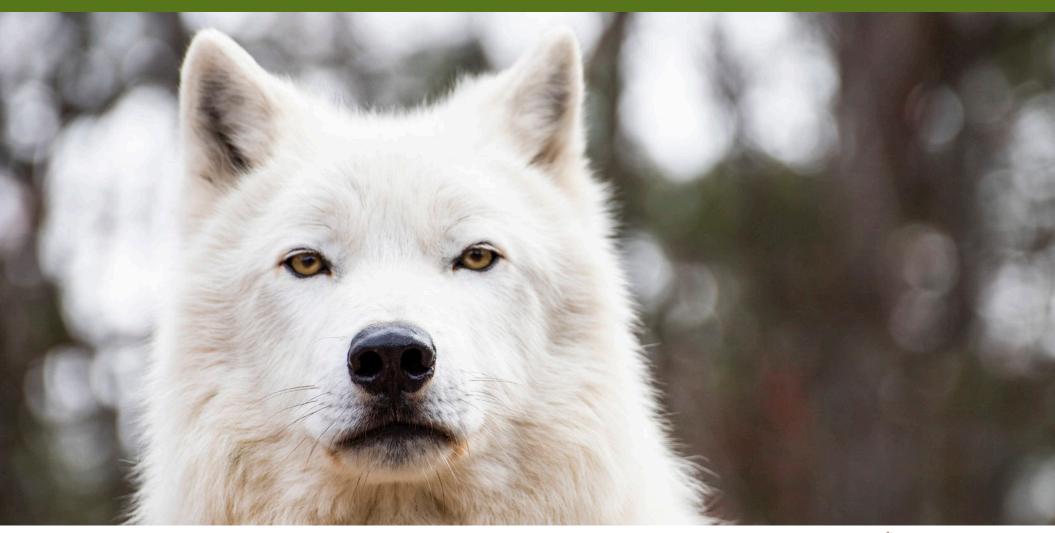
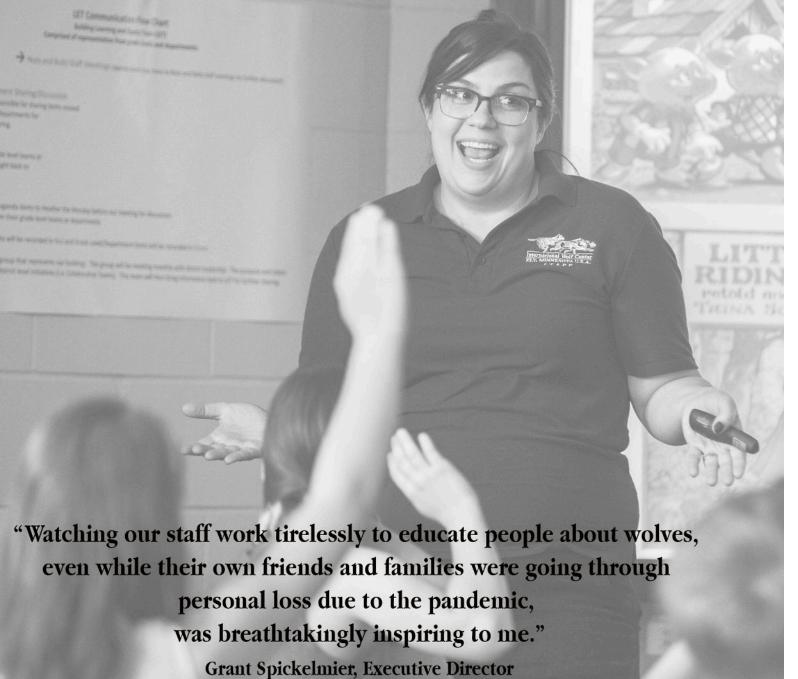
2020 Annual Report







From our leadership	2
Education	
Wolf care	6
Financials	8
Our donors	





Grant Spickelmier, Executive Director

n unnerving number of superlatives have been used to describe the year 2020, including "unprecedented," "tragic," and "heartbreaking. While these words are strong descriptors for a year filled with pandemic deaths, social upheaval and mounting challenges facing wildlife across the globe, as I reflect on the year that has past — a different word comes to mind. "Hope."

