



HURRICANE ISLAND  
**OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL**

---

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



**“I FEEL A RESPONSIBILITY  
NOW TO CARRY ALL OF  
THE INVALUABLE LESSONS  
OUTWARD BOUND HAS  
TAUGHT ME. HOW CAN I  
LEAVE AND GO OUT INTO THE  
WORLD UNCHANGED AFTER  
LEARNING SO MUCH? I WILL  
RETURN A NEW MAN. WITH  
MORE HUMILITY, KINDNESS,  
STRENGTH, AND CONFIDENCE.”**

*—Matthew, Age 21*

## DEAR HIOBS COMMUNITY,

There is a poem in the HIOBS Readings book by Mary Oliver, titled “The Journey.” It starts with:

*One day you finally knew what you had to do, and began, though the voices around you kept shouting their bad advice— though the whole house began to tremble and you felt the old tug at your ankles. “Mend my life!” each voice cried. But you didn’t stop.*

In 2023, I have been continuously inspired by the unwavering dedication and spirit within our community. Each of you has faced challenges head-on, demonstrating remarkable resilience and driving the transformation and renewal that define this year. It is because of your commitment and efforts that we have not only thrived but grown stronger together.

Our Board, led by Chairman Jack Peat, has been steadfast, guiding our ship through uncharted waters with vision and determination. Our dedicated field staff have continued to ignite the spark of character development in our students, shaping leaders who are ready to face the challenges of tomorrow. We have welcomed new faces into our community, bringing fresh energy and innovative ideas to propel us forward.

Our alumni and their families have been our torchbearers, sharing their stories and the life-changing lessons of their HIOBS experiences, and inspiring others to join our mission. Your support and generosity have been the bedrock of our success, allowing us to serve more students, develop new bases, build a new generation of pulling boats, and change more lives.

Let’s keep this momentum going. There is still much to be done, and together, we can continue to create ripples of positive change that extend far beyond our shores.

Serving (and swimming) with you,



Eric Denny  
Executive Director



## OAR AWARD

In recognition and appreciation of his incredible contributions to HIOBS—as an instructor, Board and Council member, and passionate Outward Bound advocate—Mike Stanley received the 2023 Distinguished Service Oar Award. Mike’s time, energy, and dedication to our alumni are a constant light that help to strengthen our organization and make us all better. Congratulations, Mike, and thank you for your service!

*Executive Director’s Note: It is with deep sadness that we share that our good friend, Mike Stanley, passed away in August 2024. He was an icon and giant who gave us all a gift we will cherish forever, and he will be greatly missed.*



# TRANSFORMATION AND RENEWAL

2023 was marked by profound journeys of self-discovery and personal growth as participants engaged in transformative experiences during HIOBS expeditions.

Here's what participants said about HIOBS:

"Day after day I was slowly guided back to myself. As I was tested and met the challenge I felt my confidence slowly start to return. It felt like reconnecting with an old friend."

– *Matthew, Age 21*

"At the beginning of this course, and throughout my life, I have found myself uncertain and with a lack of confidence in my words and actions. Attending this HIOBS program has completely changed that... I have gained the ability to lead, learn, and empower myself and others, which are skills I will continue to develop... I have become a more adaptable, resilient, and responsible individual."

– *Julia, Age 21*

"This has been such a grounding experience that has reminded me who I am and what I want to do in life."

– *Alayna, Age 21*

"At a school, you are meant to learn things, mostly academic. But at Hurricane Island Outward Bound School I learned things about myself and the world."

– *Henry, Age 15*

"This program has helped me be part of a group of friends for the first time in many years. My support network has grown by nine trusted individuals. In just one week we went from strangers to friends to a team that could anticipate each other's actions on the sailboat. I have never seen anything like it!"

– *Amanda, age 47*



Photo Credit: Naman Sharma



# SELF-DISCOVERY

## LESSONS FROM MY HIOBS EXPEDITION

*Joss Richman: Going Outward Bound & what I learned along the way*

The heart of the HIOBS experience lies in self-discovery. Participants learn to navigate not only the physical landscapes but also the landscapes of their own emotions and aspirations. Through introspective activities, guided reflections, and the support of their expedition peers, individuals unveil hidden facets of their character, leading to a deeper understanding of themselves and their capacity for growth.

