



**YELLOWSTONE  
PARK FOUNDATION**  
EST. 1996

222 EAST MAIN STREET

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June 23, 2015

Mr. Dan Wenk  
Superintendent  
Yellowstone National Park  
P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190

Dear Mr. Wenk:

On behalf of Yellowstone National Park's official fundraising partner, I am pleased to offer the Yellowstone Park Foundation (YPF)'s enthusiastic support for, *Yellowstone Quest – Every 4<sup>th</sup> Grader- 2016 and 2017 Centennial Mission*, as part of the *Centennial Challenge Project*. For more than 17 years, YPF has provided generous support for Park education programs, and other projects that provide opportunities for youth to learn more about the world's first national park.

The *Yellowstone Quest* suite of proposed programs – *Expedition Yellowstone*, *Yellowstone Live-Program Distance Learning*, *Yellowstone Field Trips*, *Yellowstone to You Outreach*, and *Teacher Services* – would reach approximately 5,000 fourth graders, and an additional 2,000 teachers and families. This program supports President Obama's *Every Kid in a Park*, which targets 4<sup>th</sup> graders specifically.

YPF will irrevocably provide \$40,000 for FY16 and \$40,000 for FY17 from its existing education funds to help ensure the success of this program. Through these funds, YPF will fund seasonal education ranger positions for *Expedition Yellowstone*, *Yellowstone Field Trips*, *Yellowstone to You Outreach*, *Yellowstone Distance Learning*, and *Teacher Services* programs and activities. Funds will be used to: develop a special activity brochure on Yellowstone for use in schools (print and web version); provide school bus transportation; offer partial scholarships for youth campus lodging; fund travel for rangers teaching at community events and presenting to schools unable to travel to Yellowstone; as well as a portion of salaries for rangers providing distance learning programs.

Your support through the *Centennial Challenge Project* for FY16 and FY17 would provide funds for the biggest barrier to Park visitation – transportation costs and travel difficulty, due to the remoteness of Yellowstone National Park. Funds would offset costs for socioeconomically disadvantaged students, especially Title I schools, to pay for lodging expenses while attending *Expedition Yellowstone*, or the transportation costs associated with the program. YPF looks forward to the opportunity to highlight



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the partnership via social media and traditional media, and anticipate receiving many inspiring stories to share.

Thank you for this opportunity to convey our support for *Yellowstone Quest – Every 4<sup>th</sup> Grader- 2016 and 2017 Centennial Mission*, both through generous funding and through testimonials about the impact of past education programs. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

Karen Bates Kress  
President