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Teatown Lake Reservation is recognized as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization under Federal Internal Revenue code. Donations/contributions are tax deductible according to IRS tax law. Copies of Teatown's 990 and audit are available upon request.



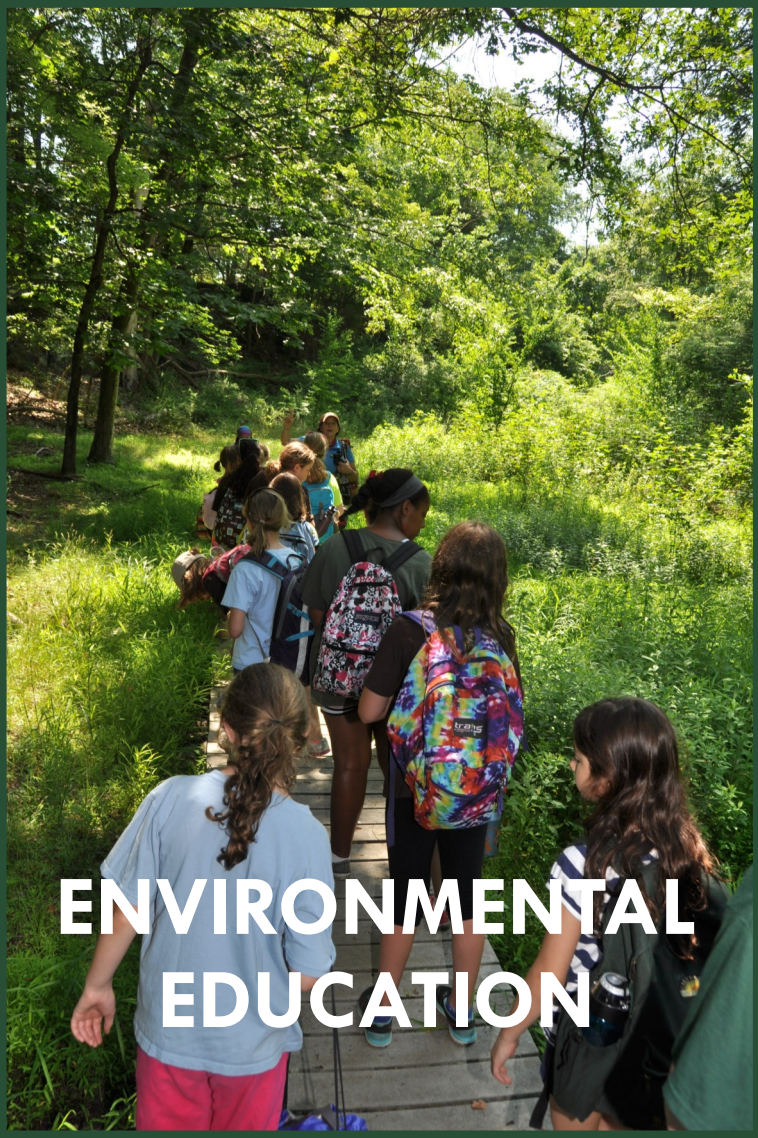
Teatown received the Austin Welch PIERRE Award from The Westchester Recreation and Park Society, Inc. for demonstrating outstanding regional leadership For Teatown's Hudson River EagleFestsm.

Teatown Lake Reservation  
1600 Spring Valley Road  
Ossining, NY 10562  
914-762-2912  
www.teatown.org



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Annual Report 2014



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

STEWARDSHIP

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914-762-2912 • www.teatown.org





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A leading  
environmental  
education  
organization...



Teatown is...

... a 1,000-acre  
nature preserve

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If any name has inadvertently been left  
off any list, please let us know and  
accept our apology. We appreciate  
your support.



# Supporters

# Welcome to Teatown

**\$1,000-\$2,499**

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Karen and Charlie Menduni

Dear Friends of Teatown,

We are pleased to report that 2014 has proven another successful year for Teatown! For this we thank you, our friends. Your steadfast support continues to bring our science, education and stewardship efforts to the community.

