



Connecting you to the Cosmos

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

ABOUT US

Wyoming Stargazing is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Jackson Wyoming that excels at making the often difficult to understand concepts of astronomy accessible to everyone.

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The mission of
Wyoming Stargazing
is to **educate** and
inspire through
Wyoming's
extraordinary skies
and the Universe
beyond.

ED Statement & Leadership Team

This year was huge for me personally and for Wyoming Stargazing. I got married, I became a father, and construction began on the Snow King Observatory and Planetarium. In addition, Wyoming Stargazing took on a much larger role than ever before in the Teton County School District with five of our staff members assisting in the Achievement Via Individual Determination (AVID) classrooms five days a week. We also secured funding for a \$5,000/year four-year scholarship with wrap around support provided by First in Family JH and four years of paid internships at the University of Wyoming thanks to our friends at the WY NASA Space Grant Consortium and the University of Wyoming Science Initiative. This new work in STEM education allowed us to grow the Wyoming Stargazing Team beyond the summer months and offer year round employment to many of our seasonal staff.



As Wyoming Stargazing enters our 10th year in 2023 we are proud to be supporting students in the Teton County School District more than ever before on a day-to-day basis. There is a lot of excitement about how that relationship will grow over the next several years. With the amazing support from all of you, especially from Max Chapman and Snow King Mountain Resort, our vision of having an observatory and planetarium in Jackson is about to become a reality in the fall of 2023! That facility will offer incredible educational resources to our community, will contribute to professional astronomical research, and will put Jackson on the map as a hub of astrotourism in the West. We can't wait to see you all up there under the stars.

Samuel Singer
Founder & Executive Director

Maggie - Operations Director

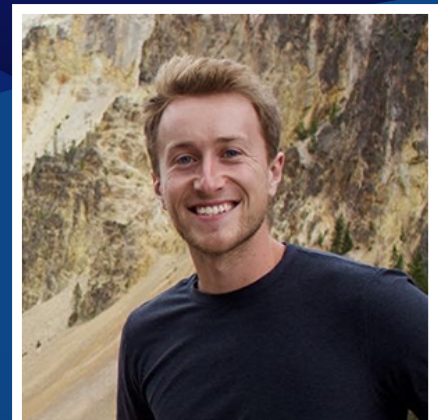
Maggie graduated from Pacific University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. While in school and for a few years post-graduation, she worked at a salon and spa, eventually becoming responsible for overseeing all marketing, social media, inventory, operations, and client relations. She connected with Wyoming Stargazing in 2020 and fell in love with the organization; starting out as an Administrative Assistant and becoming the Operations Director in 2021. Maggie is proud to work with the Executive Director and Program Director behind-the-scenes on public and private programming. Outside work, Maggie enjoys live music, paddle-boarding, running, hiking, watching horror movies, binging podcasts, exploring the outdoors, hanging out with her partner and playing with their three cats.



Augustus - Program Director

Gus comes from Bourne Massachusetts, and attended Villanova University in Pennsylvania. He received his bachelor's degree in astronomy and astrophysics, with a minor in physics. During university, he worked at Villanova's public observatory, and researched habitability of exoplanets. Gus came to Wyoming Stargazing for the first time in 2019, and spent the summer as a Stargazing leader.

After he graduated in 2020, Gus spent 2 years living in Rhode Island working as an early elementary teacher. In the spring of 2022 Gus returned to Wyoming Stargazing as the Program Director. Gus enjoys any and all outdoor activities, mainly hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, biking, and fishing.



Stargazing Staff

BEN



Ben hails from southern Ohio in the foothills of the Appalachian mountains. Always close to nature, he developed a love for the sky and the questions it implores us to ponder. From a young age, Ben found great fulfillment in sharing the human experience of the sky with others, which led him to Wyoming Stargazing after studying astronomy at Ohio State University. He now lives in Jackson year round and is happy to be a member of the local community. In his free time, Ben enjoys going to the gym, hiking around Jackson Hole, and experiencing local food and drink.