Joss Richman, age 17, came to his sea kayaking expedition with a mix of skepticism and nerves, but his worries quickly subsided when he was met with kindness and reassurance from both his instructors and his peers. For the next eight days, Joss found himself pushing his limits, bonding and creating meaningful relationships with his peers, learning new skills, and having a profound experience on Solo. As he recalls, his HIOBS course was “immensely freeing” and made him realize he could go far beyond what he thought his limitations were.

### **What surprised you the most about your expedition?**

I was surprised at how real it was. I was expecting the course to be more sheltered and controlled, but it really was an actual expedition where we had an incredible level of autonomy even from the beginning.

### **What was the most meaningful activity/moment?**

For me, the most meaningful activity/moment was the Solo. Solo is a different experience for every person but I found it to be extremely meditative. The beginning of course can be a little hectic because everyone is learning new skills at such a rapid pace, so Solo is a great time to reflect. In my experience, most people found their reflections to be very powerful.



### **What was the hardest part and one thing you learned from the experience?**

The hardest part of my course was probably the first leg of our expedition. When we first got on the water it was very windy so the surf was super rough. Given that the whole crew had only done a small amount of paddling instruction, it was incredibly scary to face massive waves. I even had a moment where I got launched into the air for a few solid seconds! But by having a difficult first day, everyone quickly learned how to effectively steer and paddle through waves—the next day was much easier!

### **How did HIOBS help you achieve your goals this summer?**

As a high school student, I spend a lot of time sitting in classes, doing homework, etc. Being able to participate in experiential learning is a goal that I always have, because I learn so much in such a short period of time. Outward Bound was an extremely good example of this—I was able to learn so much about myself and the world around me in just 8 days.

### **What will you carry with you from this experience into your personal life?**

In our current time, there is a strange interpersonal dynamic where we share a lot of stuff on social media, but we don't actually talk to each other about positive things or our struggles. Being part of an Outward Bound crew taught me how to realize when people are struggling and understand how to support them—even if that means giving them space.

### **What would you say to future students thinking about doing Outward Bound?**

Do it. There is no comparable experience to Outward Bound. No matter if you love it or you hate it, you will learn something. Afterward, you will realize that you have gone far beyond what you thought your limitations were. It's a very empowering experience.

*Read the full interview on our blog: [hiobs.org/blog](https://hiobs.org/blog)*



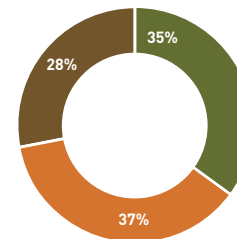




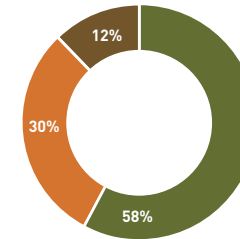
# LIFE-CHANGING JOURNEYS

In 2023, close to **1,100 students of all ages** completed a HIOBS course. Our expeditions serve as catalysts for change, propelling participants into challenging and unfamiliar environments. Through rigorous outdoor activities and team-based challenges, individuals embark on a transformative journey, pushing the boundaries of their comfort zones. Whether navigating the open sea, conquering mountain peaks, or overcoming obstacles as a team, each expedition is designed to foster resilience, leadership, and a deep sense of accomplishment.