Some testimonials from our summer camp parents are indicative of the impact of our programs:

- My daughter didn't like to play in the dirt, pick up worms or anything. Now she finds such adventure in it all.
- Abby came home every day like an ecology and conservation encyclopedia.
- Every year she's come back with a greater awareness of the outdoors.
- Niccolo loves, loves, loves his time at Teatown. He is confident and happy. He is already planning on being a counselor. Thank you for doing such a great job. See you next year.
- Our son was very hesitant to go to camp. All of the counselors and staff were so patient and caring. By the last day, he was telling us how much fun he was having. Thank you!

The organization is now poised to broaden its impact. We adopted a new mission statement – *to inspire our community to lifelong environmental stewardship* – and we have completed a strategic plan that has identified key goals for the coming few years. These include a greater emphasis on children in under-resourced communities, such as Tarrytown, where we are working with English language learners using the school district's outdoor classroom for environmental education programming in conjunction with the Tarrytown Union Free School District, Family Services of Westchester and partner organization, the Jacob Burns Film Center.

Additionally, we are renewing efforts to focus on the stewardship of our 1,000 acre preserve. Initiatives include invasive species analysis and removal and new plantings in our outdoor classroom at Teatown, Wildflower Woods. Common science research and education projects are underway with prominent institutions including the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Vassar College, Pace University and Westchester Land Trust, among others. These collaborative partnerships have placed Teatown on the map as a regional hub for exceptional scientific research and educational initiatives.

We remain excited to engage our community to become environmental stewards, whether they are two or 100 years old. Without you, and the support of our dedicated board and staff, we would not exist. We would not be able to teach 20,000 adults and children about ecology and connect them to nature. Nor could we host 10,000 hikers on our 15 miles of maintained trails. We thank you for your continued engagement and support.

Best wishes,



Joanne Landau  
Chair of the Board

P.S. – Check out our new directional signage as part of New York State's *Path Through History* program on the Taconic and off Route 134. Your friends and family can find Teatown easier now! Stop by for a visit!





# Environmental Education

*Teatown has received financial support from a variety of sources including: government funding, community and family foundations, corporations and individual donors.*

## We are grateful for the support of the following donors:

### \$50,000+

Gerald and Daphna Cramer  
Dormitory Authority - State of New York  
Natural Heritage Trust  
Orinoco Foundation  
Pew Charitable Trusts  
Arthur and Rebecca Samberg  
David A. Swope  
The Frog Rock Foundation  
Lucy R. Waletzky, M.D.

### \$25,000-\$49,999

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Joanne Landau and Fred Schwalb  
Marcia C. Saunders

### \$10,000-\$24,999

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Jamie L. Shenkman and Christopher M. Magadini  
St. Faith's House Foundation  
Dorothea Hale Swope  
The Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation

## Thank you to the following foundations and corporations for their significant support of Teatown's Programs:

Con Edison  
First Niagara Bank Foundation  
Orinoco Foundation  
The Frog Rock Foundation  
The Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation  
Shelby Cullom Davis Charitable Fund Inc.  
St. Faith's House Foundation

### \$5,000-\$9,999

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Frances and James Wood

### \$2,500-\$4,999

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Ms. Janet Inskeep Benton  
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Cynthia and Jeffrey Manocherian  
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Jean and John Nonna  
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Stacy and Jonathan Satovsky  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Seebacher  
Diane and Steven Skalak  
David B. Thomas  
Andy and Lourie Turshen  
Ms. Betsy Shaw Weiner  
Wheelabrator Westchester, L.P.

Environmental Education is Teatown's core competency. Below are some highlights from the year:

- Teatown expanded its *Nurtured by Nature* program to 180 pre-schoolers in under-resourced communities, visiting them every week. Three Head Start Centers were added including, St. Matthew's in Ossining, Peekskill Head Start and Aunt Bessie's in Peekskill, and the program continued for the second year at Yorktown Head Start.
- Teatown's *No Child Left Inside* program allowed over 1700 students to participate in field trips to Teatown due to the generous support of St. Faith's House Foundation, First Niagara Bank Foundation and the Jack DeVito Foundation.



