



— Friends of the —  
**RAINFOREST™**  
Monteverde, Costa Rica

FOREST FIELD  
**NEWS & NOTES**  
Winter 2019

**SUPPORTING THE CHILDREN'S ETERNAL RAINFOREST SINCE 2002**

## Rachel Crandell Memorial Fund Update

We are delighted to report since September over \$13,900 has been donated in memory of our founder, Rachel Crandell, who left this beautiful earth 10 years ago. Rachel lives on in our hearts, minds, and actions as we carry on in her name. This memorial will continue Friends of the Rainforest's mission to promote a sustainable world by educating and inspiring individuals to take action in protecting, supporting, and expanding the Rainforest in Costa Rica and beyond. You can still contribute to move her legacy forward and help us meet our goal of \$30,000 - \$1,000 for each year she dedicated to the rainforest.



## Hands-On in the Rainforest

Today's children become tomorrow's leaders. For hands on lessons to inspire these young leaders, the Monteverde Conservation League has raised funds for the last 6 years for a fulltime environmental educator. The environmental education program at the Children's Eternal Rainforest (CER) works with students at more than 17 elementary schools near the eastern border of the rainforest. Between talks, workshops, and field trips to the forest, these

programs inspire and educate the next generation of informed citizens. Last month a unit on watershed conservation began. Students in communities near the CER learned what makes a

healthy river. Recently students from La Tigra Ecological Elementary School planted native trees in the CER as part of their school's week-long environmental fair. Several nearby schools visited to learn about, collect, and identify aquatic insects to help them see the indicators of water quality and stream health. Giving children an up-close and personal experience allows them to connect with their neighboring forest. This environmental education position is funded by Friends of the Rainforest donors.



### INSIDE:

Learn about kids in action and FOTR  
trip to the rainforest



Gifts that give back and meet our new  
Education & Outreach Coordinator

## Kids in Action

### Spotlight on Sarah

Sarah Lopez is a student from St. Catherine's Montessori. Last summer she traveled to the Children's Eternal Rainforest with some of her fellow classmates. Sarah remembered her great experience there and wanted to give back. On May 3rd she sold her nature photography at her school's Climate Change Symposium and wanted to give some of the proceeds back to the forest. The day began with student research presentations based on topics of



Sarah selling her nature photos at the climate change symposium.



Mesmerized in the Children's Eternal Rainforest learning about birds.

interest that relate to the many aspects and consequences of climate change. Students gave 3-minute presentations, complete with visual elements, to fellow students, parents, and special guests. The Primary Library was converted into an art gallery that featured original student art and photography inspired by the environment and the effects of climate change. Many left inspired and encouraged about how they can make a meaningful impact.

## FOTR Visits the CER

This past June, Friends of the Rainforest Board Members, staff, and friends went off the beaten path and traveled to Costa Rica to spend time at the Pocosol field station. The delightful rustic lodge with electricity and hot water was made possible by our donors through grants. They met with MCL Executive Director, Lindsay Stallcup, to discuss programs and future collaboration. From birdwatching to suspension bridges, they explored the trails, learned to mist net for bats, and experienced night hikes. They also enjoyed a ferry across Arenal Lake to hike up the active Arenal Volcano. A short stop at the offices at Bajo del Tigre even resulted in spotting the iconic Three-Wattled Bell Bird.



## Friends of the Rainforest

Our mission is to promote a sustainable world by educating and inspiring children and adults to take action to protect, support and expand the Rainforest in Costa Rica and beyond.

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### Friends of the Rainforest

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## Gifts with a Purpose

### Protect-A-Pal Program



Whether there is a newborn in the family, upcoming birthday, or holiday wish list to fill, we have the perfect answer. Choosing to protect a species is a great way to show your support for the Rainforest. We now have four Pals available to protect. Proceeds directly benefit the Children's Eternal Rainforest and our global tropical education program. Your donation includes an adorable plush animal, certificate of action, species information postcard, and more. To learn more, you can call 314-941-1257 or visit [www.friendsoftherainforest.org](http://www.friendsoftherainforest.org)

### Wear Your Cause

Give the gift that keeps on giving. Wearing and sharing the cause helps spread our mission and supports our efforts to protect the rainforest. To check out our collection and purchase, please visit our online store [www.friendsoftherainforest.org](http://www.friendsoftherainforest.org)



## Education & Outreach

We are thrilled to introduce our new Education and Outreach Coordinator, Amy Rustige. Amy is a long-time educator who taught in both parochial and public schools across the St. Louis area. Before arriving at Friends of the Rainforest, she owned her own business and spent time volunteering for various causes close to her heart. She is thrilled to be enhancing our curriculum by adding arts to the already user-friendly lessons, and getting back into the classrooms to help add the "A" in steAm lessons! Amy is currently adding to our comprehensive instructional portfolio, engaging ways to get teachers and students personally involved with the rainforest. Since October, Amy has been working diligently reaching 6 classrooms and 118 students. Currently on our schedule we have 19 more classrooms to inspire. We are grateful to a generous donor for fully funding our Education and Outreach Coordinator position.





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## Trivia Night 2019 Recap

Thank you for making our 6th annual Protect the Rainforest Trivia Night a huge success. With over 180 attendees, we raised over \$12,000 for our Environmental Education Program and rainforest protection. This event was made possible with the help of our Board members, staff, sponsors, volunteers, donors, and attendees.



Thank you to our \$1,000  
Conservation sponsors

**CBRE**



After a 1989 visit to Costa Rica dedicated environmentalists, Rachel and Dwight Crandell were inspired by the example of the Swedish second grade class that took the initiative to support the Children's Eternal Rainforest. The efforts of the Crandells over 17 years ago have inspired thousands of people world wide to take action to support and protect Rainforest land.