As an environmental educator for nearly 30 years, I have to admit I have sometimes felt like we are fighting a losing battle as wolves and other wildlife continue to face threats from wildland degradation, illegal killing and misinformation campaigns spread through the internet. What 2020 has taught me though, is that in spite of these challenges, we have reason for optimism.

I witnessed first-hand the resilience

of our staff, board and community as we adapted to the wild pitches 2020 threw at us. Can't do in person programming? Okay — let's teach thousands of kids online instead. Lost revenue from the Visitor Center being closed for 22 weeks? Our community stepped up during the largest online fundraising campaign in our organization's history raising over \$155,000. Gray wolves dropped from Endangered Species Act protections? We ramped up our online presence to help people understand how to participate in wolf management planning at the state level and make sure their voices are heard.

Watching our staff work tirelessly to educate people about wolves, even while their own friends and families were going through personal loss due to the pandemic, was breathtakingly inspiring to me.

Another major inspiration for me

in 2020 was getting to meet the next generation of wolf stewards. They include Taylor Bland, a new board member for the International Wolf Center, who is a technician for the Yellowstone Wolf Project, and Dr. Tom Gable, who flooded the internet with revealing stories and videos from his work with wolves and beavers in Voyageurs National Park. It also includes our own new staff up in Ely, Maddy Witt and Abby Keller, who represent the future of our education and wolf care programming. I am convinced that this new generation of wolf biologists, educators and advocates is going to do great things to ensure the survival of wolf populations. So, while 2020 was challenging and yes, unprecedented, it gave me a glimpse into an exciting future for wolves and the International Wolf Center.





Nancy jo Tubbs, Chair, Board of Directors

ur new Executive Director Grant Spickelmier walked into his job at the International Wolf Center in January of a year that would bring six feet of snow to our Ely, Minnesota, Center.

It was also a year in which we would first face the challenges of Covid-19 and close the Center for three months. We felt a shock to the system when education programs including Wolves at our Door, pup-care training and overnight programs were cancelled.

Grant and the staff in Ely and Minneapolis rose to the occasion with remarkable flexibility and persistence. After the Center closed, staff switched from in-person educational programs to on-line offerings. Fees for online WolfLink programs to

schools were eliminated or reduced. Biologist webinars, updates on our wolf pack, Q & A sessions with kids, storytime, and craft activities led to an increase of 12,000 more page views on wolf.org by June.

Finances were complex, but masks were a big seller in our online Wolf Den store, the Center received two federal Paycheck Protection Program loans, an Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board grant of \$15,000 and donors stepped up to keep our adjusted budget in the black. Our traditional Howl at the Moon Gala could not be held, but donors came through for an online gala and annual GiveMN contributions.

Oversight by the Board of Directors helped guide operations, including a new partnership with Explore.org whose cameras broadcast the activities of our ambassador wolves online with the Center's moderators answering viewer's questions. A new task force was formed to help guide staff and board in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion. Our 21 board members donated a total of 1,872 hours during the year.

Yellowstone wildlife interpretive guide Taylor Bland and Lake Elmo City Councilmember Lisa McGinn joined the Board of Directors in 2020. New Development Director Hilary Smith came on staff. Longrange planning took off with the 2022 symposium in our sights and the complex arrangements to bring a new pup into the pack in 2021. With a strong staff and board, the International Wolf Center was ready for whatever might come next.





As Covid-19 impacted our interpretive center, resulting in two separate complete in-person closures, the International Wolf Center increased its online presence through a variety of WolfLink virtual field trip and webinar opportunities.

he education team led WolfLink virtual field trips for approximately 6,000 students countrywide in 2020. Nearly all these students were able to connect live to our programs with our education team as well as their classmates from their individual homes. They learned about wolf biology and observed natural wolf behavior through our live webcams.

Nearly 1,500 people attended our weekly program, What's for Dinner? They learned about the hunting and feeding behavior of wolves while having the opportunity to observe our Exhibit Pack and ask our education team questions. While Covid-19 resulted in the International Wolf Center closing its doors to in-person visitors at various times throughout 2020, the Center held occasional virtual What's for Dinner? programs to stay connected with our audiences.