Brynn is originally from St. Charles, Illinois. She graduated with a B.S. in Astronomy and Astrophysics with a certificate in Planetary Sciences from The Ohio State University in May of 2022. In college, she worked in the planetarium on the Ohio State campus as a research assistant and an instructional aid. This is her first summer in Jackson and she's excited to be working as a Telescope Operator for Wyoming Stargazing.

BRYNN



DAVE



Dave Martin grew up under the mountains of the greater Seattle area. He developed an intimate connection with the Cosmos at a young age thanks in part to his dad taking him into the mountains to watch meteor showers and locate constellations. He also has his mom to thank for her love of science fiction, which made his imagination run wild with what could be out there. His goal is to help others connect with this part of nature, and help people to understand that we are not only tiny specks in the vast cosmic arena, but living, breathing, fractals of the universe pondering its very existence.

Josh originates from Olathe, Kansas. In 2015 he graduated from the University of Missouri – Kansas City with degrees in Physics and Astronomy where he went on to work with an international research group studying the evolution of galaxies across cosmic time. In 2018 he spent a year working at a remote observatory under the dark southern skies of NSW, Australia. Following his passion for science communication and for the outdoors, he came out to Jackson in 2019 to work with Wyoming Stargazing. When he's not out leading programs, you can find him pouring the best lattes in town at both Picnic and Persephone Bakery

JOSH



Stargazing Staff

JR



At a very young age, JR was interested in the sky. He has early childhood memories of the Apollo missions. Watching Neil Armstrong walking on the moon on TV started his interest in astronomy. His mom gave him his first Planisphere at the age of about 10. He spent countless nights looking at the stars and planets. He moved to Jackson in 2012 and became friends with Wyoming Stargazing. He started to volunteer at events, then lead public programs. Now, he leads private programs and shares his love of astronomy. His education is mostly self-taught through the voyage of discovery using a lot of resources including enrolling in Kahn Academy online Cosmology and Astronomy courses. JR looks forward to meeting you and enjoying the night sky.

NICOLE



Nicole is originally from Fort Worth, Texas. In May 2022, she received a bachelor's degree from Texas Christian University, majoring in Astronomy & Physics and minoring in Mathematics and Sustainability. She was part of an astronomy research group for three out of her four years at TCU and presented research on binary star detection at the American Astronomical Society meeting in January of 2021. Through college, Nicole spent her time working odd jobs such as floral assistant, substitute P.E. teacher, tutor, and legal assistant, but her love of astronomy education was inspired by her job as a guest experience host in the planetarium at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History.

RACHEL



Rachel is from Savannah, GA and moved to Jackson at the beginning of the summer to stargaze in Wyoming's beautiful night skies. She graduated from the University of Georgia with a bachelors in Astrophysics in the spring of 2022. She researched diffuse molecular clouds in the Milky Way as an undergraduate and is excited to continue pursuing her passion for Astrophysics here in Jackson with Wyoming Stargazing. When she isn't out studying the night skies, Rachel also works as a bus driver for a whitewater rafting company. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and baking.

RAMONA



Ramona graduated from the University of Minnesota with degrees in Astrophysics and Computational Physics. She spent her academic career leading planetarium shows, researching the auroras of the gigantic planet Jupiter, and operating the O'Brien Observatory in -40 degree weather. This is Ramona's first summer living in Jackson, and she's eager to share the charm of the night sky.

JEDI in STEM



MOTIVATION

To promote **Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI)** in STEM fields.