- Our highly regarded summer camp was fully enrolled. New sessions were piloted, including Earth Stewards which included a science research component, for children 8-12 years old at Cliffdale Farm.
- Teatown hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> annual *Regional Environmental Educators Day* – A professional development conference for Environmental Educators from Westchester, Putnam, Rockland and Fairfield Counties. Over 70 educators took part in workshops focusing on administration, ecology, and natural history.



- In partnership with Jacob Burns Film Center, Teatown again offered its Seasonal Scientists program to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students at Ossining's Brookside School.
- Teatown provided weekend programming, and river ecology field programs at the Kathryn Davis RiverWalk Center in Sleepy Hollow.
- Peabody Preserve Outdoor Classroom, Tarrytown School District – Teatown was instrumental in helping to guide the District as they converted a long unused site into a preserve that Tarrytown students can now use for environmental education. We lent our expertise in trail building, environmental education and even donated our old boardwalk to the site to be reused as a walkway over wet areas.

## Community Events

Teatown hosted its first ever **Camp Alumni Reunion** at which previous campers and counselors joined in for a celebration of camp spirit!



Teatown hosted its 10<sup>th</sup> **Hudson River EagleFest**™ attracting 3,000 participants.

Teatown was represented at the following events and conferences: Chappaqua – Museums at the Library Day, IBM Earth Day – Watson Campus, Science Teachers of New York Conference.

Teatown hosted its first **members-only movie night**.



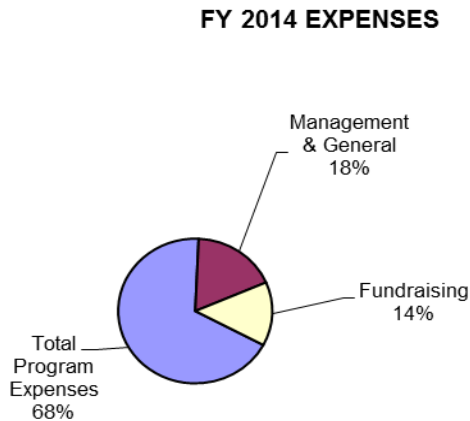
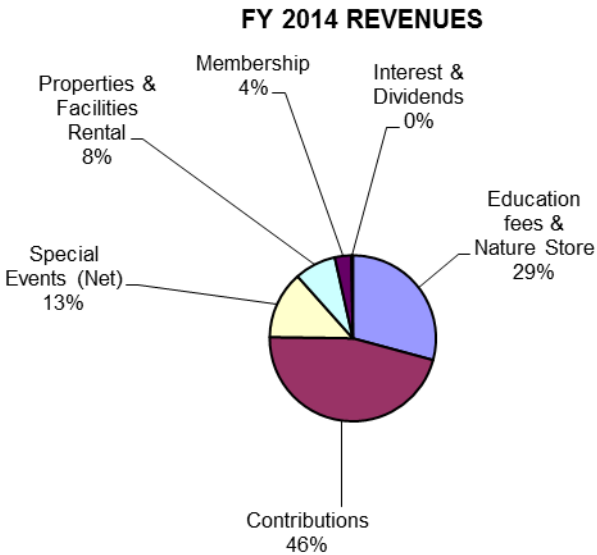


# Financial Report

## REVENUES & EXPENSES - Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014

(With comparison information for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013)

