



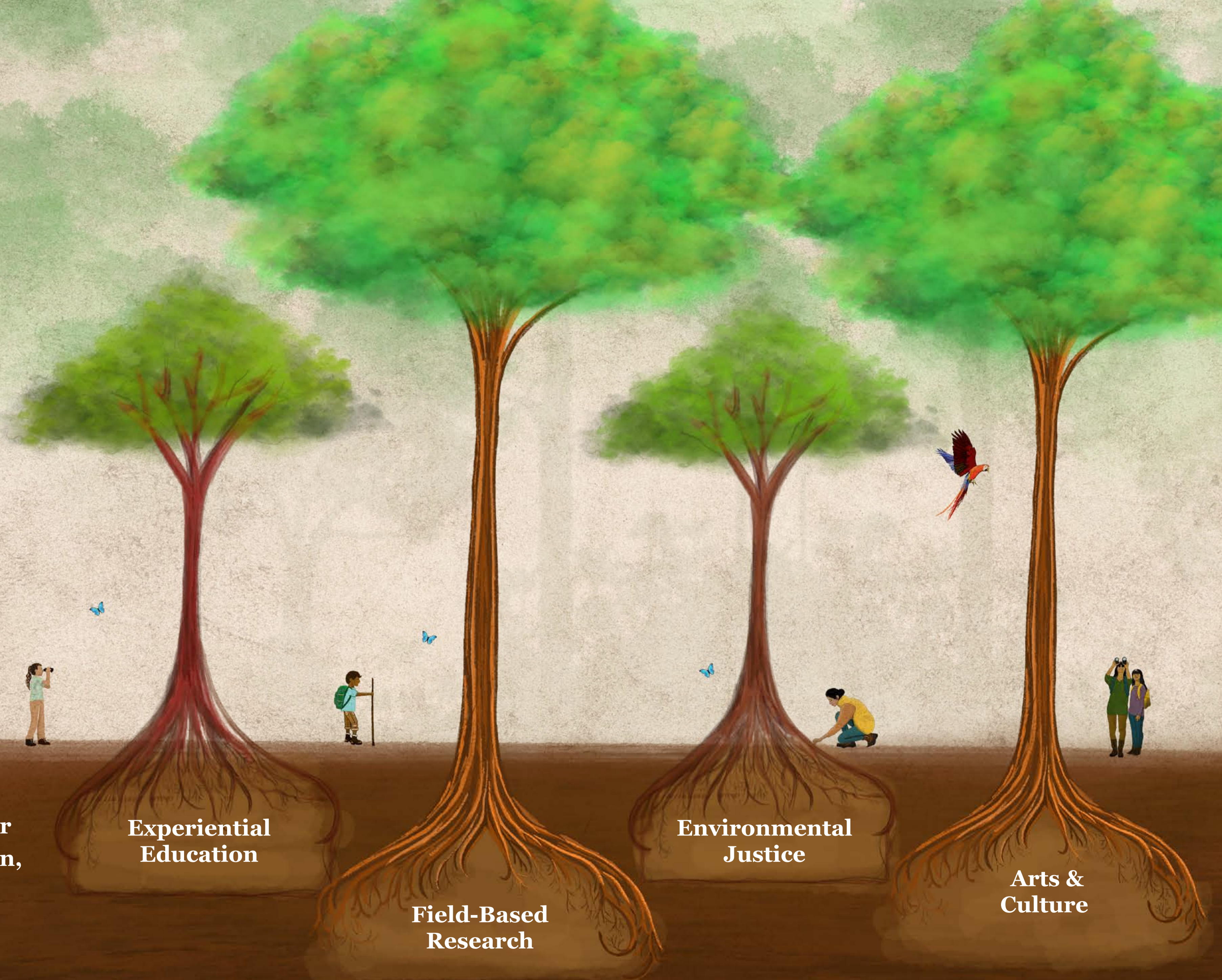
**ACEER**  
FOUNDATION



**The Amazon Center for Environmental Education and Research (ACEER) Foundation** is a 501C3 non-profit charity focused on education, research, conservation, and climate and environmental justice in the Amazon.

We design and implement transformative, experiential learning that develops local and global environmental leaders who work to conserve and restore functioning landscapes in the Amazon Basin and beyond.

**We accomplish our mission through our guiding pillars of Experiential Education, Field-Based Research, Environmental Justice, and Arts & Culture.**



**Experiential Education**

**Field-Based Research**

**Environmental Justice**

**Arts & Culture**

Training Future  
Conservation

# Leaders

We collaborate with  
32 educational institutions,  
seven Indigenous communities,  
and 14 NGOs.

32  
EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTIONS

7  
INDIGENOUS  
COMMUNITIES

14  
NGOS

Our workshops with  
teachers, environmental  
leaders, artists, and scientists  
have a multiplying effect that  
engages a global network



Judith Westveer  
SCIENTIFIC JOURNALIST  
From Netherlands



“It is my goal to share personal  
Amazonian field experiences,  
highlight people’s connection  
to nature and expose current  
ecological trends and changes  
in the rainforest, through  
ACEER’s platform.”