TOTAL TEACHING HOURS IN 2022
700+

TUTORING HOURS IN 2022
340+

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS PARTNERED WITH
3

EDUCATORS
5

STEM LESSON HOURS IN 2022
350+

WEATHER BALLOON LUNCHES
3



JEDI in STEM

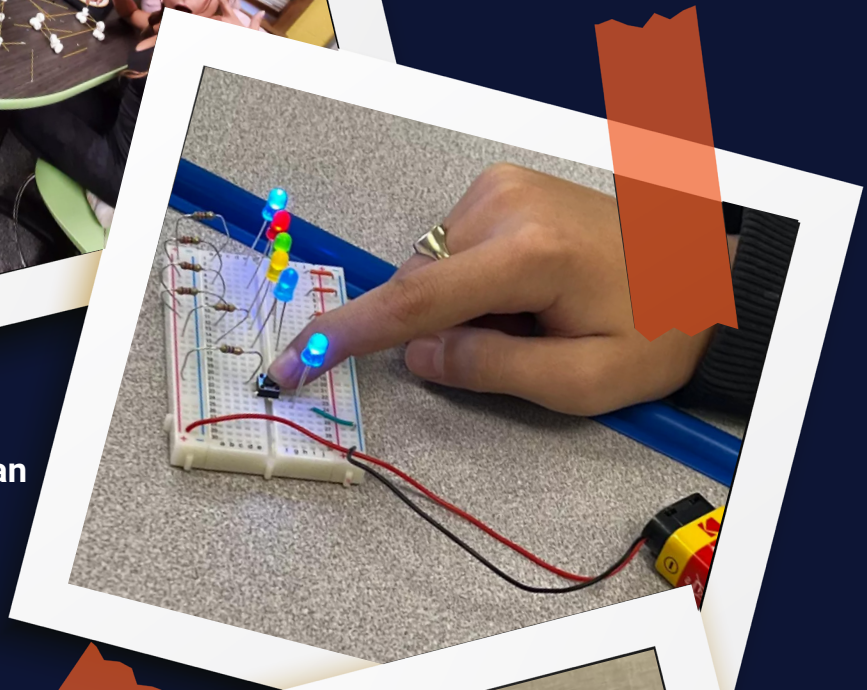
Our STEM mentorship lessons have included scientific and mathematical reasoning as well as hands-on opportunities for learning such as:

- > launching weather balloons with data collection devices
- > 30 Days Lost in Space: a fun, interactive stimulation in which students learn to code and wire circuit boards while attempting to repair their shuttle and return home safely



In future semesters, we plan to incorporate:

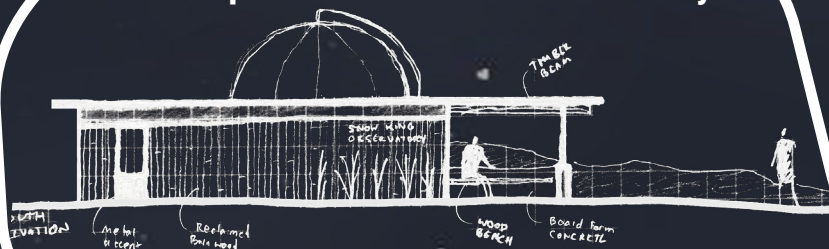
- > building telescopes
- > fabricating & launching nanosats
- > and more!



Snow King Observa

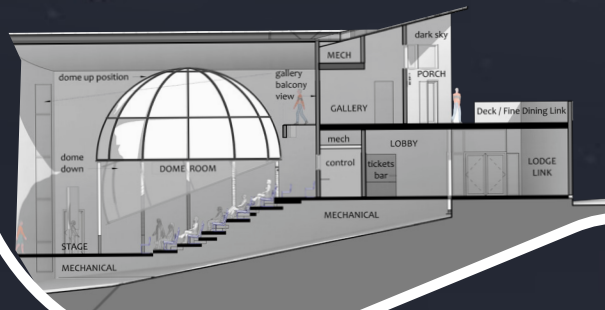
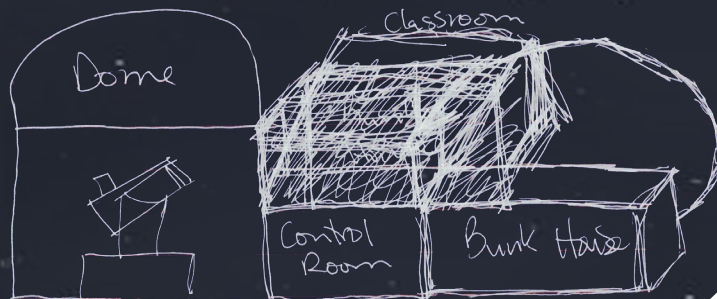
2015

Jakub Galczynzki, designer, makes first professional sketch of the facility.



