

**HUDSON RIVER SLOOP CLEARWATER
2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
724 Wolcott Ave.,
Beacon, NY 12508
office@clearwater.org | www.clearwater.org

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*“If you want people to care about the river,
you have to teach them about the river.”*
– Pete Seeger





A Letter from Our Executive Director

Dear Clearwater Community,

As I complete my first year as Executive Director, I share this report on Clearwater's achievements in 2022 and our intentions for 2023. Clearwater is evolving to meet the needs of our ever-changing world. We have had to adapt to many changes in the last few years – the privatization of docks on the river, the rising costs of materials, the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on program capacity, and the effects of climate change. But our mission and goals have not changed. Let's take a look at 2022.

Clearwater's approach to environmental stewardship is simple: get people out on the river and they will be inspired to protect it. The sloop *Clearwater* is our most visible platform for fulfilling this mission. In 2022 we completed a multi-year restoration project, replacing 60 planks and 100 futtock frame sections on our wooden tall ship. Careful maintenance and upkeep of this historic wooden ship are vital to ensuring Clearwater can deliver world-class environmental education programming for another 50 years.

We're still seeing to the health and wellbeing of our river and the Hudson Valley's residents. As always, Clearwater equips our community with the most important tool– knowledge. We reduce barriers by making our programs inclusive and accessible to everyone. But we still face great challenges, and the next generation needs our help to tackle the looming trials their planet will face.

Programmatically, Clearwater continues to make strides towards pre-pandemic numbers. 2022 program participation was half that of 2019 (see Appendix A). We relaunched our Onboard Volunteer Program after a years-long pandemic hiatus. The entire organization was excited to bring back Young Women at the Helm, one of our three Youth Empowerment Programs for teens, for the first time since before the pandemic (see Appendix B for participant testimony).

Operating a historic non-profit with such an important mission has its challenges. During 2022 we restructured our financial reporting processes in order to better navigate a path to long-term stability. We are working continuously to generate new fiscal resources so future generations will be able to experience our unique and life-changing programs. Our river communities are safer, healthier, and happier because of the work we do together. I'm grateful to be a part of this community and look forward to 2023.

Fair Winds,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. H. Toman", written in a cursive style.

David H. Toman



OUR MISSION

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater is a member-supported, 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit organization whose mission is to protect the Hudson River by inspiring lifelong stewardship of the river and its tributaries with innovative advocacy through education programs.

The organization owns and operates a historic 106' Hudson River Sloop replica that is recognized as America's Environmental Flagship. The *Clearwater* carries a powerful message to passengers and all who see her iconic sails from the shore: to preserve and protect our region's waterways. Clearwater is recognized for 54 years of award-winning environmental education programs, through which students investigate the ecology, history, and environmental challenges of the Hudson Valley—fostering generations of environmental stewards in local communities.

To date, more than half a million people have experienced their first real look at an estuary's ecosystem aboard the sloop.



HISTORY

In 1966, folk musician and activist Pete Seeger was in despair over the state of his beloved Hudson River, which was near death from decades of industrial pollution. After reading two seminal texts, *Silent Spring* and *Sloops of the Hudson*, he announced plans to “build a boat to save the river.” Pete, his wife, Toshi, and a dedicated group of fellow musicians and activists believed that a replica of the historic sloops that once sailed the Hudson would allow people to experience the river's beauty and thus be moved to preserve it.



In 2004, the sloop *Clearwater* was named to the National Register of Historic Places for its groundbreaking role in the environmental movement. Since its launch in 1969, Clearwater has become a grassroots model for producing positive change. Clearwater empowers Hudson Valley communities through advocacy education for grassroots groups, and award winning, place-based environmental programs for local youth. Together we work to ensure that polluters are held accountable, industrial development is controlled, and laws are enshrined to protect our river by local, state, and federal officials.

WHERE WE WORK

We sail the length of the Hudson River estuary from Albany to New York harbor throughout the sailing season.

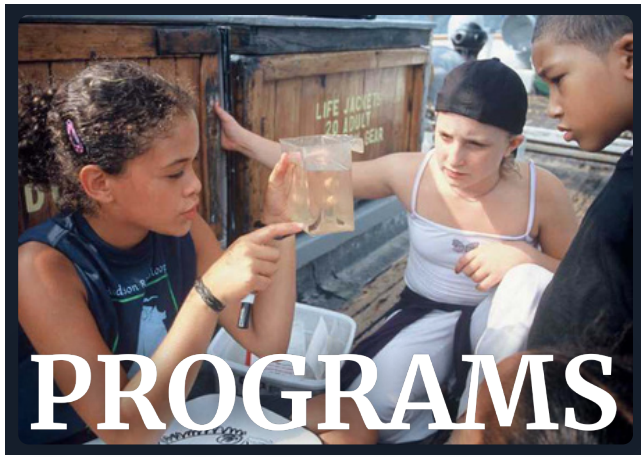
During the 2022 Sailing Season, 12 docks were available, down from 19 docks in 2019.

