

# BLACK ROCK FOREST ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2020 (October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020)

In the calendar, we see the year through the lens of our volunteer photographers, including recreational hikers, professional photographers, and staff. The Annual Report tells our story through statistics that reflect our achievements and efforts throughout the year.

## CONSERVATION

**200** seedlings planted with volunteer help including **100** red cedar trees and a variety of other conifers.

**10** infrastructure projects completed including Japanese barberry removal from Patrons Grove, trail rehabilitation along the White Oak Trail, installation of new benches along Sibyl's Path, the building of three new kiosks as Eagle Scout projects (Mineral Springs, Mine Hill and Pecks Road entrances), and improvements to access roads and the public parking lot.

**6** acres of undeveloped forest land adjacent to the Forest received via donation by a Cornwall family and placed under our stewardship for long-term conservation, bringing Black Rock Forest's total acreage to 3920 acres.

## RESEARCH

**\$31,000** awarded for **6** research projects through the David Redden Conservation Science Fund Small Grants Program.

**250** attendees at the David Redden Conservation Science Fund Speaker Series event "Eastern Coyotes" at the American Museum of Natural History featuring Dr. Roland Kays.

**14** scientific publications: **7** using data collected at BRF and published in peer-reviewed journals or conference proceedings, **5** papers by BRF staff in peer-reviewed journals, and **2** articles featuring BRF research in popular science and news media.

**5** students (**2** undergraduate and **3** graduate) supported while completing their theses/dissertations at Black Rock Forest.

## EDUCATION

**5,572** visitor days recorded in FY20 reflecting a 60% drop in yearly academic visitors due to reduced institutional visits during the COVID-19 pandemic. *(Note that the first six months of Black Rock Forest's fiscal year 2020 were "pre-pandemic" while the other six months fell during the height of lockdowns and pandemic disruptions.)*

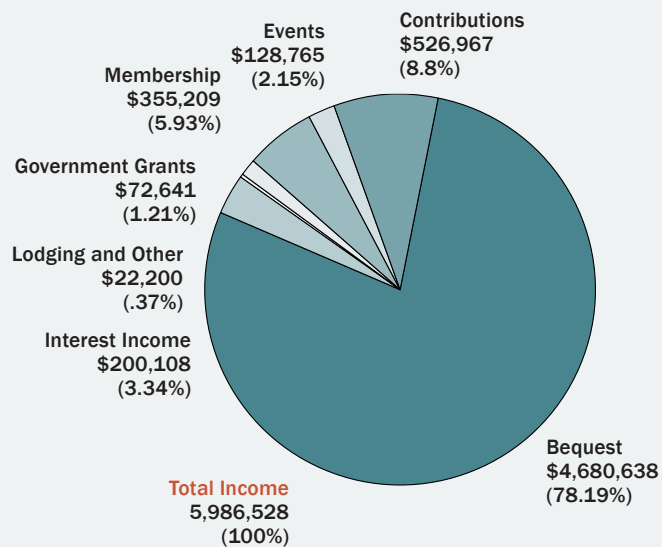
**1,200** views of our YouTube channel, **77** watch-time hours, **36+** Subscribers from Jan 1-Sep 30, 2020.

**56** attendees at **3** public events, **2** hikes, and **1** Planetarium Day event — a 77% drop in program attendance from the previous year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

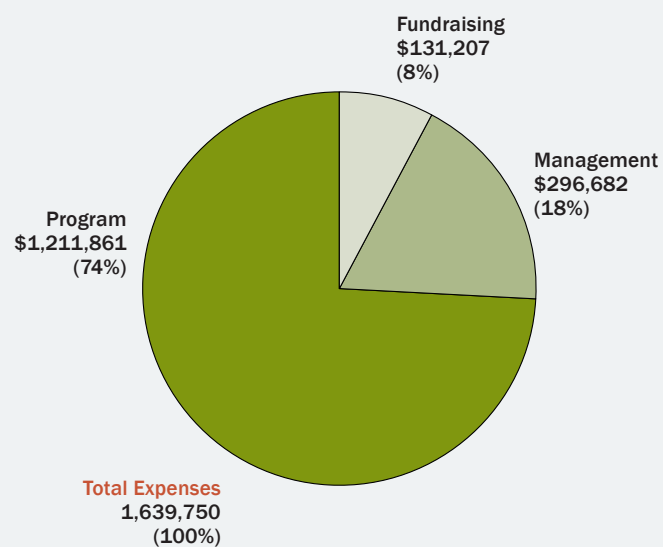
**0** summer camp programs held at Black Rock Forest as BRF's Summer Science Camp and the Newburgh Enlarged City School District's STEM summer program at BRF were both cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## AUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

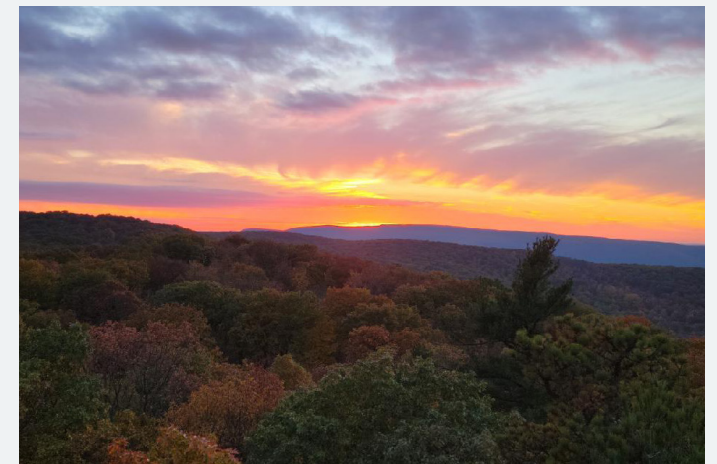
### INCOME



### EXPENSES



Income in excess of expenses is used to build long-term funds, which generate interest income to sustain research and education programs and contribute to general operating expenses.



Brilliant late fall sunset scene from the summit of Black Rock Mountain. Black Rock Forest's Sackett Ridge appears in the foreground from which native deciduous forest extends almost unbroken to the wilds of Schunnemunk Mountain in the distance. — William Schuster, PhD, BRF Executive Director; Photo: William Schuster