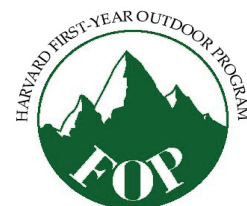


# The Fuzzy Cheesecake

## FOP's Annual Report & Community Newsletter



Vol 9: December MMXII

www.harvardfop.com



## GREETINGS FROM STEERING COMMITTEE 2013

As hurricane Sandy blows through Cambridge, taking with it the last of the fall foliage, Steering Committee '13 has been reflecting on the successes of the outgoing SC '12 as well as working to develop a shared vision for the program that has had such an incredible impact on each of us. We're very excited to present this year's edition of the Fuzzy Cheesecake, FOP's annual report and newsletter, and hope you enjoy reading through it! Inside, you'll find interesting and thought-provoking stories from FOP participants, FOP leaders, parents of FOPpers, and Alumni, as well as a brief overview of the program and the fundraising over the past year.

Every year the new Steering Committee begins its journey together with the "SC Odyssey" – a weekend of camaraderie, reflection, and exchanging ideas about FOP. While many past SC's have spent this weekend sipping hot chocolate by a woodstove and eating cinnamon buns in a cozy mountain condo, this year's SC was having none of that.

Over a weekend of backpacking we took our first steps as a cohesive group. We developed close bonds as sundown the first day found us, compass-in-hand, still several hours

from camp, bushwhacking through dense New Hampshire pine thickets, and picking our way around a sulfurous bog through which even Gollum would have struggled to find a way. It was an Odyssey for the ages. Through all these trials, SC '13 prevailed and even had the wherewithal to successfully discuss in what direction we would take our beloved program. Now we'd like to unveil the product of that fateful weekend - our vision for FOP this year:

*Steering Committee 2013 will promote and celebrate diversity on FOP: we will make FOP accessible and inclusive in its FOPper pool, leader pool, and curriculum. We aim to create a meaningful experience and community for FOPpers and leaders by providing outlets for intentional thought about personal growth and leadership development. Through these two focus areas, SC '13 hopes to extend FOP's impact on FOPpers, leaders, and the larger Harvard community.*

A lot of work goes into running FOP over the course of the year; from selecting and training new leaders, to acquiring permits and plan-

ning routes. We hope that these values will guide us throughout the coming year as we focus on our vision for FOP. We are thrilled to be taking up the reins of this program and cannot wait for the year ahead!

We are incredibly fortunate to have the amazing community that we do, and we want to offer a huge thank-you to all of you who have given such support and dedication to this program. Whether you went on FOP, led FOP, entrusted us with your child for five days in the woods, or supported all our activities with your kindness and generosity, we want you to know that this program relies on you and could never be where it is today without your help. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts, and we trust that we speak for everyone to whom FOP has given such joy and opportunity.

You are a part of the FOP family, and we hope to continue sharing with you in love for the outdoors, personal growth, and always, adventure.

*"We have not ceased from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time." - T.S. Eliot*



- FOP Steering Committee '13:

Emily Savage, Canyon Woodward, Grace Chen, Joey Wall,  
Caroline Cox, George Mills, William Dean, Coz Teplitz

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# About FOP

## THE WEEK:

3 States • 5 Nights Under the Stars • 34 Trips • 73 Leaders • 1 Director  
291 Freshmen • 3080 Tortillas • Countless Memories

## THE HISTORY

FOP was developed in 1979 by the Dean to provide students with a stronger support network upon entrance to college. FOP is the oldest and largest pre-orientation program for freshmen at Harvard. Every year, FOP sends approximately 18% of the incoming first-years on six-day backpacking, canoeing, and camping trips at the beginning of the school year. Since 1979, over 6000 students have begun their Harvard experience by living with 8-10 peers in the backcountry, under the leadership of 2-3 trained upperclassmen leaders. FOP is one of only 46 AEE-Accredited Programs in North America, such as the National Outdoor Leadership School and Outward Bound.

