20 CENTENNIAL
19 YEAR IN REVIEW
PURPOSE
Grand Canyon is a national treasure, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, and an international symbol of nature’s grandeur. As the official charitable partner, Grand Canyon Conservancy provides private funding to enable Grand Canyon National Park to raise the margin of excellence for educational programs and preservation, build innovation in park services, and support necessities not funded by federal dollars.

MISSION
We inspire people to protect and enhance Grand Canyon National Park for present and future generations.

VISION
We support Grand Canyon National Park in its goals to provide enriching and fulfilling visitor experiences and to protect the park for future generations. We will achieve this by establishing a stable and growing funding stream, providing enhanced educational experiences, and engaging advocates for the park.
DEAR FRIEND,

2019 was the culmination of years of planning and preparation for Grand Canyon National Park’s Centennial—we can’t believe it’s actually over! Thanks to you and all of our supporters, the 100th birthday of the park was a wonderful success, during which time we completed some very important park projects and worked hand-in-hand with park staff to host educational and informative events throughout the year.

With your help, we’ve continued to improve hiker safety through trail restoration while protecting natural habitats along the way. We completed the conservation of the murals in Desert View Watchtower and continued to grow participation in the Canyon Field School. And thanks to your support, our work to retrofit lights resulted in Grand Canyon National Park being named an International Dark-Sky Park and Dark Sky Place of the Year by the International Dark-Sky Association!

This was also a transitional year for us, as CEO Susan Schroeder retired and Theresa McMullan took the reins as the new CEO.

Thank you for your contributions and continued support—thanks to your generosity, we are working to preserve and protect Grand Canyon National Park for the next 100 years and beyond.

On behalf of GCC’s board of directors and staff, thank you for being part of something GRAND!

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Thank you to Robert (Bob) Hostetler, Julie Klapstein, and Ken Lamm whose service ended in 2019.
Thanks to you, our supporters, the Grand Vision Campaign raised **$17,454,350**, exceeding its goal of $15 million!
Our supporters helped the park restore and maintain over 4,000 linear feet of Hermit, Bright Angel, Grandview, Waldron, and Dripping Springs Trails. Stone walls were rebuilt, rockslides were cleared, and steps were created to improve hiker safety, protect natural habitats, and ensure Grand Canyon’s trails continue to serve the thousands of hikers who visit them annually.

We’re also continuing to raise funds for an endowment to support trail restoration into the future. Soon, this permanent fund will provide an ongoing source of funds for restoration and maintenance of trails throughout the park.
DESERV VIEW INTER-TRIBAL CULTURAL HERITAGE SITE

With your support, the historic American Indian murals that adorn the walls of Desert View Watchtower were conserved and a Cultural Demonstration Series provided opportunities for artisans from the 11 traditionally-associated tribes to share their artistry and craftsmanship with park visitors. Schematic designs have been created to transform the Desert View site into a thriving space that celebrates the tribal heritage of Grand Canyon.

DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION

Thanks to you, the Canyon Field School was re-launched, providing middle and high school students an opportunity to learn about geology, ecology, and human history at Grand Canyon. Your support also funded the Preventive Search and Rescue program to help hikers on the trails, and a project to establish new populations of the endangered Humpback Chub in Shinumo, Havasu, and Bright Angel Creeks.
PROTECTING THE NIGHT SKY

In 2019, Grand Canyon National Park received International Dark-Sky Park status from the International Dark-Sky Association and was also named Dark Sky Place of the year. Through your generosity, 1,750 lights in the park were replaced with dark-sky compliant light bulbs and fixtures.
2019
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
A NEW SHADE STRUCTURE AT TIPOFF PROVIDES RELIEF FOR HIKERS

If you were in the canyon on Halloween 2019, you may have seen a rather amazing sight—a helicopter delivering a shade structure into the canyon, at Tipoff, 4.4 miles from the South Kaibab Trailhead. The shade structure now provides shelter for South Kaibab hikers in an area that previously had been one of the most exposed along the trail.

“We receive a lot of calls from people on the lower half of the South Kaibab Trail who experience fatigue or are overheated,” said Grand Canyon National Park Ranger Debbie Brenchley. “This shelter will benefit people who could use a rest house to recover during their hike, especially during the summer.”

The structure is 12 feet by 24 feet with 4-foot overhangs to provide shade around the exterior. It features shade screens to provide air flow, six benches inside, and a lightning protection system to protect the structure and occupants from lightning strikes. There are also two 125-gallon cisterns to provide non-potable water for visitors to use to cool down.
PARTNERSHIPS BRING MORE AWARENESS TO GCC

Thanks to our corporate sponsors, Grand Canyon Conservancy was able to reach more people across the United States and beyond during this celebratory year. Thank you to our major Centennial sponsors:

AND THANK YOU TO OUR CENTENNIAL MARKETING PARTNERS:
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OTHER SPECIAL PARTNERSHIPS IN 2019 INCLUDED:
• The National Park Foundation and Nissan, which donated an Ultimate Parks TITAN truck to Grand Canyon Conservancy for use by the Canyon Field School.

• OARS, which donated a Diamond Down Colorado River trip to the Canyon Field School for 15 passengers, including our Field School instructor. The group consisted of Hopi teenagers and their adult trip leader.
2019's Celebration of Art was the best yet with gross sales over $358,000. Proceeds from this event will be used toward a South Rim art venue. Twenty-three artists painted en plein air on the rim, capturing the canyon’s views on canvas. The always-popular Quick Draw, during which artists have two hours to paint a complete work, was followed by a raucous auction at Bright Angel Trailhead. The weekend provided some challenging windy weather but included many opportunities to watch artists paint in the open air. The exhibition and sale at Kolb Studio continued through January 20, 2020.
709 participants in the Canyon Field School

3,100 participants in Grand Canyon Conservancy Field Institute

741 hiker assists by Preventive Search and Rescue

12,500 attendees of the 2019 Star Party

1,750 lightbulbs retrofitted for Dark-Sky Park status

Four floors of murals conserved at Desert View Watchtower

$750,000 economic impact of cultural demonstration series to Grand Canyon’s traditionally-associated tribes
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

Grand Canyon Conservancy is grateful for the many people, companies, and organizations that supported Grand Canyon National Park through donations between January 1 and December 31, 2019. Every effort has been made to ensure that this list is accurate. Due to space constraints, we are only able to include those who contributed $1,000 or more. Regardless of amount, your contribution helps us inspire present and future generations to protect and preserve Grand Canyon. Multi-year pledges are recognized the year the pledge was made.

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Grand Canyon Conservancy’s 2019 audited financial statement will be available on our website, grandcanyon.org by April 30, 2020.
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