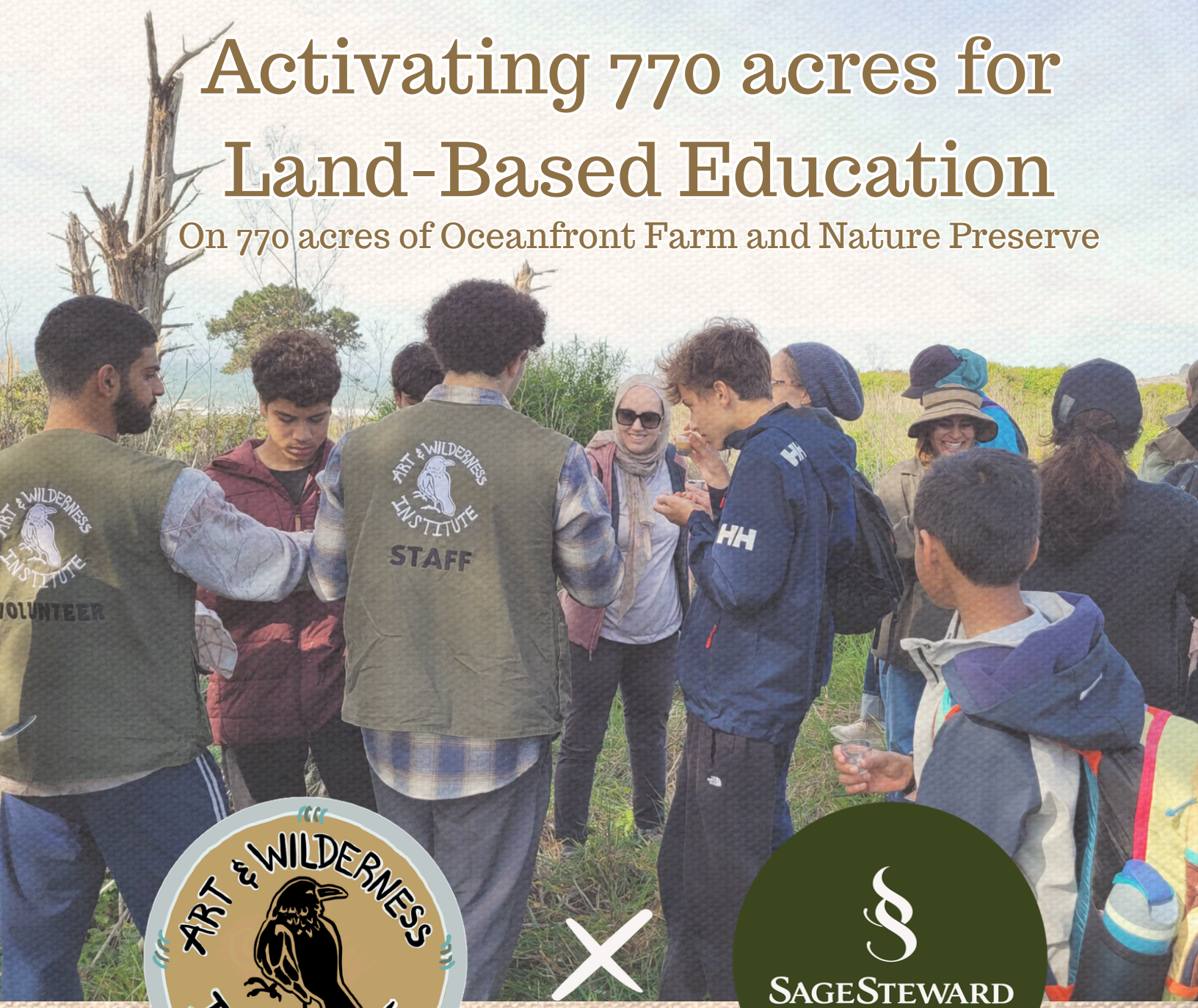
Activating 770 acres for Land-Based Education

On 770 acres of Oceanfront Farm and Nature Preserve



ART & WILDERNESS INSTITUTE

×

SAGESTEWARD FARM

Year 1 Launch & Program Overview

SAGE STEWARD FARM

Seated on 770 acres of beachfront farm, ranch and woodland in Northern California, Sage Steward Farm serves as a campus for regenerative land, learning and community.

