

HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2012





MISSION STATEMENT

THE HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE, INC. (HMI) nurtures personal growth through interaction with nature and participation in a strong community. We promote intellectual, physical and personal development through insistence on academic excellence, our philosophy of mentoring and apprenticing, and rigorous experiential learning. We seek to promote independent thinking and to develop skills of learning and habits of mind that both enhance self-reliance and transfer beyond the boundaries of HMI.



FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



IF YOU ARE READING THIS, IT IS LIKELY YOU HAVE A PERSONAL CONNECTION AND AN EMOTIONAL BOND WITH HMI. Perhaps you are an alumnus, a parent or grandparent, maybe a sibling. You know how an HMI experience can make a huge difference in each student's life—dramatic in many, subtle in others, but substantial in all.

When my son, Peter, proposed applying to HMI, little did I know how much it would change his life. His application included a photo of him on a camping trip, wearing a Superman t-shirt. Prophetically, he returned from HMI a man on fire, able to leap tall buildings—

figuratively speaking! He had a new appreciation for the school he had attended since kindergarten. As some of his classmates fell into “senior slump”, he embraced academic and athletic challenges with an enthusiasm and vigor we had not witnessed before. Consequently, his younger brother Phillip saw applying to HMI as his birthright. No two siblings are exactly alike, yet HMI's impact on my sons was equally profound. Phillip returned home an energized leader with renewed passion and a clear plan for college. It is an honor to be part of HMI's Board of Trustees and to help guide the school's future, as HMI helped guide my two boys.

It is no surprise that the HMI experience often elicits financial generosity from friends, alumni, and families. Our supporters believe in our mission, they have memories from personal experiences, and they have witnessed changed lives. The reasons for support vary, but emotion and love for HMI is the common denominator. With your ongoing financial assistance, our mission “to be the place where nature and minds meet” continues to succeed. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I express sincere gratitude for this kindness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rolf Engh'.

Rolf Engh, HMI Trustee, Alumni Parent

FROM THE CHAIR



AS YOU WILL READ IN THE FOLLOWING REPORT, HMI WAS BLESSED WITH ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR. Of note you will find new opportunities in programming, a

growing partnership with the local community, and remarkable fundraising. For our ongoing success and stability, in addition to each year's highlights and growth, we are grateful for the vision of Christopher and Molly, and the generous support of many alumni, friends, and families. I offer my most sincere thanks to this extended HMI community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pamela J. Clarke'.

Pamela J. Clarke, HMI Board Chair

FROM THE CO-HEADS OF SCHOOL



THIS PAST APRIL, HMI HOSTED THE FIRST EVER ALUMNI COUNCIL MEETING ON OUR CAMPUS IN LEADVILLE. Eighteen alumni, spanning 10 years of HMI history, convened on campus to reconnect with their semester experiences and to help us plan for the future— both for our future students and for our growing body of alumni. It was incredibly fun to visit with these alumni, see them connect with current students, and relive semester memories. Not only was the weekend a great reminder of the importance of the work we do, but it served as a valuable glimpse into some of the many ways an HMI experience touches our students for the rest of their lives.

As HMI continues to thrive year after year, our alumni body grows. As a result, we continue to enrich the world with bright motivated students that enter college and begin their adult lives with a powerful sense of self, connections to the natural world, knowledge of risk, and confidence in the direction they choose to go.

Reconnecting with the alumni who joined us for the weekend was a compelling reminder of the work that we do to help nature and minds meet, and to educate young people in ways that transfer well beyond our campus in Leadville. The individuals who returned to HMI as part of the Alumni Council are only a segment of our alumni body, but the enthusiasm, care, and interest with which they returned to HMI and approached an ever changing organization are telling expressions of the memories they carry with them.

The Alumni Council is but one facet of HMI's activities in our fiscal year 2012. A couple of successful semesters, a Summer Term, numerous wilderness medicine courses, a few avalanche courses, and other programs and events had the campus bustling with activity throughout the year.

Once again, we have surpassed our goals in fundraising. In the following annual report you will see consistently stable financials. You will also see steady fundraising reflected in the HMI Fund, with notable alumni participation. As the HMI endowment grows, we are more and more confident in the great future that lies ahead. For this we thank our alumni, each individual who had the courage and curiosity to join us for a semester in Leadville, and who continue to carry forth their HMI experiences. We also thank our alumni families, faculty and staff, Board of Trustees, and many friends for their ongoing energy, enthusiasm, and trust in support of our mission and vision.