% of Total Courses



% of Days on Course



## PROGRAM TYPE

- Classic, Semester, Vets**  
26 Courses / 5,164 Days
- School & Community Groups**  
27 Courses / 2,649 Days
- Outward Bound Professional**  
21 Courses / 1,071 Days



**8,884 DAYS and  
213,216 HOURS**  
of life-changing  
programs

**74 COURSES OFFERED  
1,073 STUDENTS**

**HERE I AM, AT THE END OF EVERYTHING, NO LONGER LOST. I HAVE FOUND MYSELF  
HERE, AS WELL AS FINDING WHO I WANT TO BE ALONG THE WAY. I KNOW NOW I  
WANT TO BE OUTDOORS ALWAYS, WORKING IN THE SUNSHINE OR THE RAIN. I WANT  
TO MOVE MY BODY AND TO PUSH MY PHYSICAL LIMITS. I WANT TO TELL PEOPLE MY  
STORY AND INSPIRE THEM TO DO THE SAME."**

*– Lorelei, Age 18*





# IMPACTFUL OUTCOMES

The transformation and renewal experienced during HIOBS expeditions have far-reaching effects. Participants return to their daily lives with a newfound perspective, equipped with the resilience to face challenges head-on. The skills acquired in the wilderness translate into enhanced leadership abilities, effective communication, and a heightened sense of responsibility.

“As a result of my Hurricane Island Outward Bound course, I:

97% 

FEEL MORE PREPARED TO  
TAKE ON FUTURE  
CHALLENGES

97% 


HAVE A GREATER  
UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT  
I'M GOOD AT AND AREAS I  
WANT TO WORK ON

92% 

FEEL MORE  
COMPASSIONATE  
TOWARDS OTHERS

92% 

FEEL MORE COMMITTED  
TO MAINTAINING OR  
IMPROVING MY PHYSICAL  
FITNESS

95% 

FEEL MORE MOTIVATED  
TO ACCOMPLISH MY  
GOALS

95% 

HAVE A GREATER  
UNDERSTANDING OF AND  
APPRECIATION FOR THE  
NATURAL WORLD

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## 96% OF OUR 2023 GRADUATES

WOULD RECOMMEND HIOBS TO A FRIEND.

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“I REALIZED THAT THROUGH CHALLENGE AND DIVERSE EXPERIENCES,  
METTLE IS TESTED AND PERSONALITY IS CREATED.”

– Ryan, Age 15





# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Amidst the rugged beauty of nature, participants find the space for personal renewal. The wilderness becomes a canvas for self-reflection, allowing individuals to shed the layers of routine and rediscover their true selves. As they face and conquer challenges, participants gain a renewed sense of purpose, resilience, and inner strength. The wilderness, with its unpredictable elements, becomes a mirror reflecting their capabilities and untapped potential.

**Our Scholarship Program is guided by a single principle: every person, regardless of means, should have the opportunity to discover more within themselves through the challenge and adventure of an Outward Bound course.**

We firmly believe in equal opportunities for everyone, regardless of their financial situation. That's why we provide scholarships to hundreds of deserving participants each year, taking both motivation and merit into account.

IN 2023, WE PROVIDED OVER **\$493,000** IN SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT.

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**"THEY SAY THAT NOTHING WORTH DOING IS EASY, AND THE OUTWARD BOUND COURSE THAT YOU HAVE MADE POSSIBLE IS THE HARDEST AND MOST WORTHWHILE THING I COULD HAVE DONE WITH THE START OF MY SUMMER. THANK YOU FOR THE CHANCE TO BE UNCOMFORTABLE, TO WEATHER THE ELEMENTS, THE SEA, NATURE, AND TO PUSH MYSELF. I HAVE HAD A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE, MET ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME PEOPLE, AND ASCENDED THE INSURMOUNTABLE."**

*-Will, age 16*

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*Executive Director*

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## **2023 STAFF RECOGNITION**

### **300 Days of Service**

Simon Beckford

Chris Myrick

Marissa Sanzone

### **500 Days of Service**

Jeremy Reinertson

Danny Wiggins

Morgan Hinson

### **1000 Days of Service**

John Sockey Calogero

Fabi Pereira

### **3 Years of Service**

Chris Myrick

Erin Cunningham

Nina Shepperson

Lucy Hayward

Sophia Lacambra

Olivia Lord

Tara Watkins

Cori Shooter

Sara Cotton

Cody Andersen

### **5 Years of Service**

Jorge Pardo

Morgan Hinson

Drew Schmid

Marissa Sanzone

Tim Barker

### **10 Years of Service**

Sheldon Ito

Simon Beckford

AP Parker

### **15 Years of Service**

Mike Mourar

### **2023 Kellogg Award**

AP Parker



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Statements of Financial Position (December 31, 2023)

