

VOLUME ONE
2020

NOURISHING EVERYONE'S NEED FOR NATURE

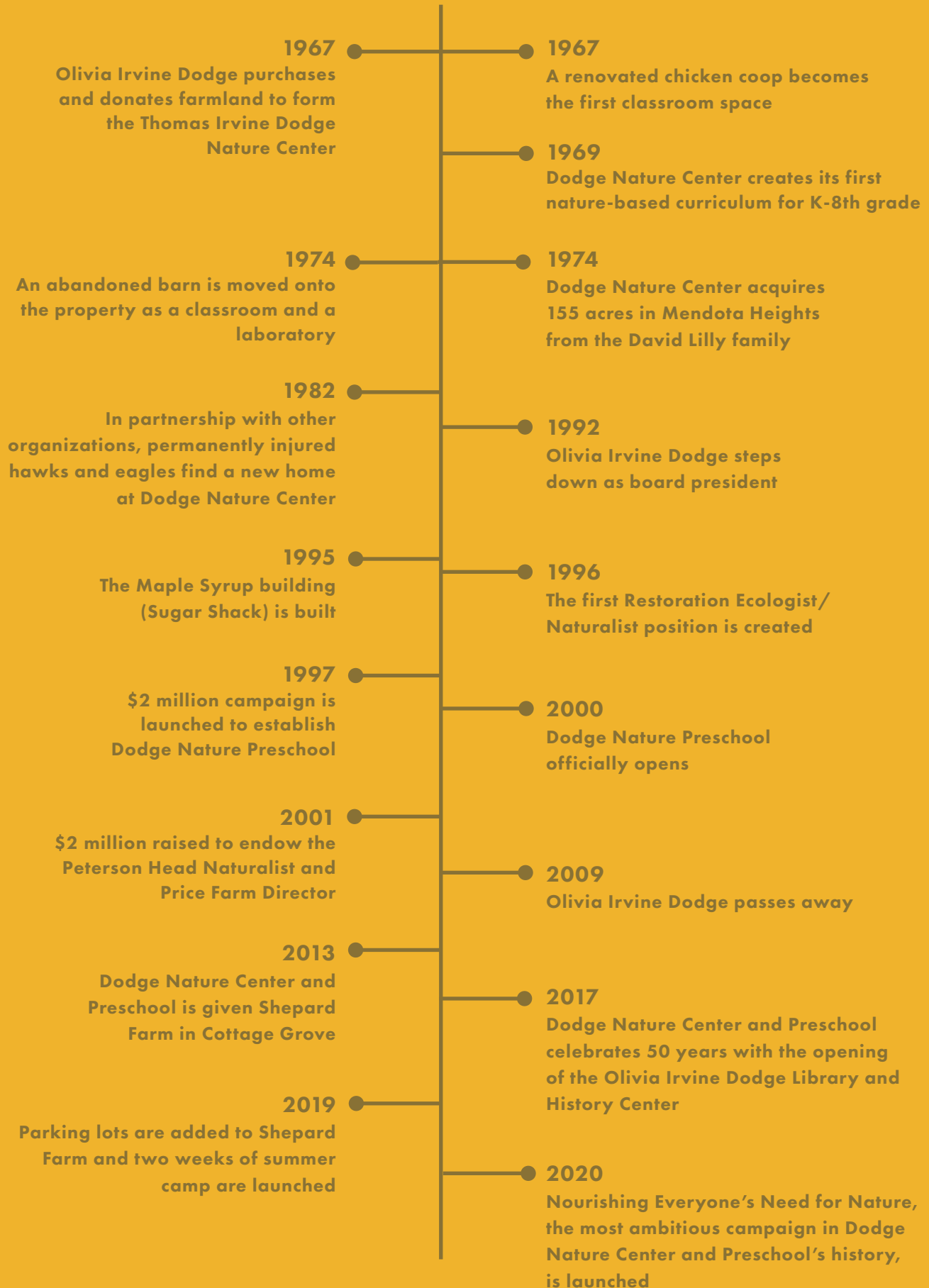
THE CAMPAIGN FOR
DODGE NATURE CENTER AND PRESCHOOL



EST. 1967

IN THE GREAT STATE OF
MINNESOTA


OVER 50 YEARS OF NATURE-BASED EDUCATION





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OURISHING EVERYONE'S
NEED FOR NATURE



Dodge Nature Center and Preschool was created as a place to experience nature, not merely observe it. Our founder, Olivia Irvine Dodge, understood that the experience of nature changes a person — and she believed that everyone should be able to nourish their need for nature.