More visitors than ever before came to the Center's website at wolf.org. Our online educational material was viewed by 667,000 unique visitors.

2020 also included a brand new partnership with explore.org, where the Center's ambassador wolves are now featured on two live webcams. These cams are staffed by volunteer camera operators and provide a unique look at real wolf behaviors.

Audiences all over the world are able access current, science-based information through our educational programming about wolves and wildlands.



While Covid-19 resulted in the International Wolf Center closing its doors to in-person visitors at various times throughout 2020, the Center held virtual What's for Dinner? programs to stay connected with our audiences.

Adaptations like these helped the Center to fulfill its mission even while it was closed.



EDUCATION

Partnership to feature new live webcams forms with explore.org

wo new live webcams featuring the ambassador wolves at the International Wolf Center are now featured on explore.org. Explore.org is the world's leading philanthropic live nature cam network and documentary film channel. Their website features hundreds of live streaming cameras focused on nature and animals across the world. The International Wolf Center maintains an Exhibit Pack of wolves at its interpretive center in Ely, Minnesota.

"Our followers passionately observe our pack through webcams on our website, so we know there's a great interest in this twenty-four hour access," said the Center's Executive Director, Grant Spickelmier. "By adding two cameras to the explore.org network, we expect we'll be able to educate even more people about the natural behaviors of wolves."

"[The new wolf camera] is one of a kind," said Charles Annenberg Weingarten, founder of explore.org. "It can't be more sacred and I'm so excited to be a part of the wolf pack. Welcome wolves to the explore.org family!"

Explore.org's cameras are operated by a network of volunteers, so viewers will be able to consistently observe wolves as operators zoom in and/or move the cameras around the wolf enclosure. In addition, representatives from the Center will be online at set times every week to answer questions from viewers on explore.org's commenting boards.

"It's incredibly hard to observe wild wolves," Spickelmier said. "Cameras like these make it possible for anyone, anywhere, to watch our Exhibit Pack and learn about wolf behavior. This effort fits in very well with our education-based mission."

A microphone is also part of the experience, making it possible for viewers to hear the wolves howl. Mornings and evenings are typically when the wolves are most active.

"We're appreciative of the work that the explore.org team has done to make this partnership happen," Spickelmier said. "Without their generosity and their expertise, this wouldn't have been possible."



To see the cameras, visit https:// explore.org/livecams/international-wolf-center/wolf-cam-1







It was a challenging year with the International Wolf Center's closure due to Covid-19 impacting the planned adoption of pups from the Wildlife Science Center. Along with deferring adding pups until 2021, we also witnessed a decline of our Exhibit Pack due to illness and age ending up with only two wolves by October.

he decline in numbers in our Exhibit Pack started with Boltz, our Great Plains subspecies wolf, being retired for medical reasons in September. Staff observed some hind quarter instability during a feeding program in late August. By mid-September, we saw no improvements in Boltz's condition, and the decision was made to retire him and start the process of more complex diagnostic work.

Boltz was given excellent care including receiving an MRI at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital in Ely. Radiologists at the University of Minnesota reviewed those files, as did Dr. Kristine Woerheide from the Ely Veterinary Clinic. Unfortunately, the MRI did not lead to a conclusive diagnosis of Boltz's condition. His condition declined until we made the difficult decision to euthanize him on Thursday, Nov. 12.

With Boltz's removal from the Exhibit Pack, long-time pack member Denali was co-existing with his younger packmates, Axel and Grayson. But without the buffer of Boltz to deflect some of their youthful exuberance and dominance, Denali became a focal point, especially for Grayson, who had a history of food competition with Denali. This focus proved to be too much for a 12.5-year-old wolf. On Oct. 16, one month after Boltz was retired, Denali was moved to retirement. He was the oldest wolf we had managed in the Exhibit Pack.

Speaking of older wolves, Grizzer continued to show his tenacity and resilience this year, not only adapting to Boltz's increased medical needs, but reuniting with Denali so they could share space. As the winter of 2020 arrived, Grizzer welcomed the pattern of spending morning breakfast time inside the warmth of the wolf care center.