2014

**The very first back-of-the-envelope sketch
of the Snow King Observatory & Planetarium
by our Executive Director, Samuel Singer.**



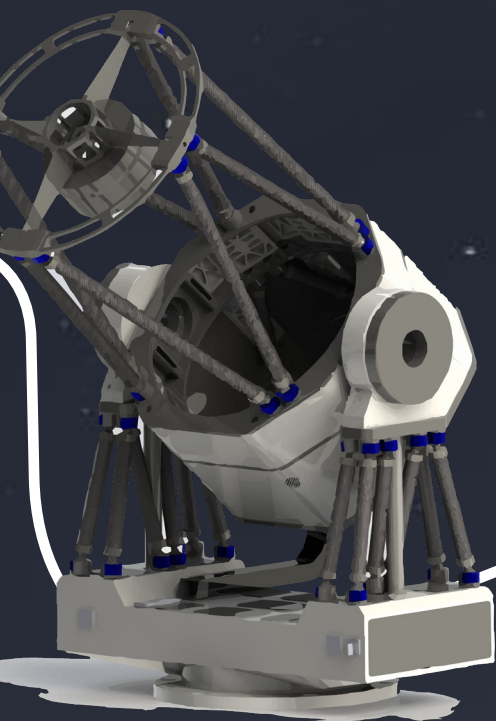
2016 - 2019

Working towards approval from the Town of Jackson for the Snow King Phase II Development Plan and from the Forest Service for construction on the summit. Research & development for telescope, planetarium systems, design, etc.



NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST
observatory & planetarium
AT THE SUMMIT OF A SKI RESORT

atory & Planetarium



2020
Town of Jackson
approves Snow
King Phase II
Development Plan

2021

US Forest
Service approves
construction at
the summit



Wyoming Stargazing - Snow King Observatory and Planetarium | Cam 1

Wyoming Stargazing
274 subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

2022 Construction Progress
December 2022

2022
Construction begins
in June 2022



Wyoming Stargazing - Snow King Observatory and Planetarium | Cam 1

Wyoming Stargazing
274 subscribers

SUBSCRIBE



THE

Astro

SHOW

VIEWS IN 2022

5,011

(56% increase from 2021)

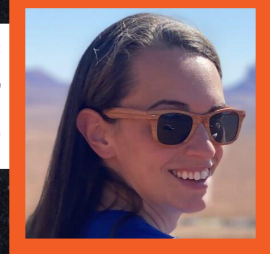
WATCH TIME 2022

670+
HOURS

(121% increase
from 2021)



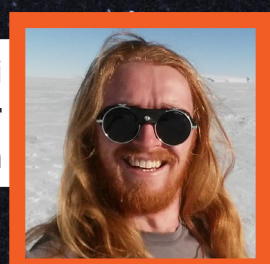
Dr. Lauren Corlies
Data Visualization Engineer
Adler Planetarium



Valerie Stimac
Author & Founder
Space Tourism Guide



Dr. Nora Bailey
Science Communicator
Nora's Guide to the Galaxy



Dr. Nicholas Galitzki
Assistant Professor
University of Texas at Austin



Dr. Danielle Carroll, MD
NASA/TRISH Researcher
General Surgery Resident
Founder, Orbital Biodesign



YOUR HOST: DR. SAMUEL SINGER

Stargazing at Stilson

PROGRAMS

28

CHILDREN

107

ADULTS

383

FREE
STARGAZING
TONIGHT



STARGAZING AT STILSON *2022 highlights*



JULY 30TH 2022: We hosted our 2nd annual Lights Out Jackson Hole event in conjunction with Stargazing at Stilson.

AUGUST 25TH 2022: We were joined at Stilson by Jarrod Bales, an Education & Outreach Specialist with NASA's Launch Services Program! He handed out some free NASA swag and shared some information about LSP!



Save Our Night Skies

2

Teton County adopted an updated exterior lighting standard based on over 50 recommendations from Wyoming Stargazing, which qualifies Teton County to apply for Dark Sky Community certification from the International Dark Sky Association (IDA).