This campaign builds access to nature. It ensures a sustainable future for this essential destination, and it extends the legacy of Olivia Irvine Dodge's vision for generations to come.

We invite your generous participation in this campaign. Your gift makes it possible for Dodge Nature Center and Preschool to impact thousands more people with the life-giving force of nature.

Olivia C. Ford

Olivia (Vicki) C. Ford
Campaign Co-Chair

Chad A. Dayton

Chad Dayton
Campaign Co-Chair

If you get an idea that does good for others and you really believe in it, you draw to you the right people who can grab onto it and carry it forward.



OLIVIA IRVINE DODGE



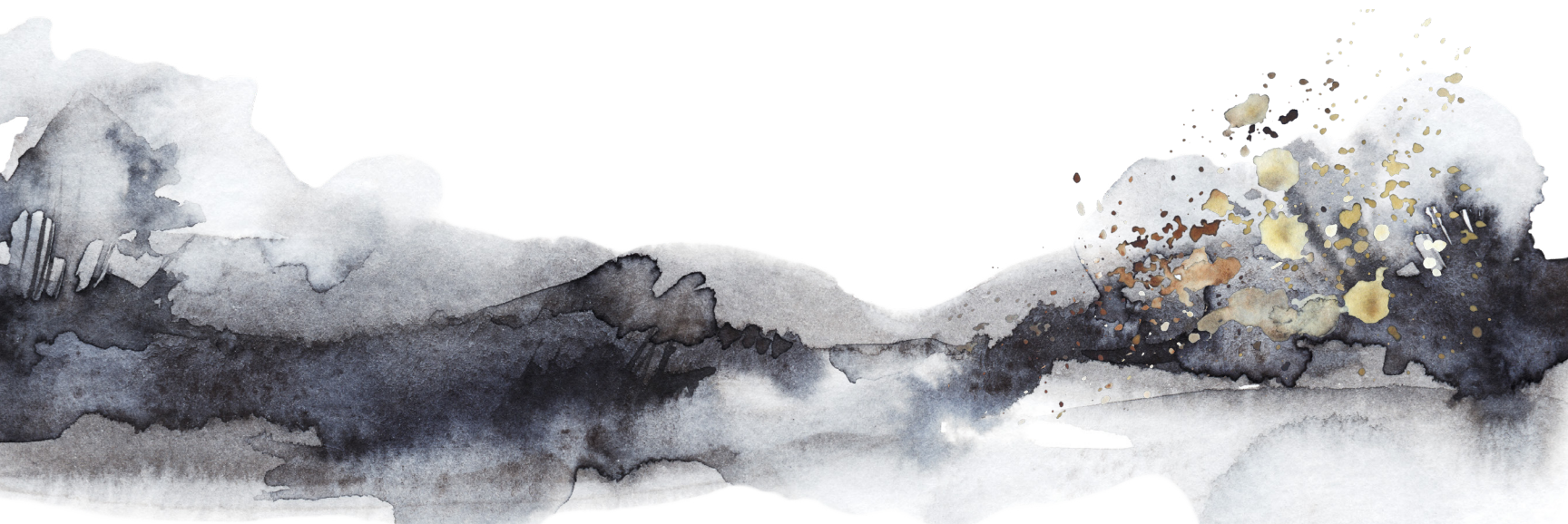


In 1967, when Olivia Irvine Dodge established the Thomas Irvine Dodge Nature Center on 37 acres in West Saint Paul, she had the vision to create an engaging natural environment, full of experiences and learning opportunities for all ages. Her pioneering commitment resulted in one of the first nature centers in Minnesota, which quickly became a sanctuary for people to escape a rapidly urbanizing Twin Cities, as well as an incubator for innovative, nature-based education practices.