Thanks to the many supporters who made these improvements to our Wolf Care facilities possible.

We are eternally grateful to John and Donna Virr for all of their support over the years to make retirement and medical facilities at the Center a reality.



Ambassador wolf receives MRI procedure at Ely Hospital

nce the doors closed at the Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital MRI unit on Sept. 15, a special patient was wheeled into place for a unique MRI. This patient was a wolf. For the first time in the history of the International Wolf Center and the first time at the hospital, an ambassador wolf from the Center was given an MRI. The procedure was done to help identify some lingering health issues that are negatively impacting Boltz, an 8-year-old gray wolf.

The MRI came about thanks to an initial phone call from Dr. Woerheide from the Ely Veterinary Clinic, followed by hours of logistical details on how to keep a wolf safely sedated for the duration of the procedure.



Staff at the International Wolf Center were able to get Boltz sedated during the day and then transported him to the hospital in a crate. Woerheide was in the back of the truck monitoring Boltz on the short drive to the hospital. When they all arrived, he was loaded onto a lift and taken into the MRI trailer.

Everything inside took



about 90 minutes. During the MRI, hospital staff carefully studied what was showing up on their monitors. It's safe to say that these results looked much different than what they normally see.

Once hospital staff were finished with the MRI, the images were burned onto a disc. Those images were emailed to the University of Minnesota Neurology Department, which conferred with Dr. Woerheide on the results.





We closed for April, May and much of June, then had to close again in December.

Even though our admissions revenue was down, donors and members stepped in and more than made up the difference!



Despite unprecedented challenges, the International Wolf Center emerged from 2020 in strong financial shape, thanks to our supporters.

Your generosity made an incredible difference at the International Wolf Center in 2020. As our financials show, the closure of our interpretive center in Ely, Minnesota, was a big blow to the organization. We closed for April, May and much of June, then had to close again in December. Even though our admissions revenue was down, donors and members stepped in and more than made up the difference!

Our financials illustrate that bright spot clearly. With your help and that of our Board of Directors, we raised more than \$100,000 during our biggest one-day fundraiser, Give to the Wolves Day, in November. We were so encouraged by members and donors who have supported us for decades to brand new donors who stepped forward. There's just no way we would have made it through 2020 without your support.

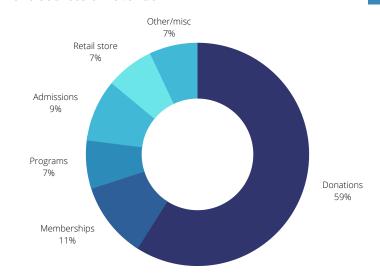




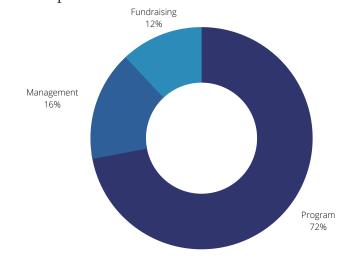
For the year ending December 31, 2020

ASSETS	2020	2019
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,594,525	\$ 1,037,824
Accounts receivable	2,233	1,794
Inventory	98,758	118,539
Prepaid expenses	27,394	29,948
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,722,910	\$ 1,688,250
INVESTMENTS	759,679	500,145
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (net)	1,762,399	1,905,716
OTHER ASSETS		
Deferred rent asset	14,947	15,810
Security deposits	3,617	3,617
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,263,552	\$ 3,613,393
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	14,167	27,987
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes	78,530	48,976
Accrued retirement contribution	4,018	3,043
Credit card payable Deferred revenue	13,707 18.219	11,845 10,860
Paycheck Protection Program Loan	192.300	-
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 320,941	\$ 102,351
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	\$ 294,843	\$ 470,106
Investment in property and equipment	1,762,399	1,905,716
Designated Total Net Assets w/o donor restrictions	1,679,066 3,736,308	952,403
With donor restrictions	3,730,300 206,303	3,328,225 182,817
TOTAL NET ASSETS	3,942,611	3,511,042
IOINE HEI MOOFIO	U,/42,U I I	0,311,042
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 4,263,552	\$ 3,613,393