Christopher & Molly Barnes, Co-Heads of School

christopher@hminet.org | molly@hminet.org | 719-486-8200



The individuals who returned to HMI as part of the Alumni Council are only a segment of our alumni body, but the enthusiasm, care, and interest with which they returned to HMI and approached an ever changing organization are telling expressions of the memories they carry with them.

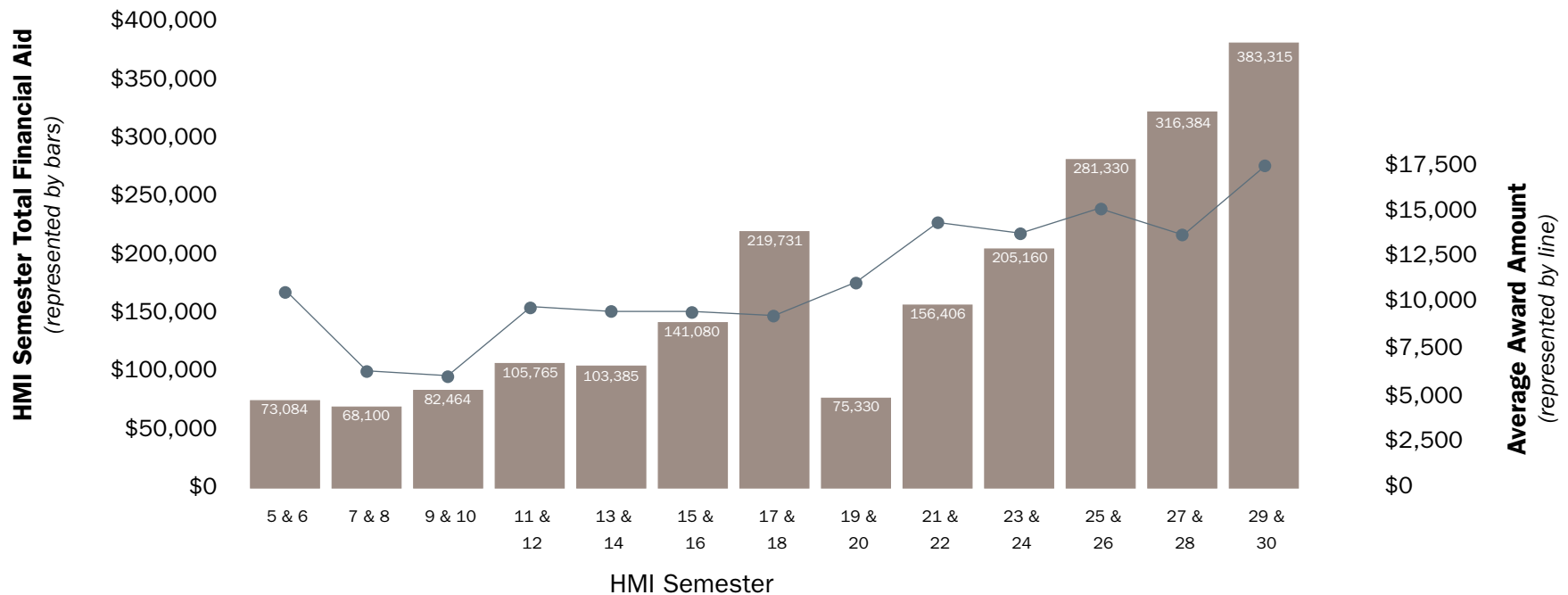
PROGRAMS YEAR IN REVIEW

2011–12 HIGHLIGHTS

HMI Year in Review

- » HMI awarded over \$380,000 in financial aid, more than 20% percent of the school's operating budget, to semester and summer students. In total one-third of our students received scholarship awards to make their semester or summer experiences possible.
- » The HMI Apprentice Program announced a partnership with Colorado College, through which participants in Colorado College's Master of Arts in Teaching program can enroll in HMI's Apprentice Program as part of their teaching practicum in order to earn their degree.
- » Sixteen semester alumni returned to HMI in April as founding members of the Alumni Council. They enthusiastically learned about the progress of HMI as an organization and brainstormed ways in which they can contribute to HMI's future including improving our alumni relations and resources. They also connected with fellow alumni and current students, and shared their semester experiences.
- » HMI hired three former Semester Apprentices to fill three faculty openings. A formal search was conducted for each of these positions, and these three individuals each rose to the top of their respective pools; therefore, we take great pride in the efficacy of HMI's Apprentice Program.

