

THORNE NATURE EXPERIENCE



WILL PARTICIPATE IN
A 12-WEEK NATURE
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Thorne Nature Experience is one of our nation's leading environmental education centers, with a mission to build earth stewardship by providing youth with joyful, hands-on, place-based environmental experiences that foster an emotional connection to nature.

We believe that climate change and environmental destruction present existential threats to our society – and we are committed to making a meaningful impact towards the global fight against climate change, for example through supporting initiatives that help reduce carbon emissions, conserve water and reduce waste, regenerate and conserve the ocean, and promote renewable energy sources.

One of the organizations that the ADI Foundation supported during 2020 was the Thorne Nature Experience – which aligns both with our environmental priorities, as well as with our broader commitment to education. Founded in 1954 by Dr. Oakleigh Thorne II, Thorne Nature Experience is one of the U.S.'s leading environmental education centers, with a mission to build earth stewardship by providing youth with joyful, hands-on, place-based environmental experiences that foster an emotional connection to nature.

Well known for their award-winning preschool, summer camp, and school programs, what sets the organization apart from most others in its field is Thorne's Nature for All Program and commitment to collaboration. Thorne believes nature is a bridge to a better life for children, and its commitment to equitable access to nature is shown through awarding more than \$500,000 a year in scholarships to low-income families. Thorne's collaborative efforts are highlighted by serving as the backbone organization for the nation's largest community scale environmental education project, Nature Kids/Jovenes de la Naturaleza (NKJN) Lafayette. NKJN is a 20-organization, five-year, \$10 million project to ensure all youth in Lafayette, CO, live within a safe 10-minute walk to nature. The project also provides pre-k to high school and backyard-to-backcountry environmental education experiences to low-income youth and families with specific emphasis placed on serving Lafayette's Latino community. Thorne is currently working to expand NKJN to the neighboring cities of Boulder and Longmont, CO.

