



#1. Immersive Environmental Education for 3,338 students grades 4th-12th

Students in our Ventura River Action Network, Tales of Exploration, and ATCI programs, and from Channel Is. HS Marine Science Academy, learned ocean, climate, energy and environmental sciences through in-class & outdoor hands-on activities and project-based learning.

#2. Involved 1,385 students in Scientific Research and Habitat Restoration

During 30 field experiences at Ventura River, Estuary, State Beaches, Channel Islands and Ormond Beach that included freshwater quality & macro-invertebrates monitoring, bird ID and census, sandy beach and rocky intertidal, beach profiles, microplastics, and other parameters

About us:


We are a not for profit organization dedicated to protecting the ocean by engaging multicultural youth and their communities through transformative experiences in environmental education, marine conservation, recreation, environmental entrepreneurship, and scientific research.

How can you help?

- Donate
- Volunteer
- Become a member



Contact us:

 (805) 765-6326

 info@meritofoundation.org

www.meritofoundation.org

3897 Market St. Suites 101 & 102
Ventura, CA 93003

Follow us to see your impact:



Top Accomplishments of 2022



Multicultural Education for Resource
Issues Threatening Oceans
Foundation Inc.



#3. Launched a new Outdoor Recreation & Environmental Education Program

Titled 'From the Ave. to the Channel Islands' (ATCI) for 800+ students per year and their communities at the Avenue in Ventura through an Outdoor Equity Grant. Youth participate in camping at Santa Cruz Island, kayaking, sailing, surfing, environmental monitoring, leadership & career pathways.

#4. First World Oceans Day Celebration Through the lens of Youth in City of Oxnard

Thanks to the National Geographic Society, Channel Is. Harbor Foundation, and Port of Hueneme, the event celebrated students' Storytelling for Impact projects as part of our "Tales of Exploration" program. Teams submitted 65 digital stories in photography, video, audio, and infographics. The top 12 stories were awarded \$3,150 in prizes .



#5. Trained 208 Educators during 13 Professional Development Sessions

Through in-person, webinars and in the field sessions, we provided formal and informal educators from 4 counties with resources such as curricula, training of storytelling for impact, and practices on environmental data collection. Disbursed \$23,500 in teacher stipends to help bring the ocean to their classroom and after-school programs.



#6. Engaged 600 residents in Clean & Renewable Energy

Informed 120 households from disadvantaged communities of La Colonia and El Rio in the City of Oxnard, and from the Avenue in Ventura, about the benefits of clean and renewable energy. Enrolled half of the households with Clean Power Alliance to receive a 20% discount on their electric bill.



#7. Youth Outdoor Leadership Training for a Select Group of Youths

Led 9 students from De Anza Middle School to attend CA State Parks Outdoor Youth Leadership (OYC) training at San Luis Reservoir. Students learned outdoor camping, leadership, and communication skills and will job shadow environmental professionals.

#8. 500+ Youth Created Projects to Reduce the Carbon Footprint of Their Schools

Students from Ventura Unified School District addressed climate change and the need to remove the Matilija dam by innovating projects to increase energy efficiency, reduce waste, or conserve water on their school campuses or by creating an awareness campaign. At the Annual EECCOA Challenge, the top 12 of 78 teams were awarded \$3800 in cash prizes and a trip to visit Channel Islands National Park.

#9. Environmental Education & Litter Abatement Program for the City of Oxnard

From Dec. 2022 to Dec. 2024, twelve schools and 450-750 youths in grades 4th-12th will be given the education and outreach tools to inspire their schools' neighboring communities to decrease litter, create outdoor classrooms, and take part in caretaking and park beautification.