2020 sources of revenue



2020 expenses





The International Wolf Center is proud to recognize these gifts from 2020



Annenberg Foundation
Anonymous
N. Cohrs
Estate of Dennis Hrdina
Estate of Irene Anrode
Estate of John M Beauchamp
Google
Dennis Hrdina
Mark Lobsinger
L. David and Laurie Mech
The Dorothy D. and Joseph A.
Moller Foundation
Bruce and Julie Steiner
Nancy jo Tubbs
John Virr

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous
Anonymous
Deborah and Lammot Copeland
Donald Egger
Nancy Gibson and Ron Sternal
Sharon and Charles Heck
Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
Diane Lane
Lachlan Reed

The White Pine Fund \$2,500-\$4,999 Brodsky Charitable Foundation Trust

Trust
Bruce Bryant
Cindy Carvelli-Yu and Song Yu
Lammot and Deborah Copeland
Angela and Jason Freedman
Beth Goodpaster and Rick Duncan
Jeanie and Murray Kilgour
Mark Luger
Ian and Deena Miller
Debbie Reynolds
Pierre Schlemel
John Slater

\$1,000-\$2,499

Cyrus and Joanne Spurlino

Linda Wark

AmazonSmile Foundation
Anonymous
Christine Campbell-Philhower
Ann and Dodd Cosgrove
Chris and Holly Cox
Brian and Ellen Dietz
Rick Duncan and Beth Goodpaster
Leanne Edberg

Tom Ellis Eric Holby Animal Welfare Foundation Estate of Felicia Zeiger Jessica Fox Yvonne and Victor Gagliano Doug and Jane Ganz Michiel Gerritsen Jean-Jacques Gilet Iim Glad and Leslie Brown **Ianet Greenblatt** Deb and Bill Hagenbuck Anika Hahn Michael Holdgrafer Denise Hughett Intel Corporation Charitable Match Trust Susan Kennedy Dorothy Kirsch

Virginia Kluwin

Mary Kust

Nick and Connie LaFond

Grete Larsen

Conrad Lenzo

Virginia Letourneau

Deb Wold Lewis

Jerry and Diane McAllister

Mike and Brenda McConnell John McLaughlin Samantha Menomin Seamus and Eileen Metress Debra Mitts-Smith and Marschall Smith Barbara Muller Jim Nystrom Open Door Foundation **Gregory Petricevic** Dana Pond Denise Pride Richard D. Bass Foundation Vickie Rosskam Loretta Satterthwaite and Bob Stamps Lana Schneider Melonie Shipman Cheryl Smith Michael Swanson Derek Tellier



UnitedHealth Group

DONORS

The International Wolf Center is proud to recognize these gifts from 2020

\$500-\$999

Howard Abrams

Joan Allen

Ameriprise Financial

Anonymous

Apple Inc.