For more than 50 years, Dodge Nature Center has been an essential resource in the greater Twin Cities area, providing access and deep connection to nature-based learning and experiences. Today, it is cherished by thousands of families and is a signature destination for the region.

With its thoughtful expansion over the past 50 years, Dodge Nature Center and Preschool now encompasses 460 acres. Dodge now includes a forward-thinking, nationally recognized, nature-based preschool; the Main and Marie properties in West St. Paul; the Lilly Property in Mendota Heights; and, most recently, Shepard Farm in Cottage Grove.

IN THIS FAST-PACED AND INCREASINGLY TECHNOLOGY-FOCUSED WORLD, PEOPLE SPEND LESS TIME OUTDOORS. YET THE EXPERIENCE OF NATURE IS A VITAL SOCIAL DETERMINANT OF HEALTH AND WELL-BEING. A COLLECTIVE AND GROWING NEED FOR NATURE FUELS THIS CAMPAIGN AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT 50 YEARS, TO MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR MANY MORE PEOPLE TO NOURISH THEIR NEED FOR NATURE.





OUR VISION

BEAUTIFUL, ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL SPACES CLOSE TO URBAN CENTERS ARE RARE, YET THEY ARE CRITICAL TO THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES THAT OFTEN LACK ACCESS TO NATURE. ALL PEOPLE SHOULD BE ABLE TO NOURISH THEIR NEED FOR NATURE, WITHOUT REGARD TO BACKGROUND, LIFE EXPERIENCES, GEOGRAPHY, OR SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS.

DODGE NATURE CENTER AND PRESCHOOL IS AN OASIS IN THE MIDST OF A BUSY METROPOLITAN AREA, A PLACE THAT HAS INSPIRED CURIOSITY AND WONDER FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS AS AN ESSENTIAL DESTINATION AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE FOR HIGH-QUALITY, NATURE-BASED LEARNING.

THIS CAMPAIGN SEEKS TO BUILD ACCESS FOR THOUSANDS OF MORE DIVERSE VISITORS, TO IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY AND PRESERVATION OF OUR HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND NATURAL SPACES, AND TO EXTEND OLIVIA IRVINE DODGE'S LEGACY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.



**THIS \$40 MILLION FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
FOR DODGE NATURE CENTER AND PRESCHOOL
WILL ADDRESS THREE VITAL AREAS:**

ACCESS

Reduce and remove barriers
so that everybody has access to
the nourishing power of nature.