## THE MISSION

*To provide group adventure-based experiences that promote the development of social support and self-awareness for first-year students and leadership development for members of the Harvard community.*



## THE VALUES

- Compassion
- Responsibility to community
- Care and responsibility to the environment
- The equality and intrinsic worth of all people regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation, religion, ethnic or socio-economic background

## THE RESEARCH

1. FOP is the most successful Harvard pre-orientation program in providing social support networks to first year students.<sup>1</sup>
2. The first six weeks of college are highly significant in adjusting to college life.<sup>2</sup>
3. Students indicate that involvement in a pre-orientation program significantly improved introductions to Harvard.<sup>3</sup>
4. College outdoor pre-orientation experiences are correlated with higher academic achievement throughout college.



## WHY WE FUNDRAISE

The First-Year Outdoor Program endeavors to provide financial aid and gear to anyone who needs it in an effort to minimize and ultimately to eliminate any financial barriers that might prevent students from participating in the program. Your donation will go directly towards providing financial aid for a student.

1. Bell, Brent J. (2006). "Wilderness Orientation: Exploring the Relationship Between College Preorientation Programs and Social Support." Journal of Experiential Education, 29(2), 145-167.
2. Baker, R. W., & Siryk, B. (1984). "Measuring adjustment to college." Journal of Counseling Psychology. 31, 179-189
3. Report of the Freshman Orientation Advisory Committee. (June 2005). P. 7 & Appendix C.
4. Gass, M.A. (1987). "The Effects of a Wilderness Orientation Program on College Students. Journal of Experiential Education, 10(2), 30-33.

## FROM OUR FOPPERS

*FOPper Class of 2016*

"The unforgettable moments of peace and tranquility we were able to experience made all of the struggles worth it. I had never imagined what the power of a serene lake surrounded by mountains in the quiet of the morning, or the enveloping stars in pitch black night, or the panoramic view from a peak could all be like, and FOP introduced me to these wonders." - *Oriana Wang*

"I had never been on an overnight outdoor trip. I found out that I was one of the best possible versions of my self in that environment. I felt myself being invigorated by the challenges we faced and the beauty around me." - *Sophia Randolph*

"There is a lot that I will take away from this trip. For one, the lifelong friendships. Another thing would be dependence and cooperation. I was always used to being independent but I realized that sometimes it is funner to experience things with other people." - *Jenny Fung*

"I learned a lot about myself from the FOP trip. I learned how to easily talk to others and to lead by example. This FOP trip really taught me how to lead, how to be a good person, and showed me my true personality. The entire FOP trip is one of the best experiences of my life, and I will carry it with me for my entire life." - *Grant Kinsler*

"FOP is an experience I will draw on heavily during other trying times at Harvard. I loved the small moments of FOP like trail chats, and setting up camp together." - *Cordelia Mendez*

"FOP taught me how to enjoy things and live in the moment, how to live by LNT, how to embrace people's differences and have fun, how to overcome challenges" - *Laura Defeo*

"I learned that living outside in nature with a group of strangers can really bring people together in ways that cannot be simulated in other places. I learned about love and compassion for one another, which is essential to not only survive but form unbreakable bonds of friendship." - *Jeffrey Wang*



"Fear in a hat, fuzzy cheesecake, hiking to the top of the peaks, everyone in the group singing together, being ridiculously well taken care of after I hurt my back, watching shooting stars, having extremely sincere conversations with almost every member of the group including both leaders. All highs, no lows. We all learned a lot about each other and about the unreliability of first impressions, we learned that whatever we were scared about going into college we do not have to be scared about anymore, we learned that it is possible to make true, meaningful connections with people in college, and, most importantly, we got to experience each of us being ourselves, without any social inhibitions." - *Sofia Jonas*

## A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

*Douglas Lamar & Trish Severin*

We were not surprised when our son chose FOP. After all, we had both taught wilderness skills to not only our own family, but to many students prior to the birth of our four. The wild and beautiful places are in their blood.

But what did impress us was the intensity with which our son took FOP into his heart. Already accomplished on the more difficult trails

and rivers with their technical demands, there was something even more precious that he brought back. It was the camaraderie and teamwork of the small group working with each other that had made lasting impressions and enduring friendships that would continue into his coming weeks of study, as well as spurring him to become a part of FOP's leader community.

A few years ago, our family lived in a very unique community in Washington. Surrounded by the rugged beauty of the North Cascades, Stehekin cannot be accessed by road; there are no stores and

there is no telephone service.