James Appleby

Donna Arbaugh

Eric Becker

Mark and Tammy Beran

Jordan Berlin

Scot Bernstein

Barry and Jean Bingham

Blaine Auto Kingdom

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota

Clifford Boldt

Kaitlin Bonner

Susan Boren

Harold and Diane Brierley

Lori Buswell

Michael Byrnes

Sharon Campbell

Brenda Cashman

Christy Monroe Charitable Gift Fund

Lorianne and David Churn

Barbara Cook

Jack and Joyce Cox

Eleanor Crosby

John and Joan Culley

Karen Daniels

Dante Moreira Gilbert Fund

Bruce and Mary Davis

Geraldo Desouza

Beverly Donoghue

Elena Duarte

Stephen Duck

Laverne and Barb Dunsmore Todd Duyvejonck

Dorene Eklund and Jan Walter Skovran

David and Connie Elledge

Alan and Sharon Fearey

Judy and Mike Fech

Jim Freeman

Julie Gable

Susan Gay Keillor

Jeanne Gehrman

Sharon Gentz

Mark Gittler

Dan Grandquist

James Greevy

Philip Harris and Sue Romer Harris

Calann and Robin Hertel

Mike and Sherry Hokkanen

Steve Houglum

Henry Howell

Donald Johnson

Ann Jones

Phyllis Kahn

Sariina Kalli

Kyle Kinkade

Ross Knepper

James LeBlanc

Morgan Macenka

Julie Magilen

Sandi and Larry Maloney

Monte McGee

Bruce and Renee McIntyre

Rick McIntyre

Ramona Montreuil

Bob and Carol Mucha

Marcia and Jeff Mummau

Noel and Kimberly Nevshehir

Nicole Petricevic

Kathleen Pettingill and Al Dawson

Mary Pover

Lisa Radtke

Kathy Rerko-Smith and Steven Smith

David and Jill Rogers

Henry and Carol Rompage

Michael and Elaine Ross

Terese and Michael Ryan

Loretta Schaeffer

Susan and Daniel Schmitt

Walter and Mardene Schuiling

Paul and Susan Schurke

Alice and Ronald Silkey

Wes and Anne-Marie Smith

Nan Snyder

Colleen Sorensen

Nancy Thompson

Tom Triplett

Chip Truscon and Karen Eldevick

Leanne VandeCreek

Christy and Joseph Velasquez

Amy Warner and Michael Haney

Donnette and Greg Wheelock

Georgiana White

James and Gloria Wiener

Billy and Pamela Winkelmann

Suzie Woodrich and David Knoblauch

\$250-\$499

David Albert and Leslye Teuber

Kathryn Allen

Atlas Anagnos

Becky and Paul Anderson

Harry Andrews

Anonymous

Karen and Jerry Appeldoorn Laura Ashton

Mike and Leesa Augustine

Judith Baker

Carol and Bruce Barry

Robert Bell

Tammy and Mark Beran

Kenneth Binder

Carol Black

Ellen Black

John Blankley and Maureen Foley

David Blythe

Renate Bob

Larry Bohling

Karen Boros

Cree and Jason Bradley

Waltraud Brogren

Alyssa Brolsma

Deborah Brown and Mark Stewart

Denise Brown

Joshua Bryant

Lispeth and Paul Buettner

Amie Burnett and Laura Walsh

Barbara Byron

C.H. Robinson

Judith Campbell

Saundra Campbell

Robinell Cannon-Marchal and Jeffrey

Marchal

Joan and Hane Carlson

David Carter

Bert and Janice Castro

Abigail Cavaozs

Larry Chatfield

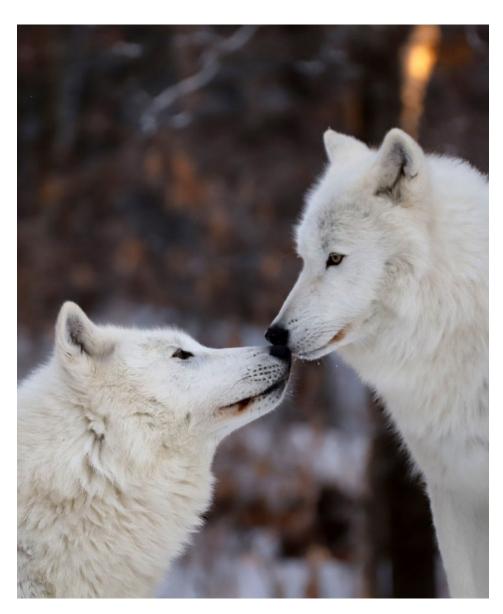
Lorie and Don Chesnut

Aaron Chiano



DONORS

The International Wolf Center is proud to recognize these gifts from 2020



Penny Clark Tiffany Clark Max and Angie Clary **Brett Clementz** Patti and Kevin Clower Robert Cohen Michael Cole Susan Connolly Susan Coolidge Chris and Sheila Coon Bob and Louise Coorsen Walter Crockett Steven and Jayne Crupi Stephanie Dalenberg Brian and Julie Davies DiAnne Davis Karen Davis Ned and Sherri Dayton Bridget Dinter Marisue Drumm Sandy Edgerton Bissell and Arthur Bissell III Joseph Ehrbar Karen Eldevick and Chip Truscon John Ely and Erin Fernandez-Ely James and Gerry Emmel Sue Ettelson John Ewing Scott Falin Gus and Pat Fenton Christine Florky Alissa Foca Michael Frabetti Janice Franklin Michael Fraysse Michael Freedman