0

The Town of Jackson (ToJ) adopted an updated exterior lighting standard based on over 50 recommendations from Wyoming Stargazing, which almost qualifies the ToJ (warranting and amortization statements are still needed) to apply for Dark Sky Community certification from the International Dark Sky Association (IDA).

2

We completed a comprehensive exterior lighting inventory of Grand Teton National Park, which is a requirement for applying for Dark Sky Park certification from the IDA. We began conversations with the GTNP Superintendent Chip Jenkins about pursuing certification as well as with the Grand Teton Park Foundation about raising the money to bring all existing exterior lights into compliance with dark sky

2

We received the go ahead from the ToJ and Teton County to conduct a comprehensive exterior lighting inventory for the ToJ and Teton County. We'll conduct that inventory in June 2023. By the end of the summer we'll know what needs to be done to get Jackson and Teton County on the path to becoming Dark Sky Communities.

“

By the end of summer 2023, we'll know exactly what needs to be done to get Jackson and Teton County on the path to becoming **Dark Sky Communities**.



Private Programming

TOTAL PROGRAMS
346

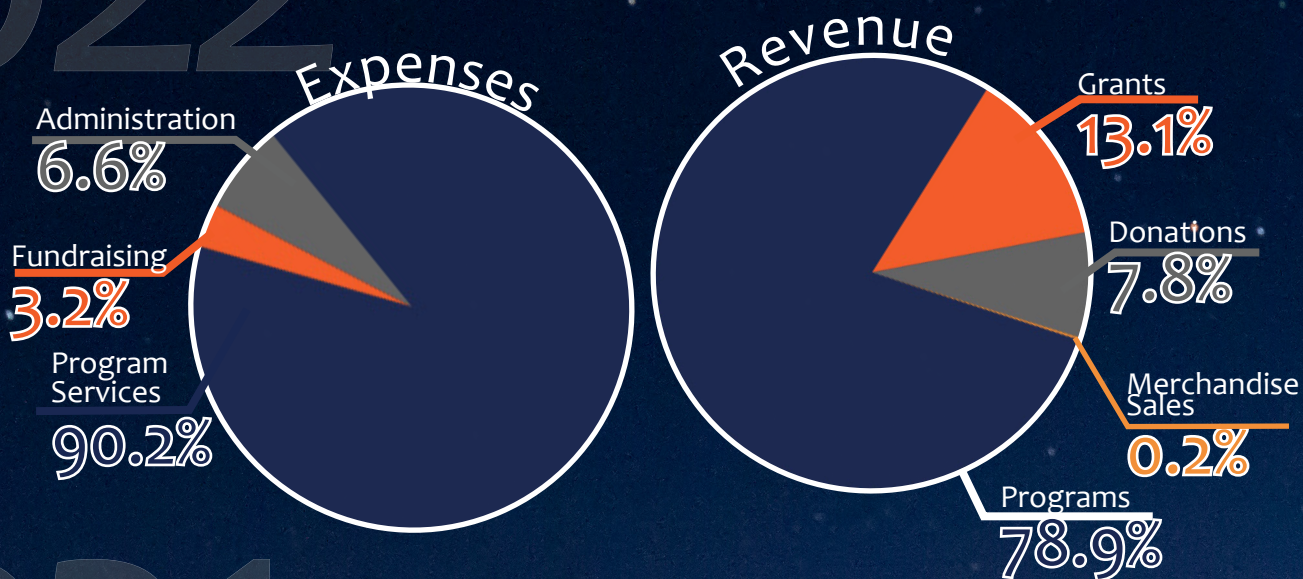
ADULT ATTENDEES
1360

STUDENT ATTENDEES
360

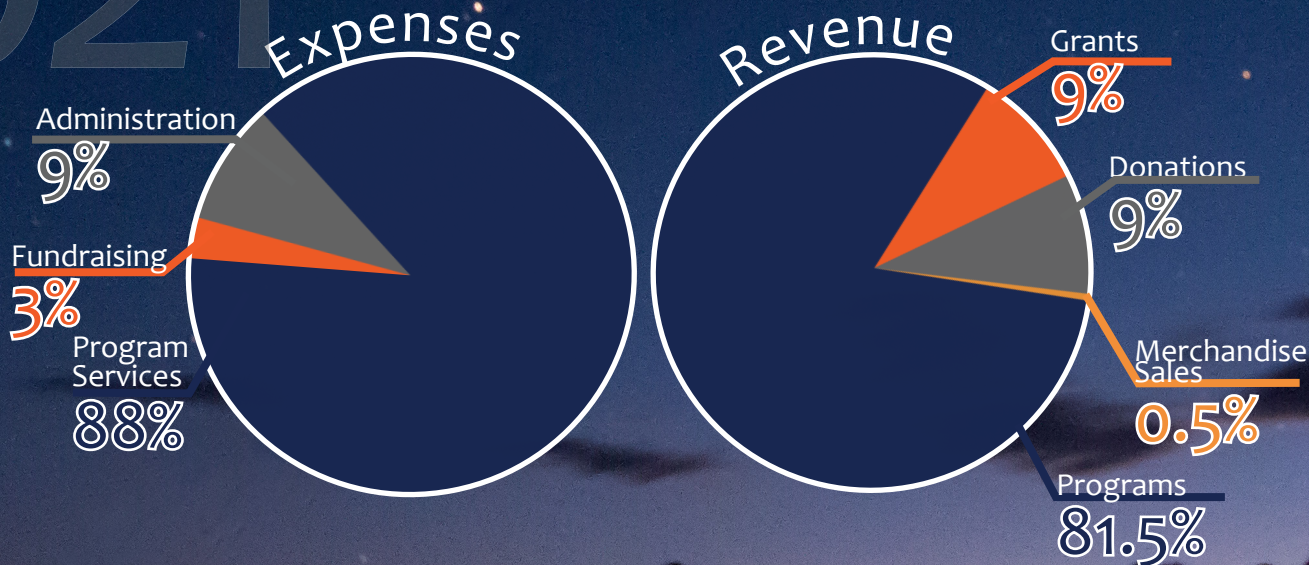
Wyoming Stargazing is an authorized permittee of Grand Teton National Park.
We're thrilled to be entering our 10th year of stargazing!

Finances