40

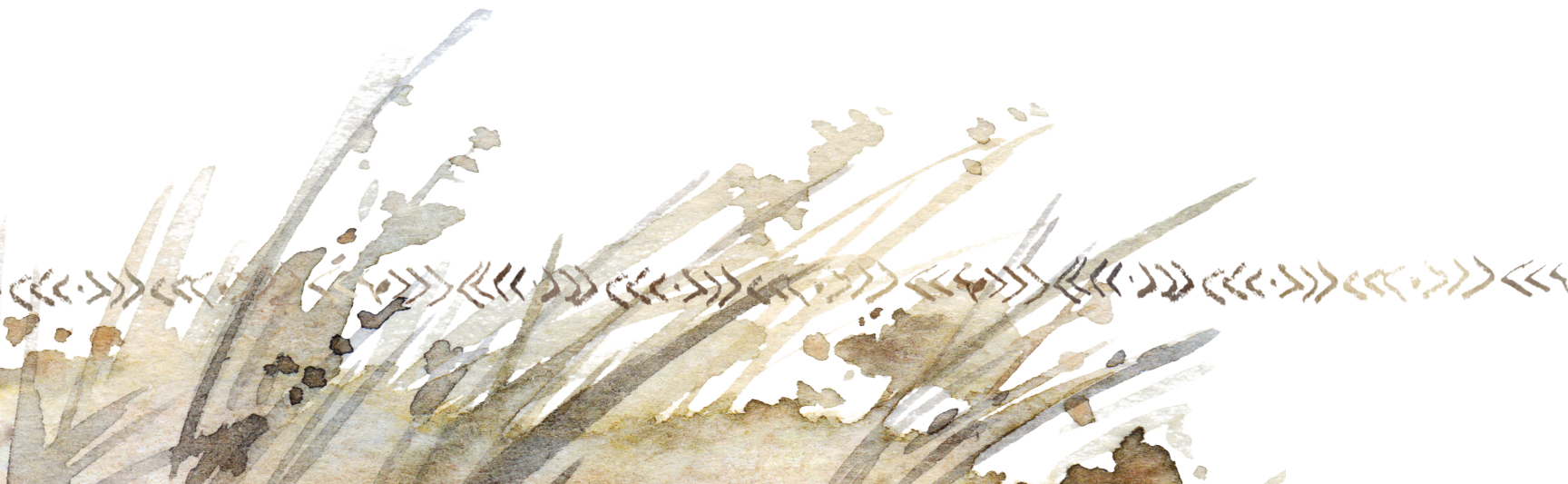
MILLION

SUSTAINABILITY

Update and preserve our historic
buildings and natural spaces, expand
staff to meet programming demands,
and sustain the tradition of the grounds
being free and open to all.

LEGACY

Extend the legacy of Olivia
Irvine Dodge to ensure that Dodge
remains a relevant, accessible sanctuary
in the middle of a busy metropolitan
area for the next 50 years.





INCREASE ACCESS FOR ALL

FUNDING THROUGH THIS CAMPAIGN WILL ALLOW DODGE NATURE CENTER AND PRESCHOOL TO REDUCE AND REMOVE BARRIERS SO THAT EVERYBODY HAS ACCESS TO THE NOURISHING POWER OF NATURE.

ACCESS TAKES MANY FORMS AND REQUIRES AN INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE, AND HOLISTIC APPROACH TO OUR PHYSICAL SPACES AND PROGRAMMING, INCLUDING OUR FORWARD-THINKING PRESCHOOL, GROWING EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS, AND NEW SHEPARD FARM.