Art and Wilderness Institute (AWI), is a non-profit organization dedicated to building community through stewardship of the land. Since 2019, AWI has led over 565 programs, taught over 3,600 students, and reached over 11,000 community members in outreach, hands-on environmental education, and stewardship events.

Now, more than ever..

Our youth are spending more time on screens and less time in nature than any generation in history.

Together, Sage Steward Farm and the Art & Wilderness Institute are activating 770 acres of beachfront farm, ranch and woodland as a campus where immersive outdoor education strengthens resilience, cultivates leadership, and builds the spiritual connection that keeps children and community grounded in an ever-changing world.

Year 1 Launch Funding Goal — $120,000

Funds raised establish the staffing, curriculum, and infrastructure required to launch programming in Year 1.

Program revenue, grants, and seeded investment income will gradually increase with a goal of operational sustainability by Year 3.



Where your gift goes

Program Lead Salary	$50,000
Part-Time Program Staff	$13,200
Administrative Staffing Support	$36,400
Educational Supplies & Field Equipment	$12,000
Marketing & Outreach	$6,000
Buffer	$2,400
Total	$120,000

Land & Infrastructure Contribution

Sage Steward Farm is contributing the land and facilities that make this project possible:

770 acres coastal land & retreat facilities	$300,000
Program Lead housing & utilities	$54,000
Total In-Kind Contribution	$354,000

Institutional & Fiscal Sponsorship Support

Art and Wilderness Institute provides nonprofit infrastructure and institutional support including:

- 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsorship
- Tax-deductible donation processing
- Grant access and compliance oversight
- Financial management and reporting
- Insurance coverage

Year 1 - 2 Programming



Youth & Family Programs

- Youth Summer Camp
- Family Campouts
- Secret Adventure Community Days



Leadership & Teen Programs

- Girls Leadership Camp
- Youth Leadership Summit
- Boys Leadership Camp launching in Year 2



School & Educational Partnerships

- Environmental Literacy Programming
- Seasonal School Field Trips



Stewardship & Ecology Education

- Naturalist 101 Workshops
- Bushcraft Series
- Land Stewardship Days



OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP COURSE/ MENTOR/TEACHER TRAININGS

- Ecological literacy & land interpretation
- Risk awareness & safety practices
- Faith-rooted environmental reflection
- Group leadership in nature settings
- Preparation to guide land-based learning experiences at Sage Steward Farm and around the world

Path to Financial Sustainability

Year 1 — Launch & Infrastructure Build

Primary focus: curriculum, staffing, and pilot programming.

Funding Composition:

- Fundraising: **70–80%**
- Program Revenue: **15–25%**
- Grants: ***Limited***
- Investment Yield: ***Seeded***

Projected Program Revenue: **$18,000 – $45,000**

Year 2 — Expansion & Revenue Growth

Programs expand through repeat enrollment and refined offerings.

Funding Composition:

- Program Revenue: **35–55%**
- Grants: **15–25%**
- Fundraising: **15–25%**
- Investment Yield: ***Emerging***

Projected Program Revenue: **$28,000 – $68,000**

Year 3 — Operational Sustainability

Diversified income streams support core programming.

Funding Composition:

- Program Revenue: **60–75%**
- Grants: **15–25%**
- Investment Yield: **5–10%**
- Fundraising: *Supplemental Growth Support Only*

Fundraising shifts to ***Scholarship*** *and Program Expansion*



Who's Leading this?



Meet Sama Wareh

Executive Director & Co-Founder
Art and Wilderness Institute

Sama is an ecologist, artist, author, and environmental educator with over 20 years of experience. She holds a Master's in Environmental Studies from CSUF, a Bachelor's in Filmmaking, and a minor in Art. Sama has taught a wide range of subjects from TK to university level, led over a thousand hikes, designed and built programs for nature centers and schools, and has conducted workshops for arboretums, nature centers, and museums across California and the U.S.