By January, there is six feet of snow on the ground. Perhaps a dozen children attend the K-8 one-room schoolhouse, which never closes for a snow day. Though most of these children now leave the community to attend high school, there is an older generation who saw no need to go beyond the eighth grade.

You might be inclined to marginalize the knowledge of these individuals. That would be a mistake. As accomplished EMT's, bush pilots or boat captains, they have an amazing knowledge of the rugged terrain and have shown the ability to locate, treat and evacuate injured backpackers, keep lightning strikes from becoming wildfires and demonstrate survival techniques in the real world.

How does this relate to the FOP experience? Not only does the FOP week foster confidence in each individual's ability to overcome obstacles and reach a point that she or he may have thought out of reach, but there is the realization that experiential education such as this can be just as important as the learning acquired through books and electronic devices. And beyond that, FOP teaches an important life lesson – that in the long run, competition is always trumped by cooperation.

## LNT IRL (LEAVE NO TRACE, IN REAL LIFE)

*Lilla Cosgrove '12*

Before co-leaders, before trail games or bear bags, before force-feeding a freshman you met yesterday an extra spoonful of mushy, bottom-of-the-pot pasta, every FOP leader must internalize a set of environmental conservation principles known as Leave No Trace (LNT).

Reflecting on my time as a leader, Steering Committee member, and Basecamper, I feel that the principles of LNT illustrate the values that the FOP community has instilled in me:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare: In life, as on FOP, be ready for what the day might





bring. This may mean carrying a raincoat, spending an extra 20 minutes on your Power-Point presentation, or simply getting enough sleep to remain alert and happy throughout your day.

2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces: In a world of concrete sidewalks and elevated highways, this statement might seem somewhat irrelevant, but being attentive to your surroundings gives you a greater appreciation for your presence in this world.

3. Dispose of Waste Properly: Waste comes to us in many forms- in old pizza boxes and banana peels, in negative attitudes and toxic friendships. Don't let such things burden your life. Dispose of them with mindful care, then move ahead renewed.

4. Leave What You Find: There are some things in life that you cannot change. Recognize those things and don't consider that to imply powerlessness. Treat it as a reminder to compliment things that are already great, and improve those that are less so.

5. Minimize Campfire Impacts: Fire-fighting takes skill- it is a process of choosing your battles wisely without letting any other problem get too out of control. This, I find, is just as relevant with theoretical fires as it is with wood-burning, s'mores-roasting ones.

6. Respect Wildlife: This one is simple- be cognizant of the environment in which you live, and treat it well so it remains healthy for yourself, your family and friends, and FOPPers graduating in the year 2512.

7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors: Recognize that every person you meet is dealing with their own set of thoughts, fears suppose, the most truly environmental of the seven principles. Be cognizant of the environment in which we live, and do your best to treat it well so it remains healthy for yourself, your family and friends, and FOPPers graduating in the year 2512.

7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors: Recognize that every person you meet is dealing with their own set of thoughts, fears, and confidences. Be generous, patient, and thoughtful as often as you can. Then, when you feel snarky and unkind, take a deep breath and try to be generous, patient, and thoughtful for just a bit longer.

Sometimes the hubbub of life in the front-country can cause us to forget the basics on which we focus in the backcountry. We forget about disposing of the waste in our lives or

minimizing our campfire impacts, because these are things that we can seemingly push off until tomorrow. LNT reminds us of these things and teaches us to be more aware and present in each moment.

Moreover, LNT is a lesson in impact. It is a reminder that our actions have effects that are larger

than we know. A dropped piece of trash may seem like nothing to a lone hiker, but each action we take leaves an imprint on the world around us. The care and support given and received freely in the FOP community create emotional impacts not to be underestimated either. FOP changed my life—it gave me confidence and strength, it helped develop my own self-awareness, and it offered an opportunity to change the lives of others. There is nothing more empowering than realizing the strength of your own impact.

### WHY I DO WHAT I DO

*Reflections of an Adventure Educator  
Morgan Hite '81*

I always try to remember not to ask my students where they go to school.

Most of them are in college, and right after they tell me their college they want to know where I went to school. I have to reveal then that my alma mater was one of those ivy-covered, East Coast institutions of venerable tradition. They inevitably ask the same, incredulous question: "If you don't mind my asking, what are you doing here?" It's stated almost

as an act of self-protection,

a litany against evil. Because, of course, they're thinking, "Why should I bust my ass for four years to get through college when this guy went to Harvard and now he just bums around the woods with a bunch of deadbeat kids like me?"

