



OREGON
BOATING
FOUNDATION

Join Our Board



What We Do

The Oregon Boating Foundation serves our community by offering boating opportunities focused on education and safety. Our kayaking and sailing programs aim to make boating accessible and affordable to everyone.

Our youth camps, adult classes, and kayak tours allow people from all skill levels to get outdoors and learn important skills in a safe environment. We aim to instill confidence, help people overcome their fears, and develop skills that will serve them in all aspects of their lives.

Young sailors can continue to compete at the high school or college level.

Young kayakers can pursue work as guides or instructors anywhere in the world.

Our kayak tours provide job opportunities to young people and help them develop invaluable life skills such as leadership, risk management, and responsibility for others. Every year hundreds of people join us to learn about the wildlife, fisheries, and natural history of the Central Oregon Coast.

Meet McKenzie



We first met McKenzie Thomas when she was 11 years old and started participating in our youth camps. She is a natural kayaker and sailor.

Over the last nine years she has attended all three of our kayak camps, served as an assistant instructor for our sailing and kayaking camps, and competed with the Newport High School sailing team. She even helped us develop our kayak tours.

At 20 years old, McKenzie now works for us as an instructor for our youth camps and as a kayak guide. She has become a skilled leader who excels at managing people and ensuring the safety of those around her – skills that will benefit her as she studies to become a nurse.



Our Values

These guiding principles direct our board, staff, and volunteers in everything that we do:

Collaboration

We obtain the perspective of others and share our own to achieve outstanding results.

We seek out and maintain partnerships to better serve our community.

Inclusion

We're creating a culture where everyone is welcome, encouraged to participate, and treated with dignity and respect.

In the past three years we've given more than \$5,000 to help people participate in our programs.

Service

We ask for constructive feedback from our stakeholders, participants, and staff to improve ourselves and better serve our community.

We've received nearly 150 reviews, with an average rating of 4.8 out of 5 stars.

Safety

Safety is at the core of everything that we do, and behind every decision we make.

Our staff and volunteers are highly trained and certified.

Financial Responsibility

We take the same care and precaution to protect our financial resources that we do with our guests out on the water.

In the past three years revenues increased nearly 25%, while expenses decreased by nearly 35%.

Stewardship

We focus on lowering our carbon footprint, eliminating waste, and being as environmentally friendly as we can be.

We instill a culture of environmental stewardship in our staff and participants.

Vision

Our vision is that everyone has access to safe, affordable boating opportunities. Boating is a way of life in Lincoln County, where more than 21% of the youth live below the poverty line, and we recognize that it can seem like an expensive and intimidating endeavor.

Mission

Our mission is to get people out on the water safely. We strive to achieve this by offering guided kayak tours, youth sailing & kayak camps, kayak classes, and providing material support for the Free Family Boating program in Toledo and the High School Sailing team in Newport. Our board's fundraising efforts provide scholarships for those with financial barriers to participating.

Credo

The doctrine that we all rally behind as volunteers, staff members, and directors.

“The success of the Oregon Boating Foundation is dependent on the quality and performance of our people. I am one of the organization’s most valuable resources. I am dedicated to upholding our values, to providing service excellence to our stakeholders, partners, and colleagues and to developing innovative solutions. I am committed to embracing change and promoting an inclusive and ethical environment that fosters teamwork. It is through our dedicated efforts that we can exceed our stakeholders’ expectations with integrity, and deliver outstanding results.”

Phase of Growth

The Oregon Boating Foundation has a proven business model with established programs that are in demand. With the introduction of guided kayak tours in 2019, we're financially stable and shifting our focus to the longevity of the organization and expansion.

A strong board will be necessary to support our Executive Director through the next phase of growth. In order to continue serving our stakeholders we face challenges related to staff turnover, director succession, and funding expansion of our existing programs.



Our goal is to build a strong Board of Directors representing diverse ages, backgrounds, experience, and personality traits.

While our programs are centered around the outdoor recreation industry – specifically the kayaking and sailing verticals – we are a nonprofit organization requiring strong leadership in a variety of skill sets, including:

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Strategic Planning | Executive Governance | Program Development |
| Director Recruitment | Finance | Technology |
| Human Capital | Facilities/Equipment | Legal & Ethics |
| Donor Development | Auditing | |

Board Committees

Smaller, more focused groups can more effectively and efficiently work through challenges and proactive undertakings. Board committees serve this purpose and keep the Board as a whole a strategic group rather than a tactical one.

As a director, you're expected to serve on board committees. Some of our committees are standing and others are special, created on an Ad Hoc basis as they are needed.

Executive Committee

Standing

Responsible for overseeing board policies, enforcing good governance practices, and ensuring that all board members serve on at least one committee.

Development Committee

Standing

Raises funds to ensure the financial viability and stability of the organization. Engages in advocacy and networking with donors and grantors.

Finance Committee

Standing

Provides financial analysis, advice, and oversight of the budget. Ensures that we are operating with the resources we need to provide programs and services to our community.

Nominating Committee

Standing

Evaluates the Board of Directors, examines the skills and characteristics required by potential candidates, and identifies candidates for current and upcoming vacancies.

Program Committee

Special

Evaluates existing programs, oversees program expansion or development, and facilitates board discussion about the organization's programs.