	FYE 6/30/2014	FYE 6/30/2013
<b>REVENUES &amp; OTHER SUPPORT</b>		
Education fees & Nature Store	\$ 563,532	\$ 584,045
Contributions	\$ 887,260	\$ 1,852,894
Special Events (Net)	\$ 254,375	\$ 292,202
Properties & Facilities Rental	\$ 156,075	\$ 146,245
Membership	\$ 62,754	\$ 62,768
Interest & Dividends	\$ 4,645	\$ 11,342
REVENUE TOTAL	\$ 1,928,641	\$ 2,949,496
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>PROGRAM</b>		
Environmental Education at Teatown	\$ 1,058,890	\$ 971,924
Stewardship at Teatown	\$ 400,184	\$ 296,365
Regional Conservation	\$ 97,312	\$ 135,157
TOTAL	\$ 1,556,386	\$ 1,403,446
<b>SUPPORT</b>		
Management & General	\$ 408,278	\$ 356,150
Fundraising	\$ 326,561	\$ 294,038
TOTAL	\$ 734,839	\$ 650,188
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$ 2,291,225	\$ 2,053,634
NET GAINS (LOSSES) FROM INVESTMENTS & OTHER ASSETS	\$ 387,123	\$ 220,627
YEAR END NET	\$ 24,539	\$ 1,116,489



For a copy of the independent audit conducted by Condon O'Meara McGinty & Donnelly LLP contact (914) 762-2912 ext 118

- Teatown continues to participate in the coordination and presentation of *Conversations on Conservation*, a forum on current environmental issues for civic leaders and the general public. Topics included “Climate Change and Sea Level Rise,” “Radioactive Gas In Our Pipeline” and “From Garbage to Black Gold – Realizing the Value of Food Waste.”
- Teatown participated in the Great Hudson River Fish Count in July at the RiverWalk Center in Sleepy Hollow. This one day event was organized by the DEC’s Hudson River Estuary Program. Naturalists at multiple sites along the Hudson caught fish to show visitors the variety of slippery, wriggly and fascinating creatures hidden below the river’s surface and recorded a count of the different species found at each location. Teatown staff and instructors from Strawtown Studio collaborated to educate and create art about the river for more than 25 participants.
- Teatown continued to offer a variety of popular public programs, including full moon hikes, *Nature Matters*, “Decorate a Tree for Wildlife” and “Animal Ambassadors” (many of these programs were sold out), educating more than 1,600 people during the year.

## Capital Projects

Teatown’s aging buildings and ample grounds need constant maintenance which requires a significant investment of income each year. The improvements for the year include:

- Purchased new arch for the sugar house
- A new gas grill for events such as the Pancake Brunch
- Purchase of a new phone system to replace an antiquated system
- Replacement of the stone retaining walls that surround the Nature Center parking lot and driveway
- Installation of air conditioning in the Nature Center
- Replacement of the air conditioner condenser in the Nature Center staff office wing
- Purchase of a dodge van for education programming.

## Stewardship

Teatown is committed to managing its 1,000 acre preserve using best practices. Some initiatives for the year follow:

- Two interns conducted surveys for invasive plants in Cliffdale meadows. The locations of the invasive plants were identified and a management plan is currently being developed. The interns also hand-pulled the invasive plant, water chestnut, from Teatown Lake.
- Educational signage was installed in Wildflower Woods. The signs focus on identifying the attributes of a healthy forest, invasive plants, and overabundant deer. 20 stone steps, an outdoor teaching space and rock seating were also installed in Wildflower Woods by the Jolly Rovers Trail Crew.
- A camera trap study was conducted during winter of 2014 for fisher. These large weasels appear to be increasing in the region and Teatown designed a study to determine if they occurred on our preserve. The study identified fisher in the vicinity of the Hidden Valley and Back 40 sections of our preserve.
- Teatown formed a Stewardship Committee comprised of staff and Board members to develop a Master Stewardship Plan which will guide the management of our preserve to protect its habitats, plants, and animals.