I usually give some glib answer, like, "This is where those of us who can't handle it wind up." But if they press me further I give them more. They deserve to know. When they go back they will be on the front lines, doing daily combat with the traffic, the

crowding, the overstimulation. It is they, not I, who have to face the expectations of parents, the labyrinth of society and business, and the confusion of their brethren. It is a grim place. I would not trade shoes with them.

I have a lot of ideas about why I do what I do, and why this job is great. I'll bet anybody could write down why he or she thinks what they do is a really good thing. I wish they would. We all could only benefit from sharing a little about why we think we do what we do.

I'll give you my view, here from a canyon in Southern Utah, from a rocky alpine cirque in Wyoming, from the inside of a snow cave miles and miles from the nearest plowed road. These are my five favorite ways to think of what I do.

1. I teach people to escape. J.R.R. Tolkien was told once that his books were "escapist," but he insightfully replied that the only people concerned about escape were jailers. I like to think I help people acquire the skills and confidence to get away from it all, from what subtle jailers there may be in our lives, any time they like, and take friends with them.

2. It is good to be out here. It is healthy and powerful and all of those good things. I can commune with the mountain gods. I get away from it all to talk with the real powers that be and help others do the same. We look back on civilization from a high mountain and see it for what it is. Clean air and physical obstacles lead to healthy, free people. This is Real, dealing with weather and terrain and survival. This is what humans lived in for thousands of years. To meet the Earth on her own terms is to respect her and we do a lot of

meeting out here.

3. I meet impressive people in this world, bold and daring. Handsomest men and beautiful women as William Golding might say, with great senses of humor and incredible storehouses of knowledge - they must be this way, to be ready to deal with anything.



4. We are real souls out here; there are too few of us to get lost in the sauce. Travel "by hand" and food cooked outdoors make honest, generous folk with integrity, and I have a feeling the world was supposed to be this way.

5. I come out here for the castles: the awesome buttes, mountains, mesas, canyons, and valleys that stir the imagination. I commune with all the lost centuries, and stories that never were, at home in rugged places.

What better job could one ask for than to live in unsoftened, beautiful places, be inspired by them and help others do the same?

***"Life can be simple and this is a good place to experience that. We need to be tired and cold and hungry, and then make ourselves a hot meal and go to our sleeping bags to realize that life is complete and how rarely we experience that."***

Here I find Peace, a time to reflect and replan my life, and to feel surplus goodness in myself that I want to share with the world.

I do it because there are thousands of people out there itching to be free, to journey to that photograph on their Sierra Club calendar and all that is standing between them and their goal is someone to show them how and reaffirm that they can do it. Someone to say, "Take that risk, live that dream! Life is too short, you may die soon - live now!" I am Coyote out here, summoning the students and the businesspersons who hardly know why or what the call is, and dangerously destabilizing their lives by showing them freedom. I am serving a high cause of democracy.

I do it because it's good for me, it's good for you, and it's good for the greater whole. I do it because pretty few of us grow up in anything akin to hardship anymore and we need hardship to appreciate the basic important things in life like love and beauty and water and warmth.

Life can be simple and this is a good place to experience that. We need to be tired and cold and hungry, and then make ourselves a hot meal and go to our sleeping bags to realize that life is complete and how rarely we experience that. I do it because sometimes things get pretty Real out here and we start making basic honest communications with each other: "I'm alright. How are you?" And it feels good, and we wonder what we've been doing in our lives. Because here we can be the captains of our own ships, and chart our own destiny.

The backcountry vacation is always unlike other vacations. When we return, there is at least a little sigh of relief - we made it. There is definite risk going out there: we have to find our way; we have to deal with our own injuries. There won't be anywhere to stop in to ask for help. It's a risky business. As vacations go, it is more than just a vacation. So it stands to reason that as jobs go, it is more than just a job.

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

*Coz Teplitz*

Dear FOP Community,

The end of the year is usually a time for reflection. As I look back over the past year, it is clear that reflection itself has been the theme of 2012.