Over the last decade we've seen dock access steadily decline for a variety of reasons, including planned construction, changes in ownership, exorbitant fees, renovations made with only small craft in mind, the impact of climate change, and lack of shore support and vessel resources. Clearwater has lost access to the 79th Street Boat Basin, Hoboken, Yonkers, Haverstraw, Saugerties, Staatsburg, Peekskill, Queens, Highland, Castleton, Garrison, Harlem, and Bear Mountain.

In 2022 our most frequently visited docks were Beacon, Dyckman, Kingston, and Poughkeepsie.

Clearwater needs the support of riverfront residents to advocate in their communities for publicly accessible docks that can safely accommodate the sloop and our crew in order to fulfill our mission.





Clearwater offers Hudson River-focused environmental education programs. Our signature program, the “Sailing Classroom” aboard the sloop, provides a uniquely powerful platform for students to learn about the river’s natural and cultural significance and recognize the power of collective and individual voices.

Onshore “Tideline” programs along the Hudson River as well as in-classroom at local schools bring the Hudson River to students throughout the

watershed. Clearwater’s interactive education programs provide hands-on learning to engage students and promote “learning by doing.” For many, this is the introduction to the Hudson River and environmental education that can forge a connection with nature that lasts a lifetime.

The Sailing Classroom

Clearwater’s 2022 sailing season launched three months late due to the refit project. Despite this challenge, the season was successful by all counts as our region continued to recover from the pandemic. For public health reasons, our sailing programs remained fully on deck (passengers are not permitted below deck as of 2021), and we adjusted our education stations to allow passengers to better distribute on deck. The four-station rotation consisted of Hudson River Life, Navigation, Water Quality, and Indigenous Peoples of the Hudson Valley.

Maintaining our percentage served from 2021, around 30% of participants were young people of color. We also worked with non-school organizations (i.e. TIDES, the Tenafly Nature Center, etc.), which made up 16% of our education sails. We reached students from 12 school districts, compared to 23 school districts in 2019, our last full sailing season.

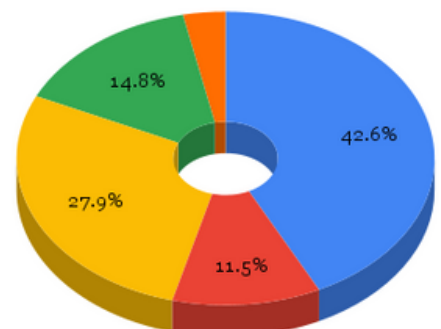
Program capacity increased dramatically this sailing season as social distancing requirements eased. We were pleased to allow up to 40 passengers onboard this year, compared to 25 in 2021.

The crew frequently set up outreach tables at docks up and down the river, distributing program brochures and Hudson River fish advisory pamphlets.

We are anticipating a full mid-April-October sailing season in 2023, which will increase capacity for all types of sails, particularly education sails.