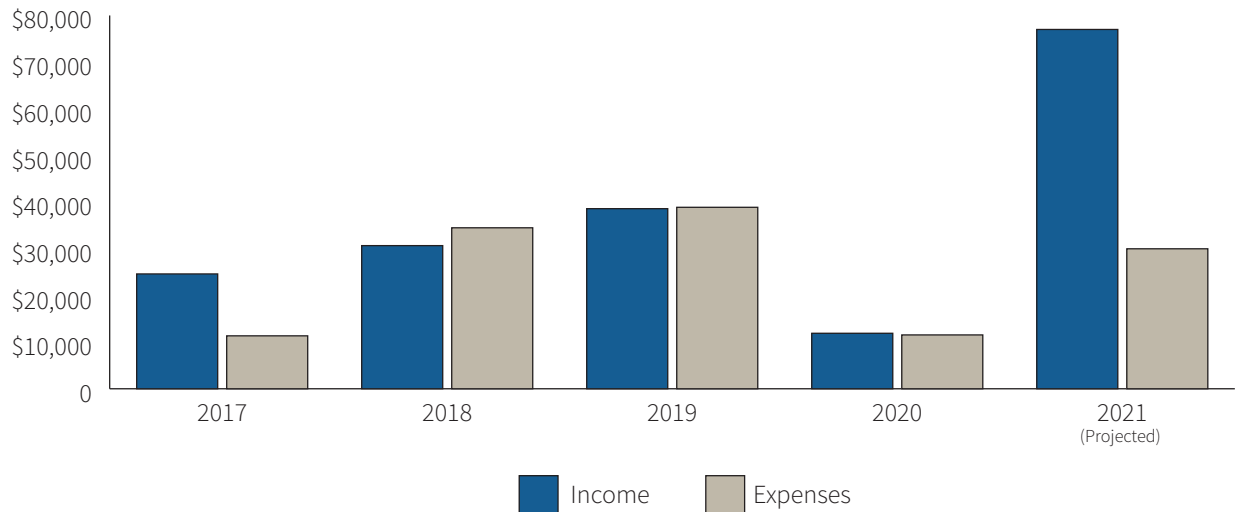
Audit Committee

Special

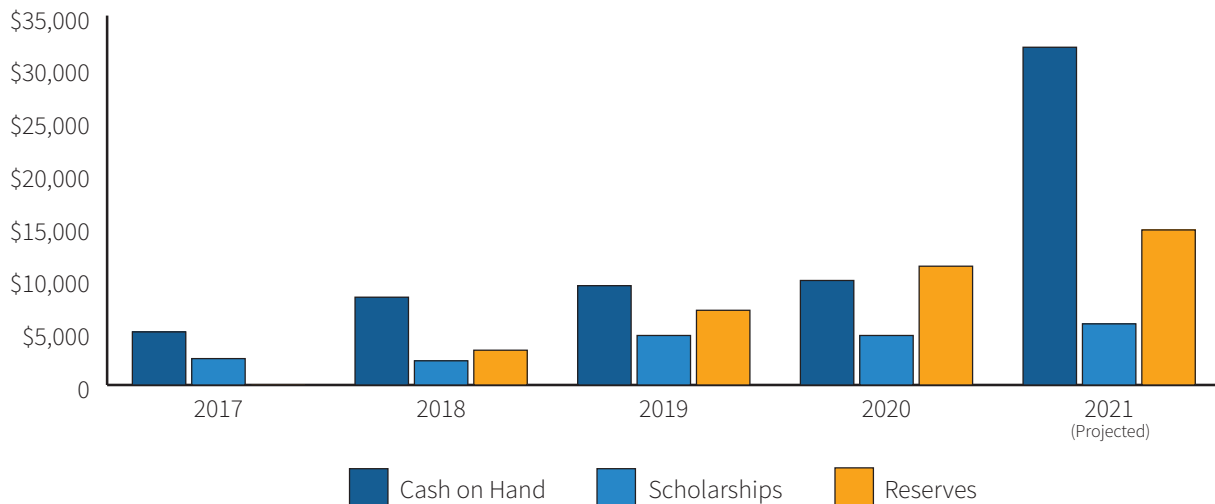
Ensures the financial statements are understandable and reliable. Risk management and internal controls related to ethics, conflict of interest, and fraud.

Financial Overview

In 2019 we introduced our Guided Kayak Tours in Yaquina Bay, which required a significant investment in equipment and resources to get started. In addition to **diversifying our revenue sources**, getting **significantly more people out on the water**, and **creating jobs for young people** in our community, we have also seen **more than a 200% increase in income**, despite lower fundraising numbers.



In the last five years, we have seen **more than a 500% increase in our cash on hand account**, and **more than a 130% increase in our restricted scholarship account** – despite giving away over **\$5,000 in scholarships** during that period. We have also **set aside nearly \$15,000 board restricted funds** in order to cover depreciation of our facilities and equipment.



What to Expect

We believe our directors should take a “nose in, fingers out” approach to the organization.

You will be expected to attend monthly board and committee meetings, prepare for those meetings, and contribute as appropriate to provide strategic insight and governance.

To be effective, expect to spend at least **120 hours per year** (*10 hours per month*) working towards the goals of the Oregon Boating Foundation.

The **regular term for directors is two years**, and each director can serve up to three consecutive terms.

What's Next?

If you are interested in serving, please review our [bylaws](#) and [director description](#), then fill out a [director application](#) and submit it to our [Executive Director via email](#).

Once your application is received, we'll schedule an introductory interview with our Executive Director and nominating committee. Selected candidates are then referred to our full board for a vote.

If approved, you'll be asked to sign a [director agreement](#) stating that you understand your responsibilities and our conflict of interest policies.

We look forward to working with you!