[VIEW SLIDESHOW](#)



# Voices from the Forest

## Campaign for One Million Dollars

The Amazon is a living laboratory and holds the story of life on Earth.



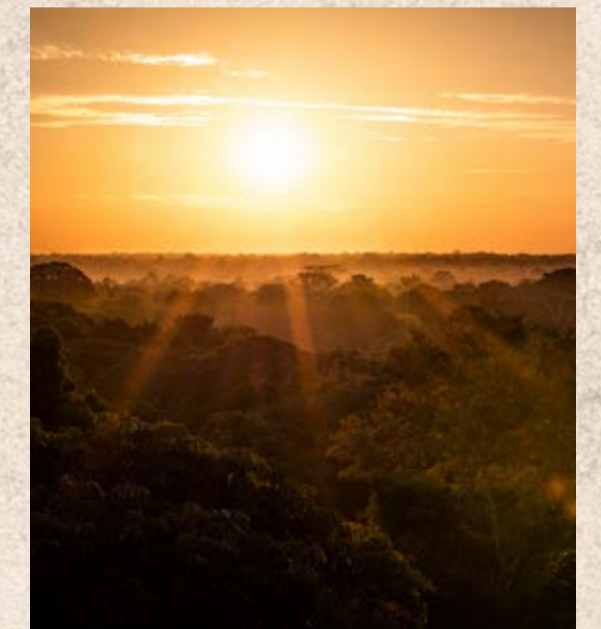
**Immense  
diversity of plants  
and animals**



**Rich  
natural  
resources**



**Unique  
cultural identities  
and livelihoods**



**Enormous  
carbon  
sink**

Habitat destruction and climate change are leading to unprecedented biological and cultural extinctions. In response, we design and implement transformative experiential learning that develops future conservation leaders.

This year, we are going on a bold journey to scale our impact. Our Voices from the Forest campaign aims to raise one million dollars to accelerate conservation and the preservation of Indigenous culture.





# A Story FROM THE FIELD

My first exposure to Amazonian conservation was an ACEER - sponsored project with the Ese'Eja people of Peru almost ten years ago as an undergraduate.

ACEER opened the door to conservation for me, and now I apply my technical expertise and passion to really make an impact as a researcher and educator.

*~ Dr. Brian Griffiths  
Assistant Teaching Professor,  
Georgetown University*



# Climate & Environmental Justice

Climate change and habitat destruction disproportionately affect Indigenous people.



 WATCH VIDEO

We will address these disparities through a bold new Initiative for Climate and Environmental Justice



Storytelling to spark action



Bridging art and science



Conducting rigorous scientific research



Building capacity with experiential workshops



Prioritizing ethics and equity



Local experiential learning



# Local Experiential Learning



[VIEW SLIDESHOW](#)

“ When I take students into the rainforest they are so interested in the environment and motivated to explore and ask questions, they don't even realize they are learning!”

~ *Therany Gonzales*

Therany Gonzales started volunteering with ACEER in 2004 and is now ACEER's Director of Operations in Peru.



# Indigenous COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The ACEER Foundation collaborates with Indigenous communities on their chosen priorities, including preserving Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and crafting non-extractive sustainable sources of income.



▶ WATCH VIDEO

## Federation of Native Maijuna Communities

- Sustainable economic development
- Conservation Research



▶ WATCH VIDEO

## Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and Tributaries

- Cultural Mapping and Conservation
- Bridging Art and Science

“ We are the ancient owners of this land because we were the first to descend from the sky on a thread of cotton. Without the forest, there is no life... and no Ese'Eja.”

~ Mateo, Ese'Eja Elder





# Conservation Leadership Program

“ Living in harmony with nature, ensuring our well-being and that of future generations.

~ Rut Mottoccanchi  
ACEER Conservation Leader

We provide immersive opportunities for our Conservation Leaders to build tangible skills that they can apply to combat global conservation challenges.

## Conservation is...



“ Nurturing what natural systems and people need for robust health and long-term functioning, including the education and values necessary for sustaining it into the future.”

~ Elizabeth Benson  
Conservation Leader



“ A balanced bridging between nature-centric and human-centered perspectives where the voices and traditional knowledge systems of local communities are included, rather than disregarded.”

~ Vitor Da Silva  
Conservation Leader



# Our Conservation LEADERS' IMPACT



I strive to conduct basic and applied research that improves the way we understand and protect biodiversity.”