2022



2021



Finances

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

REVENUE

Cash Donations	\$30,131.53
Grants	\$56,442.00
Old Bill's Grant	\$54,642.00
Merchandise Sales	\$867.43
Program Services	\$338,920.43
Total Revenue	\$481,033.39
Gross Profit	\$481,033.39

EXPENDITURES

Advertising	\$9,845.48
Attendance Fees	\$132.00
Bank Charges	\$65.05
Commissions Paid	\$16,400.75
Dues & Subscriptions	\$19,327.20
Food	\$2,308.96
In-Kind Expenses	\$1060.00
Insurance	\$23,951.19
Interest Expense	\$5,606.86
Legal & Professional Fees	\$7,351.00
Licenses and Titles	\$1,486.43
Merchandise	\$1,994.61
Merchant Processing Fees	\$4,486.21
Payroll Expenditures	\$184,243.06
Program Supplies	\$15,797.39
Rent	\$25,321.96
Repair & Maintenance	\$878.25
Shipping & Delivery Expense	\$1,388.36
Staff Relocation & Development	\$407.65
Subcontractors	\$139,565.22
Transportation	\$11,051.29
Utilities	\$2,183.18
Total Expenditures	\$474,852.10
Depreciation Expense	\$56,933.00
Interest Earned	\$292.50
Proceeds from Sales of Assets	\$3,361.50
Net Revenue	\$-47,390.21

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Accounts	
Meridian Trust Checking	\$73,833.77
Meridian Trust Money Market	\$61,005.56
Meridian Trust Savings	\$3,552.39
Meridian Trust Scholarship Fund	\$5,982.93
Total Bank Accounts	\$144,374.65
Accounts Receivable	\$17,708.50
Total Accounts Receivable	\$17,708.50
Total Other Current Assets	\$4,236.65
Total Current Assets	\$166,319.80
Total Fixed Assets	\$124,984.34
TOTAL ASSETS	\$291,301.14