In addition to her work as an educator, Sama is the author of How to Draw 60 Native CA Plants and Animals: A Field Guide and The Legend of Redwood Raven (2023). She has spoken at the UN, delivered a TED-X talk, and facilitated training sessions for OCParks, State Parks, and Interpretive Centers. Sama has earned certifications in tracking from The Tracker School and is a certified facilitator for both Project WILD and Project WET. She also teaches as an adjunct faculty member at the Teachers College of San Joaquin.

Sama's work has been recognized with several awards, including the OC Register's 40 Under 40, OC Weekly's People of the Year, Access California's Humanitarian Heart Award, the Rachel Corrie award, the Top Southern California Educator Award from the Association for Environmental Outdoor Education, and most recently, the Shura Council's Rising in Unity Community Builder Award.

With a deep love for the outdoors and a commitment to fostering meaningful connections to the environment, Sama, alongside her amazing co-founders Syma and Khadeeja, co-founded the Art and Wilderness Institute (AWI), a non-profit organization, which is now growing into its 7th year of serving more than 500 students per semester and over 4000 community members annually.

AWI
AT A GLANCE, SINCE 2019

3,164 STUDENTS

Since 2019, AWI has had 3,164 semesterly enrolled students pass through our habitats. Just in 2025 we have 652 students join us. Over 300 of those students have continuously enrolled from the age of 7 and continued through the age of 12

and ongoing.

LOCATIONS & OUTREACH

ORANGE COUNTY, CA - CORE
INLAND EMPIRE, CA - CORE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA 2025 FALL
Dallas Tx. Portland. OR, Raleigh, NC.
San Diego, CA. Los Angelos, CA.
Chiapas, MX. Juneau, AK.

565 PROGRAMS

SINCE 2019

Each semester, AWI offers approximately 60 different classes to choose from, some core and some elective. These subjects include core subjects such as English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Art as well as elective subjects such as calligraphy, backpacking, campouts, bushcraft, Mommy and Me, and more, all taught through the lens of stewardship and community building.

33 TEACHERS
10 ADMIN

17 *regular weekly/biweekly teachers*
13*elective instructors*
7part time Admin
3*Full Time Admin*

18
MASJIDS TO GO GREEN

Through our GreenMasjid Initiative AWI has been actively working with and offering resources for Masjids throughout America to go green,

11,124
TOTAL FREE ATTENDEES

In Addition to our paid enrollment programming, AWI is grateful to serve the wider community through events and outreach.

$12,707
IN SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 2020, a student of AWI had the idea to teach a class to raise money for other students to be able to attend classes. Since then, Scholarships has become a tradition and AWI admin has taken inititiaves to host events to raise funds for scholarships. Ultimately, we never turn anyone away due to lack of funding. We believe that environmental education should be accessible to all.

PARTNERSHIPS

With over 15 different partners, including State Parks and the John Muir Association, our partnerships and projects reach wide and diverse audiences.



OVER 3000 TREES

Planted since 2019 Fulfilling our Carbon Offset Promise

5,230
FREE COMMUNITY HIKE PARTICIPANTS

Since our inception, AWI has been offering free hikesto rekindle the connection between community and land. Our programs include the following:

- ***WILDFLOWERS****- A free women's Hiking group* ***OLIVE OUTDOORS****-*
- *Elderly led by our young Budding Naturalists* ***COMMUNITY HIKES****-*
- *In partnerships with various organizations*

$15,826.44
TOWARDS HABITAT RESTORATION

Since 2019, AWI students have raised funds and AWI admin has set asijde funding per student enrolled to rehabilitate and protect ecosystems

ART & WILDERNESS INSTITUTE COMMUNITY IS A 501-(C)(3) TIN 92-3854485

WWW.AWICOMMUNITY.ORG

AS OF DEC 2025