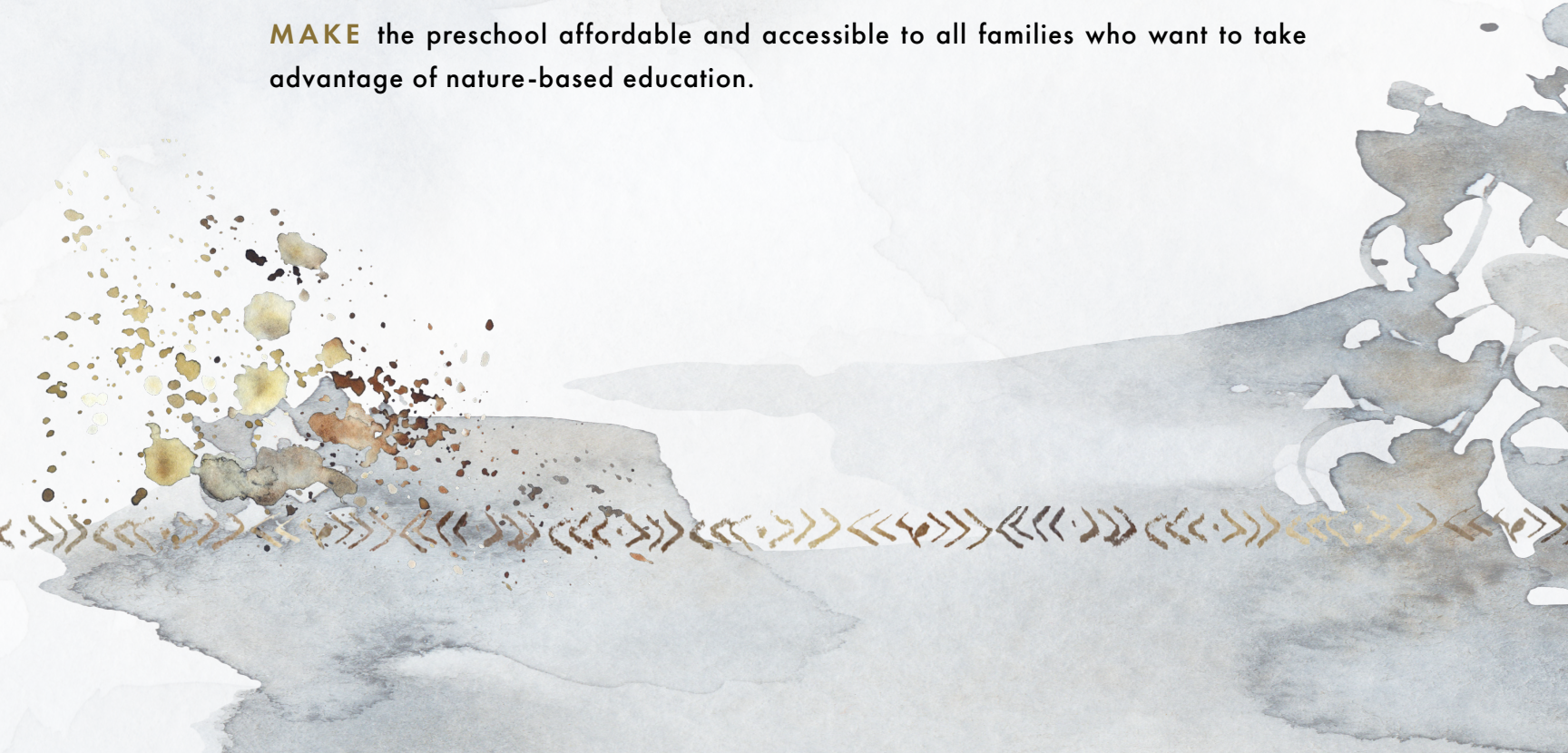


CAMPAIGN IMPACT:

UPDATE trails and gathering spaces at the Main Property and new Shepard Farm with environmentally friendly designs that increase access and create a better experience for guests with disabilities and limited mobility.

EXPAND outreach to underrepresented populations to make our natural spaces and nature-based learning accessible to all in our community.

MAKE the preschool affordable and accessible to all families who want to take advantage of nature-based education.





SUSTAIN OUR PLACES AND SPACES

THIS CAMPAIGN WILL ENSURE THAT OUR HISTORIC BUILDINGS ARE UPDATED AND PROPERLY MAINTAINED, OUR NATURAL SPACES ARE PRESERVED AND AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE, AND OUR STAFF CAN MEET DEMANDS FOR PROGRAMMING. WE WILL STRENGTHEN CONNECTIONS TO SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES, SHARE THE POWER OF NATURE WITH MORE PEOPLE, AND PROTECT MORE LAND FROM BEING DEVELOPED.





CAMPAIGN IMPACT:


SUSTAIN the tradition of the grounds being free and open for everyone to enjoy.

UPDATE the historic buildings, barns, classrooms, and other spaces at all properties in alignment with environmentally conscious standards.

- Renovate existing buildings at Shepard Farm to create functional classroom and program space.
- Install solar panels at the Main Property to reduce Dodge's carbon footprint and provide a natural way to teach visitors about the benefits of alternative energy and the impacts of climate change.
- Upgrade Farm Kitchens to provide new educational opportunities for adults and older children.

GROW capacity to preserve our most precious asset—the land—with a new restoration specialist who will provide conservation oversight and develop systems to minimize the environmental impact of visitors and other natural challenges across all properties. This is a vitally important position as we increase the number of visitors at all of our locations.