Lina Garcia Signe and Rick Garnitz Jody Gathright Genentech Lori Giebel Jessica and Neal Gilbert-Redman Edward and Cheryll Gleason Mary Goblirsch Melvin Goldenbogen Barbi Gravdahl Barbara Guido Jo Gustafson Ann L. Halberg Judith Hall and Donald Sargent Janet Halpin William Halstead Eva Hanks Bonnie Harnit Harold E. Hodges Trust Jacinta Hart Kehoe Ann Marie Hayes-Hawkinson Betty Hein Edward Helmer Karen Hodsdon Becky and Mike Hoeft Diane and Tony Hofstede Robert and Laura Hoguet Robert Holly Helen Holman Tasia Hooper Judy and Ted Howells Susanna Hugelshofer Pam and John Hughes Jennifer and Kurt Indermaur Emma Israel Virginia Ivancich



DONORS

The International Wolf Center is proud to recognize these gifts from 2020

Ivancich, Inc. Gary Janusz Erik Johnson Michele and Roger Johnson Jim Kasper Barb Kaufman Eckhard Kaul John Kimpflen Patricia Kniffen Paula and David Kocken Dianne Kosmala Betty Kranzdorf Poppy Krause Gary and Kimberly Labrecque Susan Lamb Kirsten and Alan Langohr The Larson Family Fund of the Bank of America Charitable Ray and Geraldine Larson Ray Laudenbach Jill and John Lawlor Deborah and Dick Lewis Michael Littleford Jan Lonn Tom Losness George and Kari Lottes Ray and Paula Mair Marianne Sweeney Charitable Fund The Martin Family Hailey May Jason and Carol McAlister

Jean Moore Rebecca Moore Kelly Moravec Ann and George Morris Hadie Muller Karen and Gilbert Munoz Louise Murphy Nancy and Wayne Nash Norman Needel David and Mary Kay Ness Lavonne Newman and Peter Jezyk Nyholm Family Foundation, Inc. Michele and Patrick O'Christie Lisa and Timothy Ockenfels Thomas and Victoria O'Connell Neil Olson Nick Pernsteiner Candy and Rolf Peterson Ann Petric **Janet Pettit** Piragis Northwoods Co Lance Polya David Posner Jose Quinones Richard Rachals Sylvia Radford Bette Railton Eleanor Raispis Edward Rathke Mary Razim-FitzSimons and Edward **Fitzsimons**

Barry Rebb

Renee Reid

Kimberly Reuter-Cook and Lawrence Cook Vincent and Christina Rizzo Susan Roddy Susan and Thomas Rodell Rachel Sangsura Donald Sargent and Judith Hall Michael Schaeffer David Schaller Kay Schloff Robert Schmidt Richard Schoenwiesner Dale Schroeder David Schroeder Carl and Katelyn Schwab **Judith Schwartz** Matthew Scott **Judy Sedlacek Gary Seevers** Joan Silaco Kathleen and Will Skadsberg James Small III Paul Smith, Jr. Theresia Smith David and Diane Spangler Shannon Stainton David Stanley Robert Stinson Terry Stommes Alex Stoner Mike and Amber Stoner Mark Sugino Barbara and Douglas Sutton Joan and Edmund Swires

Karen Theis Deb and Dick Thiel Patrick Tilbury Jared Toone Jack Trussell Karen Tsuchiya Solveiga and James Unger Universal City Studios Mary Valentine Fogarty/Van Der Schaaf Family Aaron Vangetson Howard Vanick Peter VanScoy Jeff and Kathy Vlaming Hermione Vos Michael Wajda Ronald Wasem Cheryl and Thomas Webb Cynthia Webster Arnold and Anne Weitz Art and Joanne Wessels Kim Wheeler Shane White Jane and Dale Wierman Dana Williams Marilyn Williams Deborah Williamson Neal and Jennifer Wilson Carol Winter Anna Yurchenko John and Mariellyn Zeock Dale and Rosemary Zimmerman



Sandra Meyers

Microsoft

Catherine Mohr



Teaching the World About Wolves

1396 Highway 169 Ely, MN 55731 218-365-HOWL wolf.org