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	566,828
Cash restricted reserve for capital improvements		199,318
Accounts receivable		76,491
Pledges receivable - current portion		490,750
Prepaid expenses		220,720
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,554,107</b>

#### Other Assets

Pledges receivable - long term		572,051
Operating lease right of use asset		107,395
Property and equipment - net		3,645,664
Investments short term cash		1,540,348
Investments Endowment		4,145,340

**Total Other Assets** **\$ 10,010,798**

**Total Assets** **\$ 11,564,905**

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$	148,986
Accrued expenses		168,867
Deferred revenue		343,876
Operating lease liability - current		72,140
Current portion of long-term debt		15,469

**Total Current Liabilities** **\$ 749,338**

#### Non-Current Liabilities

Long-term operating lease liability	\$	35,255
Long-term debt, net of current portion		562,523
Other liabilities		76,834

**Total Non-Current Liabilities** **\$ 674,612**

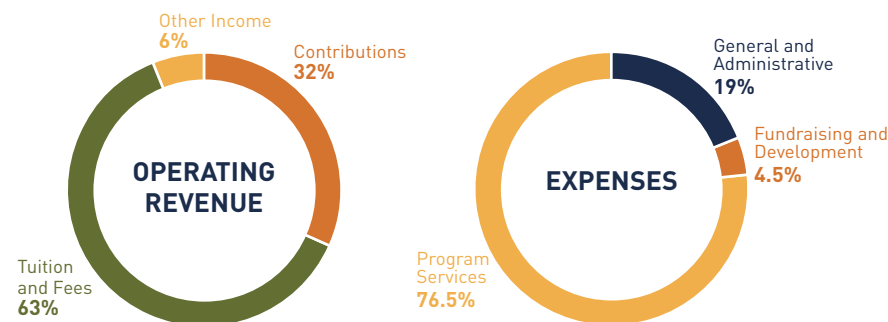
**Total Liabilities** **\$ 1,423,950**

#### Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions		
Undesignated	\$	2,082,510
Designated by the Board		1,023,759
With Donor Restrictions		7,034,686

**Total Net Assets** **\$ 10,140,955**

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **\$ 11,564,905**



## Statements of Activities (Year Ended December 31, 2023)

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>Operating Revenue</b>			
Tuition and Fees	\$ 2,914,294	\$ -	\$ 2,914,294
Scholarships	(541,074)	-	(541,074)
Tuition and Fees, net of scholarships	<b>2,373,220</b>	-	<b>2,373,220</b>
Contributions	709,930	488,990	1,198,920
Other Income	219,556	-	219,556
Net assets released from restrictions	502,547	(502,547)	-
Reclassified board designated from endowment	82,441		82,441
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>3,887,694</b>	<b>(13,557)</b>	<b>3,874,137</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Program Services	3,567,296	-	3,567,296
General and Administrative	884,642	-	884,642
Fundraising and Development	209,148	-	209,148
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>4,661,086</b>	-	<b>4,661,086</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets from Operations</b>	<b>(773,392)</b>	<b>(13,557)</b>	<b>(786,949)</b>
<b>Non-Operating Revenue and Expenses</b>			
Contributions		979,611	979,611
Interest Income	31,323	164,986	196,309
Net gain on investments	73,409	283,725	357,134
Net assets released for capital expenditures	553,007	(553,007)	-
Reclassified board designated to operating	(82,441)	-	(82,441)
Capital campaign expenses	(152,732)	-	(152,732)
<b>Change in Net Assets — Non-Operating</b>	<b>422,566</b>	<b>875,315</b>	<b>1,297,881</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>(350,826)</b>	<b>861,758</b>	<b>510,932</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of the Year</b>	<b>3,457,095</b>	<b>6,172,928</b>	<b>9,630,023</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of the Year</b>	<b>\$3,106,269</b>	<b>\$7,034,686</b>	<b>\$10,140,955</b>