MEET increasing demands for programming for adults and youth from underrepresented communities through the addition of a new naturalist position who will focus on outreach to schools in underserved communities and on a new adult education program.





**EXTEND THE LEGACY OF
OLIVIA IRVINE DODGE**

MORE THAN 50 YEARS AGO, OLIVIA IRVINE DODGE HAD THE VISION TO PRESERVE THIS BEAUTIFUL NATURE CENTER IN THE MIDST OF A RAPIDLY EXPANDING URBAN AREA. THIS CAMPAIGN WILL EXTEND HER LEGACY AND ENSURE THAT DODGE NATURE CENTER AND PRESCHOOL REMAINS A RELEVANT, ACCESSIBLE SANCTUARY IN THE MIDDLE OF A BUSY METROPOLITAN AREA.





CAMPAIGN IMPACT:

WELCOME an ever-increasing number of children, adults, and families for generations to come.

PROVIDE more resources to support the volunteers whose dedication of time and talent to preservation, programming, and restoration projects contributes to the legacy of this amazing nature center.

SECURE the future of Dodge Nature Center and Preschool by expanding legacy giving opportunities and increasing the endowment.



BE A PART OF NOURISHING
EVERYONE'S NEED FOR NATURE

THIS CAMPAIGN PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE THE ENDURING
VISION AND COMMITMENT OF OLIVIA IRVINE DODGE AND TO PROVIDE
TRANSFORMATIONAL SUPPORT TO TODAY'S DODGE NATURE CENTER AND PRESCHOOL.

WE INVITE YOU TO BE PART OF THIS CAMPAIGN THAT IS BRINGING ATTENTION
TO THE FUTURE OF THE LAND, THE ORGANIZATION, AND THE COMMUNITY.



WAYS
TO
GIVE

ENDOWMENT
\$35 MILLION GOAL

Gifts to the endowment ensure the near- and long-term
stability of Dodge Nature Center and Preschool.

Contributions to the endowment can be made through
a combination of outright and planned gifts.

CAPITAL PROJECTS
\$3 MILLION GOAL

Gifts to capital projects advance the *transformation*
of the buildings and grounds on the Main Property
and at Shepard Farm. Contributions to capital projects
can be made through outright gifts and pledges.

ANNUAL FUND
\$2 MILLION GOAL

Gifts to the annual fund provide *flexibility* to meet
new and emerging needs. Thanks to a generous
donor, all new and increased gifts to the annual fund
will be matched, up to \$1 million. Contributions to the
annual fund can be made through outright gifts and pledges.

CAMPAIGN CONTACT:

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[DODGENATURECENTER.ORG/CAMPAIGN](https://dodgenaturecenter.org/campaign)



OLIVIA IRVINE DODGE



PIONEERED ONE OF THE FIRST NATURE CENTERS IN MINNESOTA, WHICH QUICKLY BECAME A SANCTUARY FOR PEOPLE HOPING TO ESCAPE A RAPIDLY URBANIZING TWIN CITIES AS WELL AS AN INCUBATOR FOR INNOVATIVE, NATURE-BASED EDUCATION PRACTICES.

DODGE NATURE CENTER FACTS

OVER
125
BIRD
SPECIES



Woodpeckers
Cardinals
Goldfinches
Blue Jays
Mourning Doves
Owls
Turkeys
Chickadees
Nuthatches
and more

450,000
Honeybees



8 MILES OF HIKING AND
SNOWSHOEING TRAILS



Over **60,000**
nature experiences

40

Different topics in the
outdoor classrooms



460 / **4**
ACRES / METRO
LOCATIONS

Wetlands
Grasslands
Savanna
Woodlands
and
Working
Farms



200
SYRUP TAPS
EACH YEAR



TRAILS OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC



7
DAYS
A WEEK

WE CARE FOR OUR PLANET

This booklet is produced locally on 100% Post-Consumer waste paper using Soybean based inks. Printed by: Resolution Graphics, Arden Hills, MN / Inks by: Mallard Ink Company, St. Anthony, MN

