



COLUMBIA GORGE
DISCOVERY CENTER & MUSEUM

be present ... in the past

OFFICIAL INTERPRETIVE CENTER OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA

5000 Discovery Drive, The Dalles, OR 97058 • p 541-296-8600 • gorgediscovery.org •

December 9, 2024

Dear Supporter,

As the year comes to a close, I am reaching out to you to ask for your help in support of our educational programs, free community events, and the continued preservation of our collections, archive and library. It has been a year of immense change, full of significant challenges and delightful successes. Our on-going critical endeavor to replace our aging heating system and air conditioning, have not dampened our efforts to fulfill our mission of inspiring stewardship of the Columbia River Gorge. But we need your help. Many people don't realize that the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center currently receives no essential funding from the State, County or Federal governments.

During 2024, the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum served over 23,000 visitors from across the region, the nation and the globe. This year, our innovative educational programs have touched the hearts and minds of over 1,500 local students, inspiring in them a sense of wonder and appreciation for the ecosystems and historical significance of the Columbia River Gorge. We have opened our doors free of charge to over 1,400 people in the community during special events, including Smokey Bear's 80th Birthday Party, the "We Believe in Sasquatch" lecture, The Harvest Moonwalk, Grossology Stem Science Night, Columbia River Indian Autumn, the Backcountry Film Festival for our Snow School Program, The Archaeology Roadshow and Native Botanical Wreath-Making and Winter Story Day.

I hope that you will consider supporting our important work educating and inspiring people to become stewards of this unique place we proudly call home. Your year-end donation will help make the continuation of our educational programs, exhibitions, collections and events a reality - despite our on-going challenge to upgrade the HVAC system, which is crucial to our daily operations.

For your tax filing purposes, our 501(c)3 non-profit organization Federal Tax ID number is: 93-1200312. You can simply mail us a check, call our front desk to charge your donation or make your donation via our website (<https://gorgediscovery.org/contribute/donate/>). You may also consider designating the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum as a beneficiary or donating other financial investment resources. We would be deeply grateful. Please feel free to contact us with any questions at 541-296-8600.

On behalf of the entire team, I wish you a joyful holiday season & the brightest new year!

Best regards,

Dr. Cheryl Ragar
Interim Executive Director