Photo Credit: Naman Sharma

## DONORS & SUPPORTERS

Our donors bring life-changing experiences to students from across the country. Thank you for your incredible support and generosity. **You are Outward Bound.**

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Katie Newsom	Bill and Jennifer Rice	Joan and E. Paul Sorensen	Robert and Wendy Weiler
Suzanne Newsom Pierce and Bruce Pierce	Phebe and Jim Richards	Lori and Paul Sparrow	John Weston
Judith Norton	Charlotte Riley	Marni and R. Sean Spence	Pamela K Wetherbee
John Ochira	Liam Riordan	Natalie Spencer	McCoy Weymouth
Judy Onanian	C. Broocks Robertson	Steven Spinner	Kathryn Wheeler
Tom O'Neal	Kenneth Rodgers	Kathleen Spofford	Brooke Wiede
Keith and Elizabeth Orlando	Paul and Martha Rogers	Daghy St. John	Christine Wilds
Elisabeth Paine	Carol Rohl and Gordon Bok	W. Albert Ellis	Sir or Madam
Todd Paine	Christopher and Judy Rokous	Michael Stanley and Sue Scott	Charles Williamson
Jane Palmer	Lucy Rosato	Dr. Rayford Steele	Gretchin Witman
Autumn Pante	Peter Rosenthal	Sarah Stetson	Victoria and John Cushing
Anna Parker	Jerry Ross and Holly Heller-Ross	Roy Gottfried	Faeze and Richard Woodville
Catherine Parker	Christopher Rowley and Jennifer Boyle	Sandra Stone	Joan Worgan
Laurie Easton Parker	Daniel and Hallie Rugg	Joshua Sturtevant	Daniel and Heather Wyman
Derry Patterson	Mark Russo	Deborah Sugerman	Alison Yager and Andrew Elmore
Tracey Paul	Ronald Sann	Sara Sulloway	Liora and Stephen Yalof
Jack and Kathryn Peat	C. Thomas Sawyer	Kristen Surbey	Susana Yavorsky
Robert and Barbara Peat	Molly Scheu	Wulan Surgener	Randall York
James Percival	William Schildt	Margaret Swan	Constance and Charles Young
Michael and Margaret Perlis	Pam Schow	Brion Szwed	Rachel Zebo
Stephen Perlis	Nathaniel Schwarz	James and Liza Tague	Eric Zimmerman
Henry and Mirlene Perry	Curtis and Cornelia Scribner	Leland Brandt and Lynne Tapper	Jim and Rebecca Zug
Harriet Phillips	Ricki Shapiro	Randolph M.B. Taylor	
John Phillips	Sandy Shapiro-Hurt and Eric Hurt		
Layn and Kathryn Phillips			



**“AFTER OVER 50 YEARS I STILL REMEMBER MY WATCH LEADERS... THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE IN MY LIFE THAT I STILL EXPERIENCE — *TO SERVE, TO STRIVE, AND NOT TO YIELD.* THEY SHOWED ME THAT IT IS YOUR MENTAL ATTITUDE THAT WILL HELP YOU SURVIVE EVEN THOUGH YOUR PHYSICAL BODY WANTS TO QUIT.”**