~ Ethan Scott Duvall  
ACEER Conservation Leader

In 2022, our Conservation Leaders accomplished:



Over 45 weeks of field research



4 peer-reviewed papers already published or in review



15 expeditions into remote regions of Maijuna ancestral lands



Countless hours of professional presentations to disseminate results



260 soil samples collected from 83 mineral lick sites alongside Maijuna experts



Participation in Climate Conferences (COP)



# Artist-in-RESIDENCE



## Bridging Art & Science for Conservation

**This residential program is an international collaboration between NGOs, artists, and scientists to bridge art and science in the Peruvian Amazon.**

“The jungle represents the lungs of the world and for it to continue to function that way, we have to protect it as well as the Indigenous people of its forests.”

*~ Rosario Soria Zapata  
Ese'Eja Artist-in-Residence*



# 2022 ACEER Artists

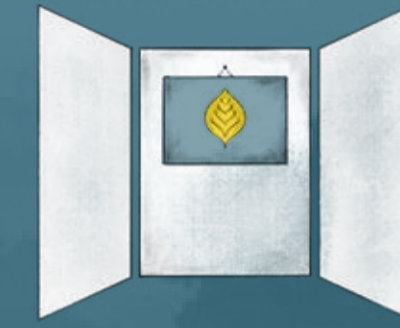
**10** ARTISTS     **7** COUNTRIES

Specialities include printmaking, sculpture, performance, weaving and dying with natural materials



[VIEW SLIDESHOW](#)

In 2022, our  
Artists accomplished:



A public art  
exhibition in Puerto  
Maldonado, Peru



International  
Artist Talks



Traveling exhibition  
beginning in 2024



National  
press coverage



A digital  
catalog of artwork



Peer-reviewed  
journal article in review



ACEER

# Bringing the Amazon Home: A Global Teachers Program

A multinational program to construct conservation- and culture-based K-12 curricula grounded in experiential learning



Multi-year seminar series from experts



Teacher capacity-building in the US and Peru



Bilingual, free K-12 curricula



8 unique field programs, 28 schools (so far!)

“ Participating in the environmental education programs was really amazing because my students learned with fun activities in contact with nature.”

~ Elva Quiroz Mamani  
High School Teacher, Madre de Dios, Peru





## Bringing the Amazon Home: A Global Teachers Program

After researching information about shamanism for over a year, it was a true honor to be in the presence of Pedrito! To speak with him and see his work in action and from his perspective was a true gift. Bringing the Amazon home is made so much easier from this on-site experience.

~ Barbara Prillaman  
High School Teacher, Delaware, USA





# Voices from the Forest

**In 2023, ACEER aims to expand our global impact by scaling all of our programs.**

**Our Voices from the Forest campaign aims to raise one million dollars to accelerate conservation and the preservation of Indigenous knowledge.**

**But we can't do it alone.**



**With **YOU** by our side we will:**

- Implement a new outreach initiative for Climate and Environmental Justice
- Host a traveling art exhibition addressing challenges in Amazonia
- Expand our global network of educators to all 50 states in the US and each country in Amazonia
- Double the number of conservation fellows and artists to 60, expanding throughout Amazonia
- Expand conservation research and advocacy of over a million acres of ancestral lands
- Fund five sustainable economic development projects that align with traditional cultural practices
- Publish peer-reviewed articles focused on conservation of endangered species, ecology, sustainability and engagement with the arts

# Voices from the Forest

We invite you to join us on a bold journey to conserve the Amazon rainforest, Indigenous cultures, and traditional knowledge.



**\$250,000**

Initiative for Climate and Environmental Justice



**\$100,000**

Provide educational support for Undergrad through Post-Doc



**\$50,000**

Bring the Amazon Home to a new cadre of teachers



**\$25,000**

Fund a sustainable economic project with Indigenous and rural communities



**\$5,000**

Sponsor a Conservation Leader or Artist-in-Residence for a year



**\$2,500**

Sponsor an experiential learning workshop for children/teachers in Amazonia







The future of our environment rests in the hands of our children. As a father and educator, I believe our teachers and students need unique hands-on experiences to care about our planet and look up to people that protect it.

~ Jon Cox  
ACEER Foundation President



# ACEER FOUNDATION

## Thank You

### Foundations

Longwood Foundation, Windover Foundation, Upton Foundation, Sweetgrass Foundation, Blue Moon Fund, JASON Foundation for Education

### Educational Institutions (over 150 including)

Georgetown University, Stanford University, Cornell Ornithology Lab, George Mason University, Duke University, University of Delaware, Dickinson College, Alvernia University, West Chester University, Neumann University, Penn State University, Boise State University, Central Michigan University

### Collaborators

National Geographic, Chicago Field Museum, Smithsonian Institute, Peruvian Embassy

### Affiliated NGO's and Partners

Amazon Aid, Foldscope, Alliance for a Sustainable Amazon, OnePlanet, Stroud Water Research Center, CINCIA, Camino Verde, Studio Verde, Morpho Institute, Nature Explorers, Missouri Botanical Garden, American Botanical Council

### Indigenous Organizations

Ese'Eja Nation, FECONAMAI - Federation of Native Maijuna Communities, FENAMAD - Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and Tributaries, Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware, Nanticoke Indian Association