Since I came back to Harvard in 2007, I have felt that many students are hungry for – or could benefit from – guided reflection for the issues that are pertinent to them. First-years arrive at Harvard with innumerable expectations about what college "is" and what their time here will be like. FOP already addresses many of these expectations: leaders are adept at guiding discussions of alcohol, dating, roommates, and the balance of academics and extracurriculars. Still, there are other important expectations we have not regularly addressed – what does it mean to "make the most of Harvard"? How does a college experience fit into life as a whole? And how might these notions change over time?

Likewise, FOP leaders often enter training with developed expectations of what it means to "be a leader". FOP has experience with helping leaders to uncover these expectations and to develop a more flexible, holistic understanding of leadership. There are, however, things we do not usually discuss: How can the lessons you learn as a FOP leader be applied in other parts of your life? How do we keep learning ourselves when we also see that we can teach or mentor others (i.e., when older leaders work with less experienced co-leaders)?

This year, we explored how to build more

reflection into FOP. We tweaked an existing peer-mentorship model - in which older leaders coach other trips' co-leaders - by adding structure to the sorts of questions coaches should consider asking. We offered FOP's first-ever service training trip, which catalyzed conversations about how service can encourage discussions of values. We emphasized holistic curriculum planning during training.

These efforts seem to have been successful. Anecdotaly, leaders have been more willing to push themselves to ask bigger questions of their first-years – and of themselves. For three weeks after FOP, I couldn't walk across the Yard without being stopped by a student gushing that, "FOP was so wonderful, such a warm and thought provoking experience..." Leaders, too, seem to be proud of their efforts – the office has been filled with stories of starlit conversations, of unexpected openness, and of visions realized.

Our exploration of the role of reflection in FOP is part of a larger movement toward reflection at Harvard. Reflecting on Your Life, a discussion series for first-year students, has been joined by Reflecting on Transition for sophomores. Independently, three Houses have started small group discussion series for seniors. And the Bureau of Study Counsel has started its own, weekly program where students can reflect on bigger issues of identity and choice.

While I am proud that FOP has been part of these efforts, I also believe that we need to be more creative. We tend to follow the paradigm of outdoor education, which holds that reflection is best encouraged by a facilitator who asks just the right question at just the right moment. While one-on-one conversations and group debriefs can be useful, they are not the only moments our students cite as being meaningful. During the year ahead, I am looking forward to finding new ways to encourage reflection – in groups and alone; in the woods and on campus; guided and independent.

There is no doubt that four years at Harvard can be profound – full of diverse people, exciting ideas, amazing opportunities, and plenty of challenges. I believe, though, that reflection is an essential component of a growth-filled college experience, and, in the face of incessant reading, papers, and problem sets, not enough student make time to reflect in their day-to-day lives. I am excited that FOP, its leaders, and its participants, can help spread a culture of conscious reflection through this incredible campus.

I look forward to the reflection your comments always bring,

Coz

“FOP: THE HARVARD OF OUT-DOOR ORIENTATION PROGRAMS.”  
Brent Bell, Director '99-'05

Once upon a time in the FOP office in 2004, SC member James Dyett '06 saw an advertisement from the National Outdoor Leadership School that claimed that NOLS was the “Harvard” of outdoor leadership. “Then FOP,” James quipped, “must be the Harvard of outdoor orientation programs.”

How true, I thought at the time; years later I am absolutely sure of this.

I left FOP to become a professor of outdoor education at the University of New Hampshire. One thing that helped me leave one of the greatest jobs in the world was knowing that as faculty I could dedicate my research to outdoor orientation programs and help create more FOP in the world. After years of being locked into an ivory tower to study FOP, I can share a few points from my perspective:

1. Orientation matters. The research is clear: orientations make a difference. Even when the students dislike them, complain about them, and perceive them as useless, students who attend an orientation do better. Fortunately for FOP, students like FOP, celebrate FOP, and perceive it as not only useful but one of the best orientation experiences they could have had. FOP really matters.

2. Harvard students’ greatest fear at the time of transition to college is wondering if they will make friends who understand and accept them. The curriculum of FOP is well suited to assuage this fear.

3. FOP increases social support. It is normal for a first-semester student to feel lonely and isolated during the first semester in college, but what if we did not accept this as normal? Because first-years are generally very peer focused, having genuine peer support goes a long way. FOP has a curriculum of trust building that brings something special out of a group of peers.