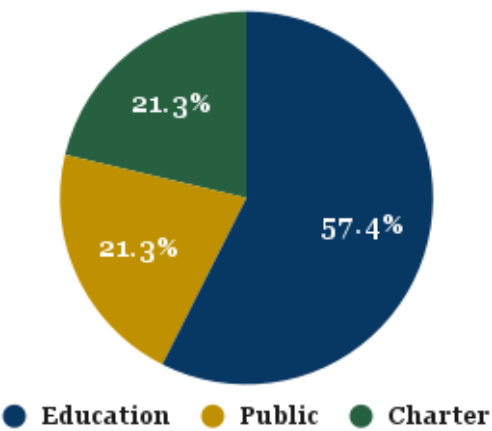
2022 Sail Group Distribution

- Title I
- Public
- Private
- Non Profit
- Scouts

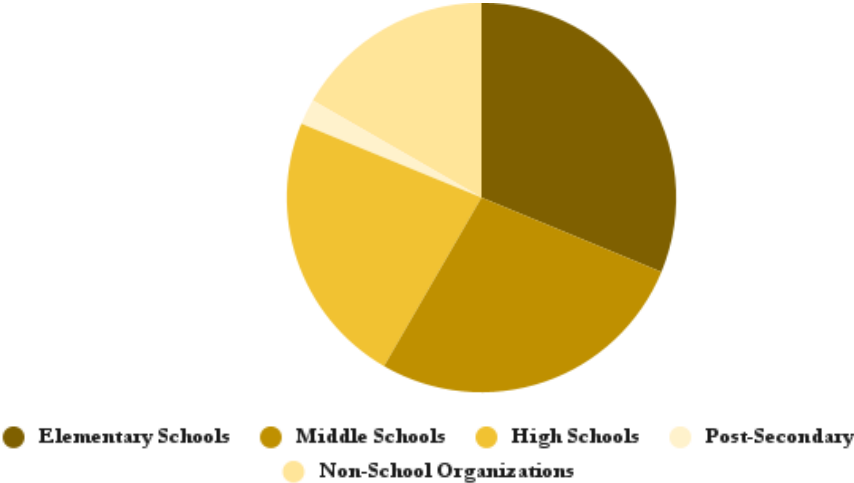


The Sailing Classroom Program Statistics

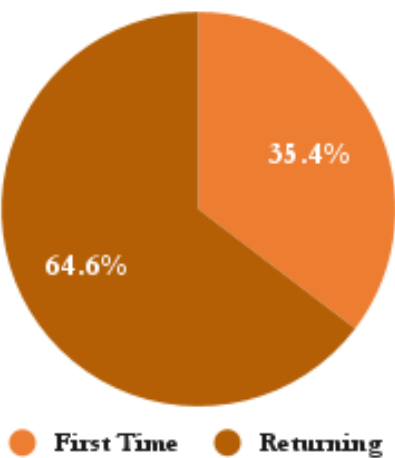
Sail Program Distribution



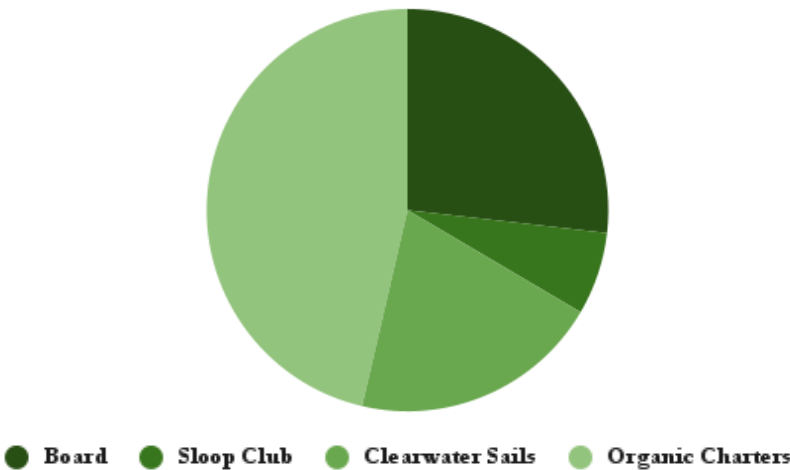
Sailing Classroom Distribution



Sail Program Retention



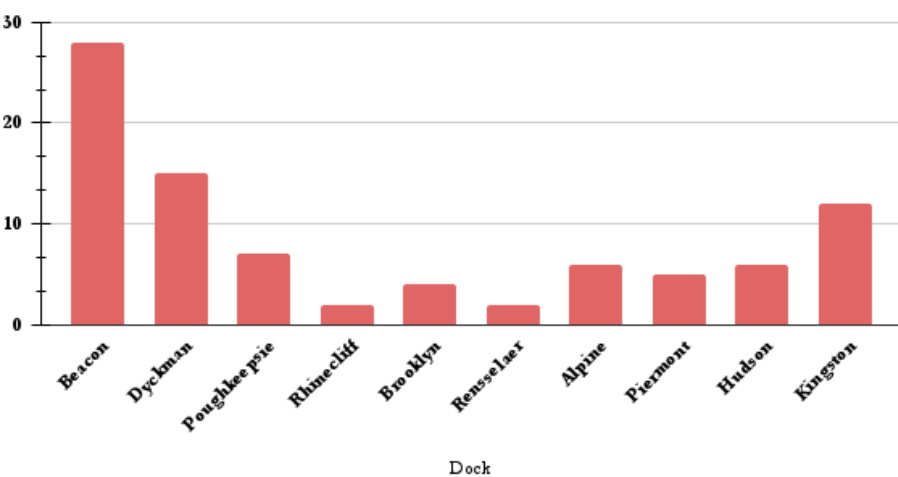
Charter Distribution



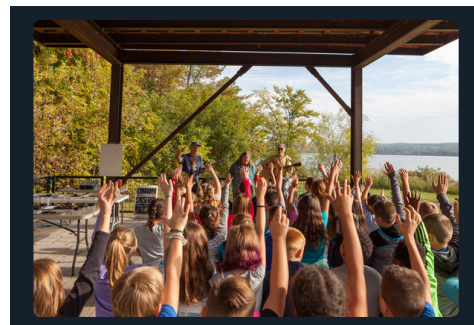
Volunteer Retention



Dock Use Distribution



TIDELINE DISCOVERY



The Tideline Program is a hands-on, land-based field trip conducted by Clearwater in local riverfront parks. This interdisciplinary program allows younger students to embrace the many educational opportunities offered by the Hudson River. Students and teachers are challenged to discover their unique place in the river's ecosystem.