*–Bruce, Alum from 1970*

## HELP MAKE AN IMPACT



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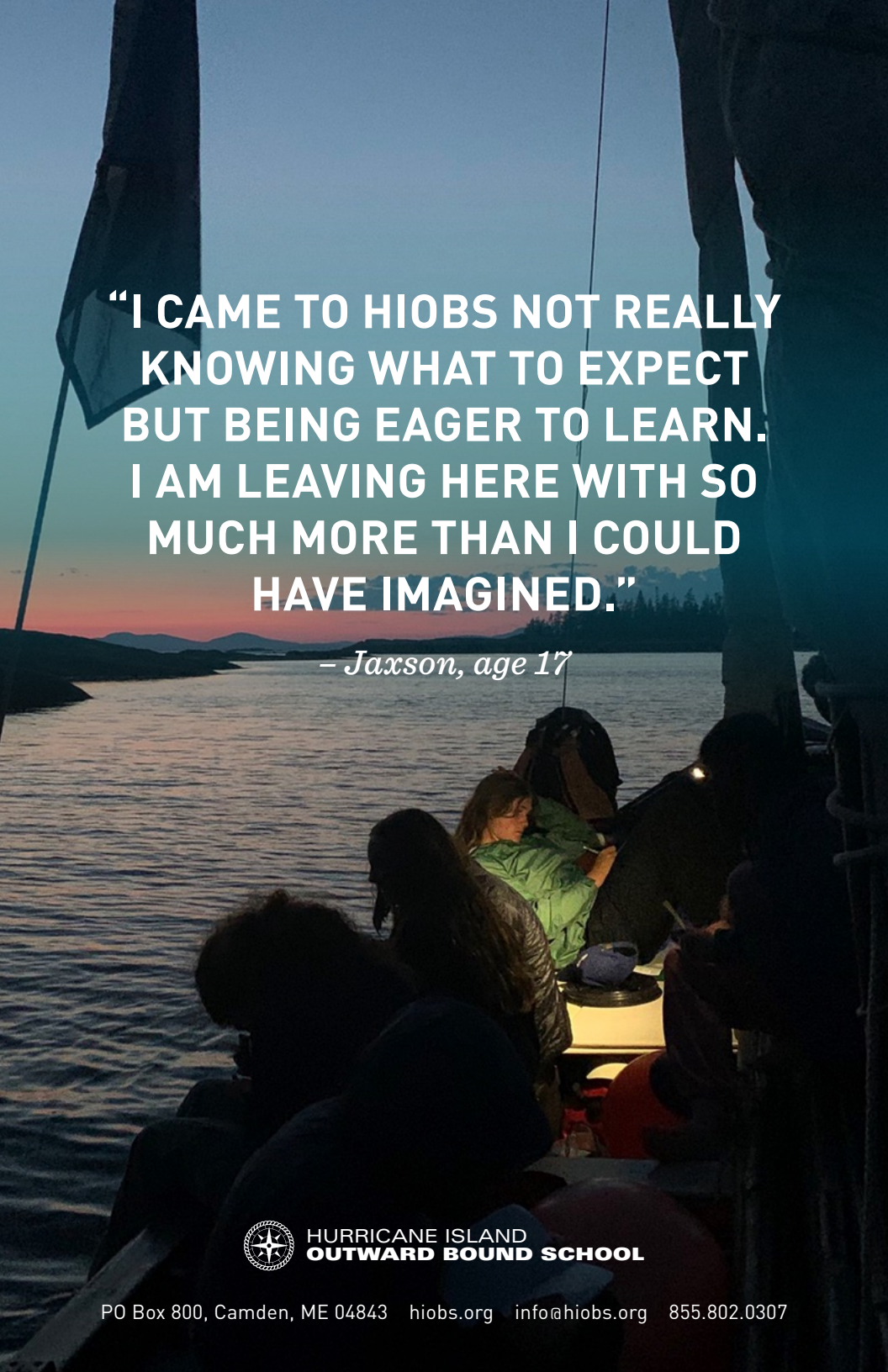
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### Contact Us

For more ways to get involved with HIOBS, email [development@hiobs.org](mailto:development@hiobs.org) or call (207) 706-5057.

A group of people are seen from behind, sitting on the deck of a boat. They are looking out at a calm body of water under a sunset sky with orange and blue hues. The boat's mast and rigging are visible in the foreground.

**"I CAME TO HIOBS NOT REALLY  
KNOWING WHAT TO EXPECT  
BUT BEING EAGER TO LEARN.  
I AM LEAVING HERE WITH SO  
MUCH MORE THAN I COULD  
HAVE IMAGINED."**

*– Jaxson, age 17*



**HURRICANE ISLAND  
OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL**

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