4. Students need Type Two fun! There are two types of fun. Type One fun is hedonistic; the fun of self-indulgence. Type Two fun, on the other hand, is the fun of accomplishing something that challenges you. The fun of getting to the top of the mountain and seeing the valley below. The fun of taking a risk to be silly. While Type One fun is not sustainable, Type Two fun is the kind of fun that sustains YOU. FOP provides a lot of Type Two fun.

5. Outdoor orientation matters. This may sound like #1, but it is meant to be at a

larger scale. As each group of FOP leaders and steering committee perfect training, tighten up the curriculum, and further develop the risk management of the program, FOP needs to give this information away. FOP needs to spread to other colleges. Many students are desperately in need of the types of experiences that FOPpers received at Harvard. I am proud to witness the programs looking at FOP as a model to be copied. FOP has helped to support many outdoor orientation programs.

Recently I completed the second census of outdoor orientation programs. Nationally outdoor orientation programs are growing in number (185) and size (over 22,000 participants). Of these 185 programs there are a few stable programs that are models to new programs; Harvard FOP is one of them. When we take a minute to support FOP, it is clear to me that we also support outdoor orientation on other campuses.

As James Dyett would say “FOP is the Harvard of Outdoor Orientation.”

*Brent Bell is currently Associate Professor of Outdoor Education at UNH and the organizer of the semiannual Outdoor Orientation Program Symposium.*

DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE PERSON

*Thomas Dingman, Dean of Freshmen*

As Dean of Freshmen, I encourage our staff at a retreat each year to identify priorities for our work. I am happy to report that consistently we determine that we want to support initiatives that ensure growth on all fronts—especially learning to treat others with civility and respect and to take agency to promote positive change. In our minds, graduating from Harvard should mean more than passing thirty-two half courses and only attending to personal advancement.

As we have sought opportunities for freshmen to grow in more than just the academic realm, a model for us has been FOP. We’re struck by the effectiveness of the one-week program and its capacity to make new-comers in our community feel they belong, see the significance of empathy, and understand the criticalness of personal contribution. Again, this August, the “newbies” poured out of the wilderness in the highest spirits and with a variety of skills, refined or newly developed. It is the upperclassmen’s role I want to emphasize, however, here. Perhaps the best way to do that is to share the

experience of my freshman advisee, George Mills '15. I asked George to explain the significance of his involvement in FOP, and he replied with the following account:

Only one September ago, I was that freshman, sitting on the steps of Widener Library, insecure and nervous, wearing a shirt two sizes too big because I thought it would make me look “buff.” Yet only twelve months later I found myself storming Tercentenary Theatre with a horde of leaders entirely focused upon one thing: creating an amazing FOP experience for the 291 freshmen sitting on Widener steps feeling something like that mixture of nervous excitement that I had felt a year before. What had changed over this year? How did I now have the confidence to prance in front of nearly 300 of my future classmates wearing a pink sports bra, embarrassing myself so that these freshmen would feel less nervous? The answer lies in the training, support, and love of the FOP community.

Becoming a FOP leader has provided an opportunity for growth and development that is unique to this program. In training there is an emphasis on intentional thinking about the qualities of a leader, yet there is also the consideration of a compromise between the leaders we hope to be and the leaders that we are through a focus on self-awareness of our strengths and weaknesses in leadership positions. This attentiveness to how I act in leadership positions by both myself and my training trip leaders left me with an important realization that has changed the way I think and go about my daily actions in both the FOP context, the Harvard community and large. They told me that to be a successful leader the thing I needed to master most was trusting in my instincts and myself as a leader. This support is what transformed me from that freshman to a leader, and for that I am forever indebted to the First Year Outdoor Program.

Not only has FOP given George an important outlet and an opportunity to give back, but it has contributed immensely to his personal development. It does not surprise me to learn of the carry-over effect, ie. the ways that enhanced self-awareness and consideration of how to motivate and inspire others contribute to the whole of one’s Harvard experience. The staff in the FDO is so grateful that this leading opportunity in FOP exists and will continue to try to learn from it as we focus on the holistic development of our charges.

