The High Mountain Institute engages students with the natural world. Our school boldly unites rigorous intellectual inquiry, experiential learning, wilderness expeditions, and shared responsibility in a strong community. Our students realize their potential—as leaders, independent thinkers, and thoughtful citizens.
In the beginning of June we welcomed back nearly 350 alumni and friends to celebrate twenty years of HMI. The weekend was affirming, astounding, and inspiring—not to mention so much fun. Our community believes deeply in the work of our school; the collective reverence for HMI was palpable.

At the beginning of the event, during registration, we asked: where has HMI led you? This is a glimpse of what we heard:

HMI LED ME TO who I am today
HMI LED ME TO incredible, challenging adventures all over the world
HMI LED ME TO confidence and self-acceptance
HMI LED ME TO being my best self, a role-model for others, and an advocate for the people and places who need an ally.

We saw throughout the reunion that HMI has led our community to places of purpose and lives of meaning. In turn, our community inspires HMI to continue striving to offer the very best, life-changing education that we can.

Whether you were able to attend the Reunion or not, we remain grateful for all of the ways you have led HMI to be a better, stronger institution. Only through the support of many can we proudly celebrate the last twenty years, and look forward to a hopeful future.

With appreciation,

Danny O’Brien, Head of School
dobrien@hminet.org | 719-486-8200 x101
Thanks to our donors, we carry the promise of HMI from year to year so that this life-changing institution can continue to have a positive impact on our students—and so that our students can have a positive impact on the world. Each dollar raised in the HMI Fund goes toward crucial components of our school’s success:

**FINANCIAL AID: ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY**

The HMI Fund supports our robust financial aid program. Offering financial aid allows us to craft a community where talent, ambition, and curiosity take precedent—not a family’s ability to pay. It also means that our students have the opportunity to learn and grow from people with diverse backgrounds, viewpoints, and stories. Education becomes exponentially richer when a broad range of students come together, which is why we choose to invest your gifts in this important resource.

**FACULTY AND STAFF: HONORING THOSE WHO MAKE IT POSSIBLE**

It’s because of our faculty and staff that students receive an exceptional education at HMI. Honoring this dedicated group is a priority for us: over the past five years, the HMI Fund has allowed HMI to increase salaries and benefits above and beyond tuition increases. We continue to expand our professional development budget to help teachers master their crafts and buoy their work with students from all places and walks of life.

**CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS: CARING FOR OUR HOME**

Our campus supports and enables virtually every single part of our school—from the cabins where students build trust and bonds, to the classrooms that provide a place for intellectual inquiry, to the kitchen that feeds our entire community. This well-loved physical space contains the magic of HMI. But like anything that is well-loved, care and attention must be extended in order to sustain it—and the HMI Fund allows us to do just that.
WHAT DOES YOUR GENEROSITY ENABLE?

THIS YEAR WE RECEIVED 832 GIFTS TO THE HMI FUND. WITH YOUR INCREDIBLE SUPPORT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO:

AWARD $735,397 IN NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID IN 2018; 30% of incoming Semester students will have received a financial aid package.

INCREASE OUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUDGET BY 100%. Now our faculty and staff can attend more workshops and conferences centered around diversity, equity, and inclusion to continue growing our efforts in these important areas.

INCLUDE EVERY STUDENT IN FAMILY WEEKEND by purchasing plane tickets for families who otherwise could not afford them; we believe every student deserves to share this place with the people they love.

IMPROVE OUR CAMPUS with cisterns for fire safety, high-speed internet for more efficient learning, and equipment for our new maintenance shop.
THE PURPOSE
Of course, the success of the Campaign for Community will not only be measured by the dollars raised or the completion of construction. The success of this campaign also lies in the countless ways this project will impact our school for years to come. Because of our donors, we can look forward to increased opportunities for authentic connection, togetherness, and a sense of belonging. To maximize the potential of on-campus housing, HMI has taken great care to ensure that each element aligns with our mission and honors the dedicated faculty and staff who live there.

CAMPAIGN FOR COMMUNITY

With the arrival of a $500,000 gift—the largest in our history—HMI ambitiously embarked on a $4.5 million capital campaign to build on-campus housing for our faculty and staff. The response to our Campaign for Community has been remarkable: with just over $300,000 left to raise, we have spent the last year planning to integrate these homes into the fabric of our school.

THE PURPOSE
Of course, the success of the Campaign for Community will not only be measured by the dollars raised or the completion of construction. The success of this campaign also lies in the countless ways this project will impact our school for years to come. Because of our donors, we can look forward to increased opportunities for authentic connection, togetherness, and a sense of belonging. To maximize the potential of on-campus housing, HMI has taken great care to ensure that each element aligns with our mission and honors the dedicated faculty and staff who live there.

