have the opportunity to watch artists paint along the South Rim as they interpret the ever-shifting light and shadow, amazing geologic forms, and vibrant colors of this vast landscape. There will also be free artist demonstrations scheduled at various locations during the week. Join us to celebrate art at the canyon! For event details, visit grandcanyon.org/coa.

EVENT SCHEDULE:

Plein Air at Grand Canyon
September 8–15, 2018
Various locations, Grand Canyon National Park

Quick Draw & Live Auction
Saturday, September 15, 2018
8:00 a.m.–noon
Bright Angel Trailhead

Collectors’ Preview & Sale (Invitation Only)
Saturday, September 15, 2018
5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. • Kolb Studio

Grand Opening Reception & Sale
Sunday, September 16, 2018
11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. • Kolb Studio

Exhibition & Sale
September 16, 2018–January 21, 2019
Kolb Studio

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*Participating sponsors as of May 17, 2018.

A special thank you to our media sponsors: Fine Art Connoisseur, Plein Air Magazine, Sedona Monthly, Southwest Art, True West Magazine, and Western Art Collector.
There are many tour operators at Grand Canyon, but only one that partners with the park and extends the National Park Service’s educational mission—Grand Canyon Association Field Institute (GCAFI). Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the Field Institute is “. . . a swirl of gorgeous night skies, sweat, blisters, and joy,” according to Christa Sadler, a geologist, paleontologist, and author who is a founding instructor for the Field Institute, having led educational programs since 1993.

“Grand Canyon Association Field Institute is the heart and soul of the mission of Grand Canyon Association,” said Howard Weiner, former Grand Canyon Association board chair and frequent Field Institute participant. “The instructors all share the talent of adapting to the needs of each participant,” he said. That means each and every one of the over 3,500 people who participate in the classes each year comes away with a better understanding of the canyon’s rich natural and cultural history, and how to care for this majestic place.

A spirit of learning—of awe and appreciation for the canyon—fuels the Field Institute. “Our clients and guests are driven by curiosity . . . they’re there because they want to learn about the canyon,” Sadler said.
“The Field Institute is a great way to experience the canyon and learn at the same time,” said Jonathan Leighton, M.D., a frequent participant of the Field Institute. “I prefer to take friends who are new to the canyon on a Field Institute trip for that reason.”

Mike Buchheit has led the Field Institute from day one, giving stability to a constantly growing educational tour operation.

“The Field Institute is really respected within the trail guide community of the Grand Canyon,” said Wayne Ranney, a geologist, author, and longtime Field Institute instructor. “The fact that GCAFI has had continuous leadership all this time has made this program so strong. The consistency and dedication that Field Institute Director Mike Buchheit has given to it over the past 25 years has made all the difference in the world.”

“I love that through the Field Institute, we have the opportunity to keep people connected to the canyon,” said Ranney.

“We encourage all of our alumni, supporters, and newcomers to help us celebrate this milestone,” said GCAFI Director Mike Buchheit. “There is no better time to embark on one of our learning adventures, enjoy your favorite canyon, and discover new ways to connect with and protect this iconic park.”

Supporters get the first opportunity to register for Field Institute courses. The 2019 schedule will be announced this fall. To learn more, visit grandcanyon.org/fieldinstitute or call (866) 471-4435.
Now that you know the rules of hiking smart (see page 6), remind others on the trail by sporting Hike Smart gear! A lightweight, adjustable cap, featuring the Grand Canyon Hike Smart logo, keeps you cool and shaded while exploring the canyon. And the Hike Smart Iron-On Patch is a great addition to your backpack, cap, or T-shirt.

Hike Smart Cap
$20.00

Hike Smart Patch
$4.99

Grand Canyon Trails Forever Mug
$24.99

Show your support for Grand Canyon’s trails with this Trails Forever mug, made by Sunset Hill Stoneware. Handmade by a Wisconsin artisan, the mug’s distinctive character is a combination of yesteryear art, modernized for today’s living.

Grand Canyon National Park 3-D Wood Chart
$258.00
13.5” x 31”

The Grand Canyon is a natural wonder, and this unique 3-D wood map shows the majesty of the canyon in topographic detail. Made from Baltic birch, with a solid wood frame, the map includes points of interest such as: Grand Canyon National Park, Hualapai Indian Reservation, Kaibab National Forest, Lava Falls, Marble Canyon, Mohawk Canyon, Prospect Valley, and Saddle Mountain Wilderness.
Thanks to you, 2017 was our most successful year yet! A few highlights include:

$4.9 million in gifts
$9.6 million in sales at Grand Canyon Association Park Stores
18,000 supporters that make it all happen!

Your support helps preserve and protect our grandest of canyons!

Leave a Grand Legacy

Making a bequest through your will or estate plan is a simple, but impactful, way to protect and enhance Grand Canyon National Park for present and future generations.

Find out more by contacting Ann Scheflen, Chief Philanthropy Officer, at (928) 863-3876 or ann@grandcanyon.org.

A Special Thank You to Our Supporters

Photo courtesy NPS