FOP Fundraising 2012-2013

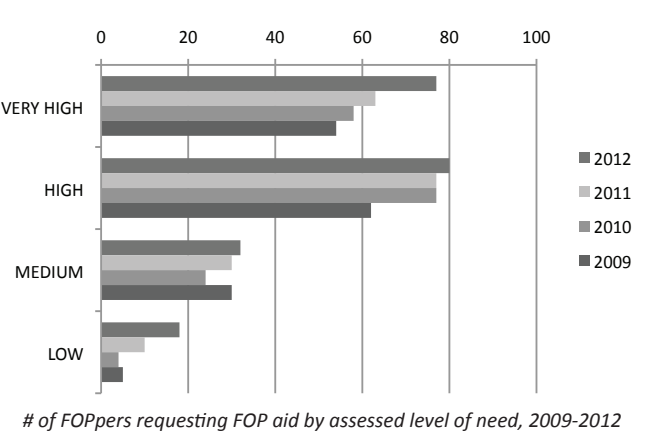
To everyone who donated last year:  
**THANK YOU!**

We are incredibly grateful for the support of our donors - those who gave \$5 and those who gave much more. Together, you provided financial aid for **119 FOPpers**.

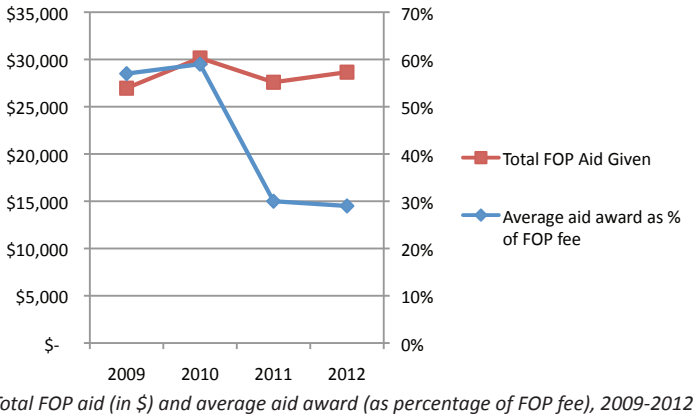
*If you gave last year, please consider giving again.* We rely on your support to provide a smooth transition to college for students who would not otherwise be able to afford FOP.

*If you have not given before, we invite you* to get more involved. All of the money we raise will be given to FOPpers as direct financial aid. So your gift will help make FOP an option to any interested student, regardless of means.

We use 100% of the money we raise to reduce the financial burden of FOP for incoming students.



Thanks to the ongoing generosity of parents, alumni, and other community members, we have been making steady progress toward our goal of making FOP accessible to any interested student. It appears the word is getting out, because we have seen **significant increases in both the number of FOPpers requesting aid from FOP and in the relative level of need of those students.**

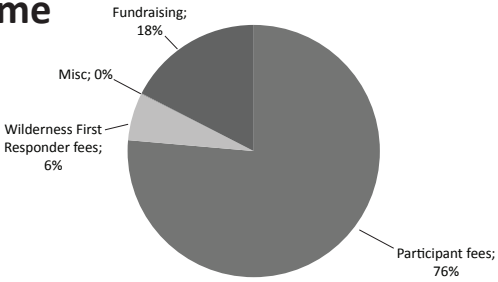


As a result of the increased number and need of FOPpers, **the average size of our aid awards has gone down.** In other words, although we have been able to reach more students, our ability to help any one student has gone down.

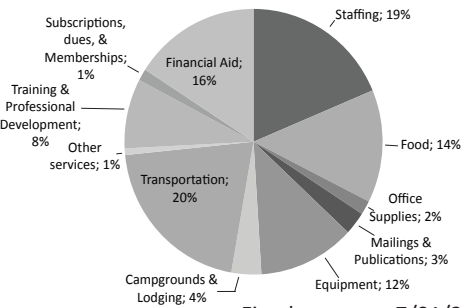
**We need your help** to keep making progress: your donation will help us to meet the need of the students who have asked for help from FOP.

FOP Financials FY12

Income



Expenses



Fiscal year runs 7/01/2011- 6/30/2012



# FOP Supporters FY12

Thank You to all of our Donors!

## FOP SUMMIT TEAM (\$500 AND UP)

Jo Ann & Walter Beh  
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