**Planned Giving at Thorne Nature Experience**

Thorne Nature Experience has been at the forefront of environmental education for five decades, and we plan to be around a lot longer to serve the grandkids of the kids now coming through our programs.

Over these many years, we have had the most loyal supporters from parents of students to national leaders within the environmental education movement. Many of our supporters have joined Thorne’s “EdVenturers Forever” Planned Giving Club by including Thorne Nature Experience in their estate plans.

Thorne’s annual contributors of $500 or more are members of our “EdVenturers Club,” and individuals who support our future work through planned giving become “EdVenturers Forever.”

Would you consider joining this group of critical supporters? There are so many easy ways to make a planned gift to Thorne Nature Experience that might allow you to make a larger contribution to our work than you ever thought possible and benefit you and your family at the same time.

**Bequest Gifts**

Bequests are the simplest form of planned gift. After you have provided for your loved ones, you can leave a fixed amount, a percentage of your estate, or the residue of your estate to Thorne Nature Experience. Your assets remain under your control until death. You may also be eligible for an estate tax deduction, depending on the size of your estate, and there is no upper limit on the estate tax deduction for charitable bequests, like those to Thorne Nature Experience.

Sample language for your estate plan is as follows:

**Percentage of Estate:**
I give to Thorne Nature Experience (incorporated in 1954; Federal Tax ID 84-6029250; PO Box 19107, Boulder, CO 80308) \_\_\_% of my estate to be used in such a manner as the Board of Directors of Thorne Nature Experience shall, in its sole discretion, determine.

**Fixed Amount:**
I give to Thorne Nature Experience (incorporated in 1954; Federal Tax ID 84-6029250; PO Box 19107, Boulder, CO 80308) the sum of $\_\_\_ to be used in such a manner as the Board of Directors of Thorne Nature Experience shall, in its sole discretion, determine.

**Residue of Estate (after probate costs and other expenses):**
I give to Thorne Nature Experience (incorporated in 1954; Federal Tax ID 84-6029250; PO Box 19107, Boulder, CO 80308) \_\_\_% of the rest and residue of my estate to be used in such a manner as the Board of Directors of Thorne Nature Experience shall, in its sole discretion, determine.

**Other Ways to Make a Planned Gift**

In addition to bequests, Thorne accepts many other forms of planned gifts, the most common of which are identified below. Your attorney and financial advisor can work with you to determine the form of gift that will work best for your unique circumstances.

**Charitable Remainder Trust:**

A charitable remainder trust can provide income to you or your designate for life or a term of years, with the “remainder” passing to Thorne Nature Experience and your other charitable interests.

**Charitable Lead Trust:**

A charitable lead trust provides income to your charities of choice and then the asset passes back to you or your heirs, often with significant tax advantages.

**Gifts of Life Insurance:**

You can make a gift of a life insurance policy that is no longer needed. By making Thorne Nature Experience the beneficiary, you can get a tax deduction now and make a significant gift to charity at your death.

**Retirement Assets:**

Retirement assets make a great gift to charity. By naming Thorne Nature Experience as a beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k) or other qualified plan, you can escape both income and estate tax levied on the residue left in your retirement account after your lifetime.

**Gifts of Real Estate:**

There are various different ways to structure gifts of real estate to provide tax advantages now and a gift to Thorne Nature Experience later.

**Designating Your Gift**

In addition to the variety of ways that you can leave a future gift to Thorne Nature Experience, we also have options for you to designate how your gift will be used in the future.

**Undesignated Gifts:**

You can always leave an undesignated gift to the organization to use at its discretion for the needs of the time. The Board of Directors of Thorne Nature Experience review all undesignated gifts and based on the size of the gift and current and future needs of the organization determine how best those gifts can be spent or invested for the future.

**Endowment Gift:**

You can designate your gift for the Thorne Endowment. The Thorne Endowment is managed by the Boulder Community Foundation, which has provided endowment and investment services for over 30 years. Each year, Thorne receives a disbursement equal to 5% of the corpus of its endowment. By designating your gift for the endowment, you will thereby providing annual support for Thorne in perpetuity.

**The Oak Thorne Vision Fund:**

You can also designate your gift for the Oak Thorne Vision Fund. The Oak Thorne Vision Fund was established in 2013 in honor of our founder, Dr. Oakleigh Thorne, II. The Fund was designed to ensure that Thorne Nature Experience is always a leader in environmental education, serving as a model for how we *can* change the Earth’s future, one child at a time. Contributions to the Fund are put aside to grow for just the right time when the Board of Directors of Thorne Nature Experience envision an opportunity to seed a new venture, start a new program, or expand to meet a new need. The Vision Fund is managed by the Boulder Community Foundation, which has provided endowment and investment services for over 30 years.

**EdVenturers Forever**

As an EdVenturer Forever you will receive:

* Invitations to two special EdVenturer events each year. EdVenturer events typically include opportunities to learn in nature with Thorne’s staff and other supporters in a fun and social setting.
* VIP tickets to Thorne’s annual fundraiser Natural Night Out
* Annual updates on our work delivered personally from the Executive Director
* Permanent recognition on the donor tree in Thorne’s classroom

**Want to Know More?**

If you have any questions about making a planned gift to Thorne Nature Experience, please call our Executive Director Keith Desrosiers at 303.499.3647 x105. We would also be happy to connect you with our expert planned giving advisor David Brantz of Kottke & Brantz, LLC who can provide you with ideas for a gift that works for you as well as providing for Thorne Nature Experience.

**Thank you. Your support is a gift that will give back to kids and nature for years to come.**

**EdVenturers Forever**

Commitment Form

Please consider becoming an EdVenturer Forever today. Fill out the form below and our Executive Director will be in touch with you promptly to answer any questions you may have about Thorne Nature Experience and our planned giving program and help you take the next step in becoming an EdVenturer Forever.

**Or if you have already designated Thorne Nature Experience in your estate plans, please fill out the form below so we can include you as an EdVenturer Forever. Stand up, be recognized, and inspire others to commit to the future of Thorne Nature Experience and environmental education in Boulder County.**

Once you have completed the commitment form, you can drop it off at the Thorne Nature Experience office at 1466 N 63rd St., Boulder, CO 80303 or send it to Throne Nature Experience, PO Box 19107, Boulder, CO 80308. To e-mail a copy of the form, please send it to keith@thornenature.org.

Name

Address

Telephone number

E-mail

\_\_\_ I would like to include Thorne Nature Experience in my estate plans. Please contact me to discuss next steps

\_\_\_ I have already remembered Thorne Nature Experience in my estate plans. Please include me as an EdVenturer Forever.