EXPLORING MINNESOTA'S OUTDOORS

Connecting Youth and Families to Minnesota's Cultural and Outdoor Heritage



Wilderness Inquiry + Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund

Cumulative Statewide Impact

- **WHO?** This partnership has directly connected **48,668 youth and young adults** to immersive outdoor learning adventures
- **WHAT?** Through **855 outdoor experiences**, Wilderness Inquiry programs engaged youth and families to explore Minnesota history and culture on waterways and public lands
- WHERE? Wilderness Inquiry's Canoemobile visited more than 40 communities across Minnesota, in every region of the state
- **WHY?** For 80% of participants, Canoemobile is their first outdoor learning experience. After participating in Canoemobile:
 - 88% of youth report being interested in helping the natural world
 - 78% of participants report wanting to spend more time outside
 - Youth interest in jobs working in the outdoors increases by 16%
 - There was one student who saw their first deer. Another student was very hesitant to come she didn't know how to swim but felt very safe on the canoe and said that paddling was very calming. These moments of growth in my hesitant students were the most memorable part. For many of them it was a first-time experience and a positive one. LIZZY, TEACHER