GREAT RIVER RACE
7TH ANNUAL

RACE TO CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP
SEPTEMBER 16, 2017
The Great River Race funds Wilderness Inquiry’s Canoemobile Minnesota program that brings classroom learning outside, engages more than 15,000 Minnesota youth annually to improve school performance, cultivates a stewardship ethic, and creates pathways to pursue educational and career opportunities in the outdoors. We’re all in this boat together!

**A Race for Our Future**
- Raise funds! Our goal is to raise $100,000 to address the achievement gap through place-based education
- Raise awareness of education programs that engage students in the outdoors
- Inspire environmental stewardship and career pathways in the outdoor industry

**A Race for You**
- Paddle the Mighty Mississippi in a 24-foot Voyageur canoe
- Work together for a meaningful purpose
- Highlight your organization’s dedication to improving educational outcomes for Minnesota youth

**Race Day Itinerary**
- **Date:** Saturday, September 16, 2017
- **Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- **Starting Line:** Hidden Falls Regional Park
- **Finish Line:** Hidden Falls Regional Park
- **Schedule:**
  - 8:45 a.m.: Teams arrive for registration
  - 9:00 a.m.: Kick-off
  - 9:30 a.m.: Instruction, safety, and strategy
  - 10:00 a.m.: Race begins
  - 11:45 a.m.: Race concludes
  - 12:00 p.m.: Awards ceremony and lunch
  - 1:00 p.m.: Event concludes

**Past Sponsors**
- Associated Bank
- Carleton College
- CarVal Investors
- Ceridian
- Dorsey & Whitney LLP
- Dunn Bros. Coffee
- Exeter
- Faegre Baker Daniels
- FRWD
- GRECO
- BMO Harris Bank
- Health Partners
- Ideapark
- Initio
- Juut Salon Spa
- Mississippi Park Connection
- Mortenson Construction
- Mosquito
- Nature Valley

- Neil DuBois Memorial Fund
- Orange Tree
- Pearson’s Salted Nut Roll
- Peregrine
- Petersson / Keller Architecture
- Polaris Industries
- RBC Capital Markets
- Riley Hayes Advertising
- Ryan Companies
- Target
- TASC
- TCF Bank
- Thomson Reuters
- Travelers
- UCare
- Venture Bank
- Walser
- Wells Fargo

Students paddle as a team and conquer fears

Students learn the life cycle of freshwater mussels

Race route from Hidden Falls Regional Park around Pike Island
Dear Friends,

The long term health and vibrancy of our region depends on the strength of our future work force. While students in Minnesota traditionally perform at the top of standardized tests, we have one of the nation’s largest disparities between students of color and their classmates.

All students deserve the chance to reach their full potential. We know that providing educational enrichment opportunities through creative programs like Canoemobile can make a big impact on student success. By getting kids out in canoes on the Mississippi River and providing nature-based learning experiences, Canoemobile helps stem summer learning loss while creating memories that last a lifetime.

Please join us in supporting Canoemobile by getting involved in the Great River Race today.

Sponsor the Race Today!
Your support raises funds and awareness to close the achievement gap.

Contact Julie Storck
julie@wildernessinquiry.org
612.676.9424
www.greatriverrace.org
Get Involved

- Sponsor a boat in the Great River Race
- Join 100 volunteers on race day: wrangle boats, set up, and more
- Donate to provide scholarships for underserved youth
- Join a Canoemobile Minnesota event as a volunteer
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter (#GRR2017)
- Spread the word about the Race to Close the Gap!

Established in 1978, Wilderness Inquiry is a non-profit organization that connects people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to the natural world through shared outdoor experiences. Adventures are facilitated close to home and across the globe. Our programs focus on integration, education, employment, and health and wellness.
You will

**Race to Close the Achievement Gap**
as a canoe sponsor!

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**Can-Do Canoe Sponsor**
Build a team of 7 to 9 paddlers for the race!
__We will support 100 MN youth for $3,000__

**Presenting Sponsor**
Associate your company with a winning cause!
__We will support 500 MN youth for $10,000__

Wilderness Inquiry will provide you with support materials and next steps to prepare your team for the race.

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**CONTACT NAME**

**PHONE NUMBER**

**EMAIL**

**NAME OF ORGANIZATION OR TEAM (AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR IN SPONSOR RECOGNITION MATERIALS)**

**ADDRESS**

**CITY**

**STATE**

**ZIP**

☐ Enclosed is a check for $_____________

☐ Please send me an invoice for $_____________ P.O. No. (if applicable):_____________________

☐ Please charge $_______________to ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

**CARD NUMBER**

**EXPIRATION DATE**

**CVC CODE**

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**Sponsor Logo Request**

Please email your color and black & white logos to info@wildernessinquiry.org or call 612.676.9400.

High-resolution (300 dpi) .jpg or .eps files are recommended for best results.

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**Send this completed form to**

Wilderness Inquiry, 808 14th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414
C/O Julie Storck  |  email: julie@wildernessinquiry.org  |  phone: 612-676-9424  |  fax: 612-676-9401

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Learn more: [www.greatriverrace.org](http://www.greatriverrace.org)
Sponsorship Overview

Can-Do Canoe Sponsor | $3,000

Connect 100 Minnesota youth to place-based education at their local parks and waterways.

At this level you will:
• Fill a beautiful 24ft Voyageur canoe with 7-9 paddlers, equipped with a certified captain.
• Show your company’s support through logo recognition on race materials and signage.
• Receive a racer’s packet, official race t-shirt, picnic lunch, and a first-hand glimpse of what youth experience during Canoemobile events.

Presenting Sponsor | $10,000

Connect 500 Minnesota youth to place-based education at their local parks and waterways.

At this level you will:
• Receive the same great benefits of the Can-Do Canoe Sponsorship.
• Speak to the crowd: share your connection to nature and Minnesotan youth at our Award Ceremony, alongside community leaders and friends!
• Engage your organization further through a Voyageur canoe displayed at your workplace to raise awareness and a team-building canoe event for your employees, coordinated by Wilderness Inquiry.

Sponsor the Race Today!
Your support raises funds and awareness to close the achievement gap.

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612.676.9424

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