We remain grateful for all of the generous donors who are helping to make this possible, and believing in this project as much as we do. We look forward to stewarding your contribution in ways that will strengthen our mission well into the future.
THE PROCESS

In 2016 and 2017, HMI solicited feedback from all faculty and staff. What is most important to you in a home? What would you like to see included? What concerns you? This effort to identify priorities, ideas, and questions uncovered some common denominators that informed the work of the On-Campus Housing Committee. The committee, comprised of faculty, staff, and administrators, met for the past year to tackle a wide range of topics; members collaborated with our architect, gave feedback on a proposed compensation plan, and helped to draft policies for living on campus. By asking thoughtful questions and engaging with the rest of our community, the committee is, with your help, guiding HMI intentionally into the next chapter of our story.

THE PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Construction for this phase of our project has begun! We expect the townhomes will be ready for occupancy during the 2019-2020 school year. We will then proceed with building three single-family homes, and assess needs for additional housing. In the meantime, the On-Campus Housing Committee will continue to work, on the ground level, for a smooth transition.

RESPONSIBLE CONSTRUCTION

WE ARE THRILLED THAT THESE HOMES WILL REDUCE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND PROVIDE COST SAVINGS FOR HMI.

HERE’S HOW:

• By investing in quality windows and insulation, we remove the need to bury more fuel tanks and install large, costly HVAC systems

• Reducing heating demands by 60% allows us to use electric-based air source heat pumps

• Using roof-mounted solar to offset the remaining electrical demands from heating and high efficiency fixtures

• Creating no long-term burden on the environment, as well as drastically reducing operational costs, with "net-zero" housing

• Increasing natural lighting and air quality in high-performance homes like these is shown to increase occupant health and productivity

• Deliberately choosing materials that are recycled, found, and have little to no VOC emissions are better for both the environment and people
A healthy endowment is indicative of a healthy school. Donors have helped HMI build an unrestricted endowment of over $5 million; these funds will always be in place to help HMI offer the same transformational experience tomorrow as we do today.

We are proud of our endowment’s growth and excited about the potential it provides to us to approach our work with strength. The stronger the endowment, the more HMI is able to recruit and retain a diverse student body, compensate our wonderful faculty and staff, and maintain our facilities. A portion of HMI’s endowment is used each year to support these programs.

Without the generous donations from alums, I would not have received the financial aid I needed to attend HMI as both a student and apprentice. I would not have been able to have the incredible experience that helped me find my voice.
CELEBRATING THE MT. ELBERT CIRCLE

Our donors in the Mt. Elbert Circle have made a significant contribution to HMI by supporting our mission for five or more consecutive years. While we remain grateful for the financial impact of their gifts, we are also incredibly inspired by the reasons they choose to give time after time—their belief in HMI motivates us to continue connecting teenagers with the natural world. We are thrilled to introduce you to a couple of these individuals who have helped HMI grow as a vibrant and transformative institution.

“IT HAS BEEN OVER 15 YEARS SINCE I ATTENDED HMI, and it still stands as one of the most influential experiences of my life. The ability to escape traditional high school and immerse in a world of nature, academics, and building community, is something truly special. I do my best to give every year, sometimes a little, to honor this experience with the hope that it will help students from all backgrounds to engage in this life-changing opportunity.”

—Isaiah Thomas, Semester 8, Director of Residential Communities at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

“HMI CHANGED MY LIFE” is a common enough refrain amongst alumni, but it means something different for all of us. For me, it comes down to three R’s: Risk, Responsibility, and Respect. HMI was the first big risk I took. Leaving home, traveling to a new place, pushing my body and mind in ways I’d never been tested, all with a group of complete strangers. HMI was also my first taste of true responsibility. Sure I’d had chores, homework, and babysitting in the past, but never keeping the group together as Leader of the Day, designing trip plans, or preparing a meal for hungry and tired tarp-mates. When people ask me what made HMI so different, I often come back to the enormous respect I felt for the place and people around me and how a sense of stewardship is something I have carried forward ever since. I feel that contributing financially to HMI is part of my ongoing stewardship of the place that “changed my life.”

—Sam Wilson Harlow, Semester 3, English Faculty at Stratton Mountain School, Stratton, VT
HMI was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The community gave me strength; the expeditions gave me confidence. I wouldn’t be myself without my time in the Rocky Mountains.
THE MT. ELBERT CIRCLE recognizes donors who have given consecutively for the last five years or more. This is a remarkable demonstration of loyalty and such steadfast support fills us with gratitude. The ▲ in these pages of donor listings indicate those who have made this exceptional commitment to HMI.

Thank you, HMI donors!