# Stewardship

## Regional Conservation/Science:

- As part of the Environmental Monitoring and Management Alliance (EMMA), Teatown installed deer exclosures and created a phenology trail on its preserve. The deer exclosures will be used to study the impact of overabundant deer on forests and the phenology trail will document the timing of plant pheno-phases (production of seeds or flowers, when leaves emerge or fall, etc.) to study climate change. For more information see the EMMA website: [www.emmahv.org](http://www.emmahv.org)
- Teatown launched the Teatown Environmental Science Academy (TESA), a rigorous field-based course in environmental science for high school students. The inaugural class consisted of 11 students from seven Westchester high schools. All of the students produced research projects as part of TESA and two were invited to present their work at the international science fair I-SWEEEP held in Austin, TX. Both of these students won awards at I-SWEEEP!
- Teatown signed on as a partner in the Lower Hudson Partnership for Invasive Species Management (PRISM). This group is one of 8 PRISMs in NYS that aim to help prevent or minimize the harm caused by invasive species on New York's environment, economy and the health and well-being of the State's citizens. PRISMs coordinate invasive species management functions including coordinating partner efforts, recruiting and training volunteers, delivering education and outreach, establishing early detection monitoring networks and implementing eradication and control efforts.



## Trails:

- A new trail is being developed that combines the Back 40, Shadow Lake and Croft Trails to create a 2.3 mile loop trail. This trail will open in June 2015. The new loop makes use of recently acquired property, reduces serious erosion from the existing trails, creates open areas for conservation science, and provides an easy to follow route.
- Seven trail workshops were attended by 53 people. All workshop attendees contributed to the layout, design and construction of the new trail.
- Ten groups provided nine days of trail work projects on Teatown property totaling over 500 hours. These groups included the White Plains Youth Bureau, Groundwork Hudson Valley, PepsiCo, Yorktown Church of Latter-day Saints, Regeneron, Knox School, Boy Scouts of America Troop 158 Briarcliff, MasterCard interns, and Morgan Stanley.
- 15 high-school interns supported stewardship and trail projects and an additional 14 individual trail maintainers and 3 trail crews totaling 18 people provided 1119 hours of trail work over 124 days.



- Teatown convened a meeting of organizations in the Hudson Valley that have implemented deer management to discuss the issue and share lessons learned. Eight organizations participated in the meeting.
- The Environmental Leaders Learning Alliance hosted a roundtable discussion of its member communities so that these communities could learn what one another were working on and exchange ideas. ELLA also hosted a workshop on wetlands identification and protection.
- Teatown staff mentored seven students conducting independent science research. Research topics included: invasive plants, the ecology of woodpeckers, habitat associations of fisher, and water quality in streams.

# Volunteers

Teatown is fortunate to have over 300 talented, dedicated volunteers who are an important and integral part of our team. Volunteers participate in all areas of work at Teatown including:

**Raptor Group** — These volunteers care for Teatown's birds of prey and assist at community events introducing the public to these majestic birds.

**Teens in Teatown** — Our teen volunteer program, which has continued to grow, now has 22 students who are actively involved in education, stewardship and animal care.

**Wildflower Island Guides** lend their expertise to give tours and maintain Teatown's Wildflower Island.

Our education staff depends on our volunteer **Nature Guides** to assist in teaching Teatown programs each year.

**More than 100 volunteers assisted at major events:** Teatown's Hudson River EagleFest<sup>SM</sup>, Plant Sale, Annual Pancake Brunch.



Teatown's outstanding volunteers gave more than 4300 hours of their time.

22	TNT	523 hours
16	Nature Guides	559 hours
22	Wildflower Island Guides	557 hours
8	Raptor/Animal Care	346 hours
161	Stewardship	1805 hours
74	Special Events	531 hours
303	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>4321 hours</b>



Each year, Teatown recognizes its outstanding volunteers at the annual volunteer picnic.

**Congratulations to the 2014 award recipients:**

**Wildflower Island Award:** Mary Gall

**Teen Award:** Eamon Burke

**Raptor Award:** Stephen Sciamè

**Special Events Award:** Aaron Bock

**Nature Guide Award:** Suzanne Blair

**Distinguished Service Award:** Charlie Roberto