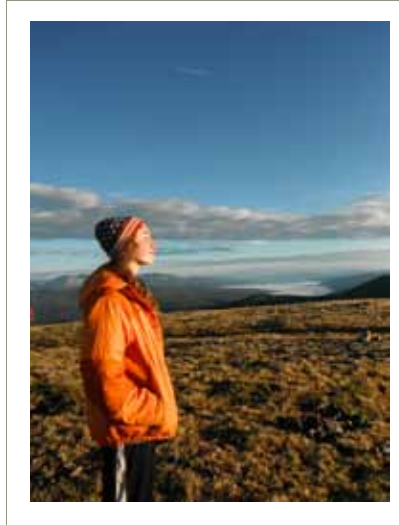
HMI Semester Need Based Financial Aid Amounts



HMI Semester

- » The HMI Semester welcomed Rebecca D'Elia, former French faculty, to the role of Dean of Students. Over the course of the year, she worked with the faculty to develop a clearly documented Residential Life Curriculum. Now, HMI has formally outlined all three legs of the stool—Academics, Wilderness, and Community and will continue to revise and balance them in the years to come.
- » HMI continues to receive applications from students who attend different schools and from various regions across the country. This year over 100 different schools were represented in the applicant pool and our percentage of public school applicants increased by 9%.
- » Students in Semester XXVIII participated in a Science Research Project with a PhD candidate who studied the efficacy of learning environments, specifically how students use their learning environment to learn science on extended field trips. The study will provide useful information to enrich HMI's Natural Science course and experiential learning opportunities throughout our curriculum.
- » Over the summer, HMI supported Semester faculty in a range of professional development opportunities. Opportunities included attending the National Association of Independent Schools School Leadership Institute, participating in the Klingenstein Summer Institute through Columbia Teachers College, beginning a Masters in Science in School Leadership at the University of Pennsylvania, visiting a variety of school apprentice and mentor programs to learn and collaborate, teaching in a summer program at Colorado Rocky Mountain School, and living in Costa Rica speaking mainly Spanish.

Summer Programs



- » Twenty-two students attended the HMI Summer Term of 2012; this represents an increase of almost 20% from last year's inaugural summer. They participated in a new integrated curriculum: A Sense of Place. The class involved studying and exploring many facets of Leadville through scientific, environmental, and social lenses.
- » HMI awarded over \$56,000 in scholarships for summer programs including the Summer Term and the High Peaks Adventure. Scholarships were granted to nine students in the HMI Summer Term, or over 50% of summer program participants.
- » With the generosity of the Kayne Foundation, HMI, in partnership with Full Circle of Lake County and the Lake County Public Schools, led two Lake County Backpacking Trips, each with eight middle school students. We were excited to be able to lead two trips this year as the smaller groups allowed us to create a rich group environment, have a greater impact on each student, and reach more Lake County students.
- » The High Peaks Adventure received a record number of applicants for the scholarship that is awarded to a local Lake County Middle School student each summer. In addition to the Lake County Backpacking Trip, we were thrilled to offer another opportunity for a local middle school student to participate in an HMI course.

“The HMI experience doesn’t end when they come home in December. We have discovered with both Will and Alex that what happened in those 4 months stays with them and is so much a part of how they finish off their high school years and chart the next path. It really keeps growing. You don’t always see it in January, February or March during the re-entry. I remember noticing it with Will about a year afterwards, and I see it now with Alex. It’s hard to describe, but during their senior years both boys had a clear sense of purpose about who they are and where their strengths and interests are. It is very powerful.”

– Jen Potter, RMS XXI and XXV alumni parent



DONORS

WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL to these donors for their commitment to HMI and our mission. Through their generosity, our work to be the place where nature and minds meet is continually enhanced.