With sincere gratitude we list the following donors who have supported HMI this fiscal year by making gifts to the HMI Fund, Campaign for Community, or endowment. Through their generosity, support, and commitment to our school we continue to discover great things when nature and minds meet.

This list reflects donations made to the High Mountain Institute between July 1, 2017 and May 31, 2018. We have made every effort to ensure that this list is complete and accurate. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Reed Holden with any corrections by calling 719-486-8200 x121 or emailing rholden@hminet.org.
EXpedition LEaders

The following donors have set themselves apart by making major gifts to our school. It is an honor to acknowledge the tremendous role they play in helping us to provide such transformative outcomes for our students.

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& Dr. Carol Peterson
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& Katharine McKenna
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& Erin Finn-Welch
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Dominic Surprenant
& Jennifer Kell
Jeff Tannenbaum & Nisa Geller
Steuart & Linda Thomsen ▲
Frederick Wang
Bruce & Susan Weiner ▲
10,200’ CIRCLE

Named after the elevation of Leadville, these donors help us reach extraordinary heights by making donations of $1,000 or more.

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ALUMNI
Ayden Georgi
Matthew Palevsky
Andrew David Spina ▲
SUPPORTERS OF HMI

Our vibrant community of supporters inspires us, and is a testament to the far-reaching impact of our mission and programs.

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Libbey Holewski & Alex Snyder
Richard & Meryl Holland
Steven & Louisa Hollman

WAYS TO GIVE

We are thrilled and grateful to receive:
Gifts of Securities & Stocks • Matching Gifts
Planned Gifts • Recurring Gifts

For more information, please visit www.hminet.org/ways-to-give
I donate because HMI challenges students to become compassionate, strong, and effective leaders within their communities. We need this now, more than ever.
David Hoppe
Carol Hunt
John Jacobson
& Dr. Elizabeth Laverack
Blair & Steve Jenkins
Randall & Amy Jones
Dr. William Joseph
& Sigrid Bergenstein
Tom Judge
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Michael & Allison Reigel
Karl & Martha Remsen
A decade later, the skills and knowledge I gained through HMI still continue to shape my relationships, my career and academic goals, and my outlook on life. And a decade later, my best friends are still those I met in my cabin.
Sophie Gibson
Madeleine Louise Ginsberg
Samuel Learner
Aedhan Loomis
Mary Loomis
Daly Rogers Montgomery
Nina Kilvert Murray
Charles Nunziato
Ann Preston
Julia Rose Riback
Dylan Michael Shields
Maxwell Perry Silverman
Stephany Subdiaz
Ellen McGough Smith
Marisa Thompson

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James Evan Bazilian
Leslie Nicole Dinkin
Katherine Anne Eaton
Kelsey Hoekstra
Ana Elizabeth Moses
Claire Rosemary O’Brien
Colleen Cameron Orr

**SEMESTER 28**
Alexa Adams
Phillip Engh
Grace Fowler
Hannah Glosser
Maxwell Pantalena
Rosa Shipley

**SEMESTER 29**
Sam Blair
Magdalene Epp
Henry Fulghum
Hannah Lufkin
Elizabeth Renner

Charles Tarika
Duncan Wheeler
Karina Wohlhieter

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Abigail Agwunobi
Rachel Burdorf
Bohan Chen
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Katherine Goodman
Katherine Klein
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Rory Lowe
Jesse Metzger
Gretchen O’Brien
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Griffin Peer

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David Bai
Graham Tallian
Madison Taylor
Matthew Thacker
Samuel Usher
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Clare Courcey
Lauren Cunfer
Caitlin Durcan
Sawyer Frisbie
Anna Malvin
Louisa McBride
Isabel Merrell
Eliza Potter

Haley Boudreau Present
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Frederic Short
Jennie Yoors
Caroline Zerilli

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Rachel Beaver
Elianna Clayton
Sophia Drew
Anna Gibson
Ethan Goroff
Sophie Jensen
Sarah Rodowick
Sydney Stein
Stewart Tillyer
Livia Wallick
Rebecca Wertheimer

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Jacob Justh
Madison Liistro
Sam Lui
Wayan Buschman
Elizabeth Orr
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Caitlin Webers
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Tressa Fallon
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Mariah Reinke
Charlotte Schwebel
Isobel Jones Steenrod
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Emma Trapani

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Abraham Beningson
Sophia Berg
Lincoln Berkley
George Cole
Theodore Culman
Jared Fenley
David Flynn
Jane Hamel
Olivia Henrikson
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Stokes Kandzari
Fatomata Konteh
Brita Mackey
Lucy Mahoney
Jack Moody
Abigail O’Connell
Erin Paglione
Eliza Scher
Nicholas Tzannes
James Woods
Noah Richmond
Jack Viergever

SEMESTER 37
Ty Joji Baratelli
Nicholas Becker
Aria Bowden
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Luke Dewees
Emma Galambos
Mia Gates
Leah Granger
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Drew Manning
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Luke Pailet
Tether Preston
Isabelle Rose Ross
Kate Simon
Amelia Smith
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Isabella Whelan

SEMESTER 40
Abi Reigel
William Thacker

SUMMER TERM 2011
Lars Robinson
Scout Sorcic
Olivia Trim

SUMMER TERM 2013
Reesa Hylton
Nathaniel Wiener
MATCHING GIFTS
CORPORATIONS
We are grateful to the following corporations who so generously support their employees’ philanthropic efforts and provided matching gifts to HMI.