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Total Accounts Payable	\$-1,050.13
Payroll Tax Liability	\$5,466.70
Program Deposits	\$13,155.00
Vehicle Loans	
2017 Ford Transit	\$12,826.37
2017 Chevy Suburban	\$22,183.61
2018 Ford Transit	\$25,267.88
2019 Ford Transit	\$40,622.92
Total Vehicle Loans	\$100,900.78
WY Sales Tax Payable	\$0.57
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$119,523.05
Total Current Liabilities	\$118,472.92
Total Liabilities	\$118,472.92
Permanently Restricted Funds	\$5,982.93
Unrestricted Funds	\$214,238.50
Net Revenue	\$-47,390.21
Total Equity	\$172,831.22
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$291,304.14

2022 Contributions Report

We are always grateful to those of you who support Wyoming Stargazing financially with cash donations and gifts of astronomical equipment. We would not be able to inspire and educate so many people without your generous contributions.

In the last eight years Wyoming Stargazing has raised \$732,984.98 combined from donations (\$236,091.55) and grants (\$329,660.12). Our smallest donation has been less than \$1 and our largest single donation has been \$10,000. Grants have ranged in size from \$100 to \$35,000. Nearly one quarter of all received contributions have come through Old Bill's Fun Run which is facilitated by the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole.

These contributions have been used in three different ways. First, they were used to purchase equipment for our stargazing programs, solar astronomy programs, and our planetarium programs. We have been able to acquire several telescopes with 11" to 25" mirrors that we use to show people incredible details on the Moon, the rings of Saturn, cloud bands on Jupiter, the phases of Venus, star clusters, nebulae, galaxies,

and more. These telescopes are a central part of meeting our mission of inspiring and educating through Wyoming's extraordinary skies and the Universe beyond. We use much smaller solar telescopes to provide opportunities to show people sunspots, solar flares, and other amazing solar features. We have also purchased three specialized digital cameras that can project real time images of the Sun and nighttime objects through the telescopes onto flat screen monitors enabling people with physical disabilities to view those objects with ease. Wyoming Stargazing also owns a digital planetarium system that was acquired through generous donations, grants, and proceeds from private stargazing programs. That facility which can be set up inside an auditorium or outside within the Dark Sky Pavilion (also acquired through grants and donations) provides incredible digital images of the Universe and full-length films designed for planetarium domes. The second way these contributions were spent was to substantially subsidize the cost of our programming for schools and other nonprofit organizations. Wyoming Stargazing has offered stargazing programs,

solar astronomy programs, indoor astronomy presentations, and planetarium programs to Teton County Schools, local private schools, to Driggs Elementary School, and to several other local nonprofit organizations. We have done so independently and in collaboration with other organizations including pARTners, after school programs run by Teton County Parks and Recreation, CREST, GAP, and TCSD AVID. Over the last nine years we have offered more than 1,000 school programs (in-person and virtual combined) across grade levels ranging from pre-k to high school to over 10,000 students.

The third way contributions have been spent was to support the operation of our year-round, free, public, astronomy programs, including programming related to our Save Our Night Skies Campaign. Over the past nine years Wyoming Stargazing has offered 600 of these free programs (in-person and virtual combined) to the Jackson Hole

Community and to a few other communities in Wyoming to over 25,000 attendees. While monetary contributions were necessary to purchase supplies, compensate stargazing leaders, and cover the costs of transportation, the in-kind donations we received from our partners and the hundreds of hours of volunteer labor also made these programs possible. Wyoming Stargazing has been continuously humbled by the generosity and support of the Jackson Hole Community. We are deeply appreciative of all the assistance we have received. We are committed to continuing to offer inspiring and educational astronomy programs for everyone.



2022 Old Bill's Donors & Acknowledg

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MONTESINOS
FISH CREEK
OAKLEY |
JACKSON

Thank you

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Thank you
**FOR YOUR
CONTRIBUTION TO OUR
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