2011–2012 HMI FUND DONORS

This list reflects donations made to the High Mountain Institute Fund between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. We have made every effort to ensure that this list is complete and accurate. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact us with any corrections by calling 719-486-8200 or emailing ldougherty@hminet.org.

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THANK YOU RMS XXV

AND ALL OUR ALUMNI WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ALUMNI SUMMIT CHALLENGE

WE ARE THRILLED BY THE RESPONSE WE RECEIVED TO THE START OF THE ALUMNI SUMMIT CHALLENGE, a special opportunity for our alumni to give back to HMI and participate annually in the HMI Fund. Overall, we received gifts from twenty-five of twenty-seven semesters, with an average of 14% participation from our alumni! RMS XXV had the highest level of participation, winning the competition with an impressive 30%.

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Dr. & Mrs. Ralph & Bonnie Merrill
Mrs. Madeleine D. Peterson
Mr. Donald P. Remy

2011-2012 IN-KIND SUPPORT

In-kind support during 2011–2012
was provided by
Mrs. Catherine Hansen-Stamp

LAKE COUNTY BACKPACKING TRIP

THE HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE THANKS THE KAYNE FOUNDATION FOR ITS GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE LAKE COUNTY BACKPACKING TRIP. In November, the Kayne Foundation awarded HMI a generous grant to fund the Lake County Backpacking Trip for the next three years. We deeply appreciate their support of HMI's commitment to build partnerships within the local community and to create opportunities that promote education, individual growth, appreciation for the natural world, and cultural integration among Leadville's youth. Originally created and funded two years ago as part of a School District grant, we are grateful for the support of the Kayne Foundation to grow this program into an ongoing HMI offering.





MAJOR GIFT DONORS

The High Mountain Institute extends a special thank you to the following donors, who made a significant commitment to support HMI during the 2011–2012 fiscal year. We are grateful for their partnership and exemplary leadership.

Anonymous

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher & Molly Barnes

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Mr. Robert Nunziato & Ms. Anne Mathews

Mr. & Mrs. David & Susan Sanborn

Corey Sobotka & family

Mr. David Spina & Ms. Victoria Mars

Mr. Scott Wilson & Ms. Andrea de Cholnoky



“At random points on an expedition, I would turn around and literally have my breath taken away by what I saw. I was completely immersed in nature, and when that happens—when you can sit there without having showered for a week, watching the sun set over the mesa—you cannot be anything but real with each other. That’s what I loved most about expeditions. Learning, hiking, singing, cooking, and making friends all intersected and all the boundaries that we usually keep as teenagers fell down.”

– Charlotte Zelle, RMS XXII Alumna

“Participating in the HMI Summer Term not only altered my perception of the world, the wilderness, people, community, leadership, and sense of place, but it also changed the way I saw myself. In a sense, I learned how to be self-sufficient and independent. At the same time, I also discovered an overwhelming sense of community and family, definitely making life-long and amazing friends along the way. Therefore, if I were to describe my summer, I would most likely reply with the words: life-changing”

– Tammy Gu, Summer Term 2012 Alumna



OUR CAMPAIGN FOR SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

WE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE GIFTS FROM OUR CAMPAIGN FOR SUSTAINABILITY. The generosity of our donors has brought great improvements to our campus. RMS XXV students were the first to enjoy the beautiful yet rustic community space offered by Stuen Hall, and RMS XXVI students, apprentices, and faculty welcomed the much needed and improved living space and facilities into daily life on campus with the addition of the West Building. Again, we offer our gratitude for the consistent support of our alumni, alumni families, and friends.

2011-2012 CAMPAIGN DONORS

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2011-2012 MATTHEW STUEN MEMORIAL FUND DONORS

THANK YOU TO THE DONORS WHO MADE A GIFT TO THE MATTHEW STUEN MEMORIAL FUND (part of Our Campaign for Sustainability). In particular, the High Mountain Institute is grateful to Matthew's parents, Rev. William Weisenbach and Dr. Cynthia Stuen, his sister Emily Weisenbach and his brother-in-law, Mike Burke, for leading the creation of the Matthew Stuen Memorial Fund.