Apple Inc.
Bank of America
The Booth Company
Morgan Stanley Foundation
Versik Analytics
The Wonderful Company
Your Cause LLC for PepsiCo Foundation

MATCHING GIFTS INDIVIDUALS
We are grateful to the following individuals who helped to secure matching gifts for HMI from their employers.

Anonymous
Michael & Geraldine Bracey
Craig & Lisa Cooper
Thomas Erdmann
Laurie Lovett
Robert & Amy Lovett
Daniel O’Brien & Ellie Solomon

GIFTS IN KIND
Corey Broderick
Cathy Hansen-Stamp, Esq.

SUMMER TERM 2014
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SUMMER TERM 2017
Kaylin Engerman
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GAP
Caitlin Durcan
Kira Ratcliffe
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THE LEADING EDGE
Taylor Strasburger

Beginning in 2018, we have shifted our fiscal year to end on May 31 in order to more closely align with our summer program calendar. Since this is our transition year, this Annual Report covers July 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. Future fiscal years will run from June 1 to May 31.
During the 2017 Challenge we raised $37,690—enough to fund one Semester and one Summer Term scholarship! 31% of our Semester alumni participated in the Challenge, a wonderful show of support from our inspiring community. Congratulations to Semester 24, who won the Challenge with a 73.8% participation rate!

HMI can confidently look toward the future with such a supportive alumni community by our side. Thank you to everyone who helps make this special place available to the next generation of students.

For more information please visit www.hminet.org/alumni-summit-challenge
The Lake County Backpacking Trip celebrated its ninth successful summer of taking local middle school students out to explore their backyard. Students hiked, camped, forged new friendships, and learned about the natural world surrounding them. Thank you to the Ric & Suzanne Kayne Foundation for their ongoing support, and thank you to Full Circle of Lake County and the Lake County School District for their partnership. We are so grateful for our community.
STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

OUR FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following are some of our financial highlights from 2018. What a year! This success would not be possible without the loyal and generous support from alumni, alumni families, friends, corporations, and foundations—to all who contributed, thank you.

- HMI’s revenue continues to grow, and was once again the highest in the school’s history: $3,950,676.
- We have nearly $4.2 million committed to the Campaign for Community.
- Donors contributed $361,392 to the HMI Fund, helping us soar past our $329,000 goal in this 11-month long fiscal year.
- The HMI Endowment now totals over $5 million. For the first time we are taking a draw to further support our school.

For detailed and audited financial statements, please contact Reed Holden at rholden@hminet.org

CAMPAIGN FOR COMMUNITY

Funds Needed: $354,473
Funds Pledged: $1,193,900
Funds Raised: $2,951,627

OPERATING REVENUE

TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED

For 2018, HMI’s revenue was $3,950,676, which was once again the highest in the school’s history.
The generosity and support of our community enables us to offer transformative educational experiences that empower students to be exceptional community members and independent thinkers.

A provision for HMI in your will or trust allows you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime while ensuring the school’s success and vibrancy well into the future. Making a bequest also grants you eligibility into the Full Circle, HMI’s planned giving society.

**FULL CIRCLE: HMI’S PLANNED GIVING SOCIETY**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEAVING A LEGACY AT HMI, PLEASE CONTACT REED HOLDEN, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, AT RHOLDEN@HMINET.ORG OR 719-486-8200 X121.
THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The following lists recognize just some of the people who have contributed their time and talent to advance HMI forward—their generosity and spirit of service is inspiring! These volunteers give to HMI in so many different ways and we are fortunate to have them as such integral parts of our community.

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Jennifer Jacobs,
& Mia Gates
Jackie & Lindsay Hendrix
Gray, Amy, & Liz Jones
Andrew, Barbara,
& Victoria Joseph
Doug, Nicole,
& Everett Metchick
Aldy, Gretchen,
& Otis Milliken
Rob, Beth, & Carter Norfleet
Batur, Lauren, & Owen Oktay
Wyatt Shattuck
Chris Sheehan,
Erin Finn-Welch,
& Joost-Olan Sheehan
Lilea & Corrine Simis
Lynda & Evie Wallace