Mr. & Mrs. George & Peggy Ann Burke
First Presbyterian Church

Ms. Donna Matson
Rev. William Weisenbach & Dr. Cynthia Stuen

Ms. Emily Weisenbach & Mr. Michael Burke

HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE, INC. 5 YEAR FINANCIAL HISTORY

FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
<i>Support & Revenue</i>					
Tuition, Program & Application Fees	1,682,275	1,879,903	2,038,372	2,044,486	2,267,270
HMI Fund Contributions	141,114	54,498	269,854	262,786	1,071,550
Our Campaign for Sustainability	419,926	498,742	228,515	135,406	150,575
Other Income	74,033	80,232	104,807	210,323	42,377
Total Support & Revenue	2,317,348	2,513,375	2,641,548	2,653,001	3,531,772
<i>Expenses & Capital Allocations</i>					
Academic Program & Support Services	1,453,208	1,548,936	1,687,618	1,742,945	1,936,026
Scholarships Granted	126,117	211,862	301,653	302,752	382,998
Interest	18,694	14,557	10,261	5,527	6,587
Depreciation	90,428	108,998	121,664	138,162	193,296
Total Expenses & Capital Allocations	1,688,447	1,884,353	2,121,196	2,189,386	2,518,907
NET RESULTS	628,901	629,022	520,352	463,615	1,012,864
<i>Assets, Liabilities & Net Assets Summary</i>					
Cash & Cash Equivalents	362,847	377,979	753,541	711,906	338,668
Account Receivables	534,546	415,848	569,917	579,447	556,818
Other Current Assets	63,885	31,788	88,815	40,870	54,701
Investments	266,177	484,570	50,163	100,576	327,681
Endowment	370,081	599,067	639,494	879,919	1,783,332
Property, Building & Equipment, Net	1,483,353	1,753,742	2,071,590	2,410,644	2,743,704
TOTAL ASSETS	3,080,889	3,662,994	4,173,520	4,723,362	5,804,904
Current Liabilities	109,740	53,550	108,873	60,764	41,101
Deferred Revenue	756,070	775,261	767,773	1,018,572	984,653
Accrued Liabilities	24,599	60,144	52,223	20,795	22,468
Note Payable	180,238	134,775	85,035	—	120,587
Total Liabilities	1,070,647	1,023,730	1,013,904	1,100,131	1,168,809
Board Designated Net Assets	370,081	599,067	689,657	980,495	1,783,332
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,640,161	2,040,197	2,469,959	2,642,736	2,852,763
Total Net Assets	2,010,242	2,639,264	3,159,616	3,623,231	4,636,095
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	3,080,889	3,662,994	4,173,520	4,723,362	5,804,904

* Figures for 2012 are unaudited



HMI BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOARD MEMBER	POSITION ON THE BOARD	OCCUPATION AND NAME OF EMPLOYER	RESIDENCE
Pamela J. Clarke	HMI Board Chair	Head of School, Trevor Day School Founder, CITYterm at the Masters School	New York, NY
Blair Jenkins	HMI Vice Chair	Head of School, Cascades Academy of Central Oregon Former Head of Dana Hall School	Bend, OR
Mike Maughlin	HMI Treasurer	Organizational Development Consultant, The Children's Hospital	Denver, CO
Lise Martin	HMI Secretary	Nurse, Educator and Ed.D candidate RMS I Alumna	Seattle, WA
Doug Capelin	HMI Board Member	Founder & Director, Deer Hill Expeditions RMS Alumni Parent	Durango, CO
Rolf Engh	HMI Board Member	Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary The Valspar Corporation HMI Semester Alumni Parent	Minneapolis, MN
Michael Gregory	HMI Board Member	Filmmaker RMS X Alumnus	Portola Valley, CA
Mark Hatch	HMI Board Member	Vice President for Enrollment Management, Colorado College	Colorado Springs, CO
Christopher B. Barnes	HMI Ex-Officio Board Member	Co-Head of School & Co-Founder, High Mountain Institute, Inc.	Leadville, CO
Molly P. Barnes	HMI Ex-Officio Board Member	Co-Head of School & Co-Founder, High Mountain Institute, Inc.	Leadville, CO
Cathy Hansen-Stamp	Of Counsel	Legal Counsel, High Mountain Institute, Inc.	Golden, CO

HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

where nature and minds meet

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