"The activities were so wonderful and the students learned so much. You and your colleagues did an amazing job bringing everything down to a first grade level so the kids could really understand the material."

—Ashley Hopper, Highland Elementary School

- **Total Program Participants:** 2,434
- **Total Tideline Programs:** 42
- **Total Onland Programs:** 22
- **Counties Served:** Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, Westchester, Columbia, NY (Manhattan), Bergen NJ
- **Total Revenue:** \$34,125

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Clearwater's Youth Empowerment Programs are no-cost adventures on the Hudson for high school age students. These multi-day programs connect youth to the Hudson River as they become immersed in sail training aboard the historic sloop *Clearwater* and a wide range of academic (STEAM) activities.

The first Clearwater Youth Empowerment Program was Young Women at the Helm in 2001. The program was designed to encourage young women from the Hudson Valley without regular access to the river to get engaged in sailing and to see themselves as active role models and environmental leaders. After a two year COVID hiatus, we were thrilled to bring back Young Women at the Helm.



"I think Young Women at the Helm was a lot of firsts. [Met] really good friends, that I'm still in touch with. [W]ent into college specifically interested in environmental economics. It lead me to where I am currently, running fossil fuel divestment at my university."

—Alanna Kaiser, alumna 2012

2022 participants ranged in age from 14 to 18, and hailed from New York City, Westchester County, Dutchess County, and New Jersey. In this 2-day, 1-night long program, participants engaged in a wide range of physical and academic activities. Onboard, they engaged in sail training: deck skills, knot tying, coiling lines, and navigation. Participants also explored the Hudson River through a variety of lenses, including water quality, ecology, and Indigenous Peoples.

In the evening, the group learned to use the seine nets on the beach in Alpine and camped on shore in Palisades Interstate Park. They shared reflections on the day and asked the crew questions about Clearwater, sailing, college, career paths. And, of course, they sang together. The program was led by Outreach and Engagement Manager Amali Knobloch, First Mate Fredi Guevara-Prip, Captain Annika Savio, Program Director Ruthie Gold, and the entire crew of the *Clearwater*.

Community Events

Benefit Concert For Clearwater

Our Music & Celebration Committee called river lovers near and far to join us for a night at the Rosendale Theatre in support of our beloved Clearwater's education and advocacy programs! The magical evening featured the luminous harmonies of Jaeger & Reid, the superbly crafted arrangements of Betty & the Baby Boomers, and the hilariously mischievous work of Roger the Jester. Once again demonstrating the timeless power of song, the concert raised almost \$3,000 for the organization.

Pumpkin Sail

Clearwater reached over 500 people with our first Pumpkin Sail since 2012. Partnering with *Apollonia* for five dockside events (at Hudson, Beacon, Piermont, Brooklyn, Dyckman) featuring free pumpkin-themed activities, deck tours, music and refreshments. The launch event took place with a fish fry hosted by the Hudson Sloop Club, allowing a tasty way for Clearwater to discuss the Fish Consumption Advisory. *Apollonia* wind-shipped pumpkins down the river and Clearwater provided community based activities – our two organizations playing to our respective strengths.

Waterfront Wednesdays

At Henry Hudson Waterfront Park in Hudson, weekly Waterfront Wednesdays highlight both the park and the estuary with activities for the whole family. 2022 was Clearwater's second year participating. Sam Merrett and Nick Zachos are the primary dock managers for Hudson. Sam (*Apollonia*) and Nick (Hudson Sloop Club) are community oriented individuals whose organizations share Clearwater's values. Their investment in the City of Hudson has extended to Sailing Classroom programs with local youth in previous years.





Danskammer Permit Denial

Clearwater applauded the Orange County Supreme Court's June 8th, 2022 decision to affirm the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC's) authority to deny Danskammer's air permit because it is inconsistent with the NY State Climate Act and views it as a major victory for the Stop Danskammer Coalition and climate advocates across the state. Danskammer Energy has further appealed the decision.

In coming months, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) presiding over the DEC's permitting process will issue a decision on two important issues for the upcoming evidentiary hearings: which parties will be allowed to participate, and which issues will be litigated. Once the ALJ issues this decision, the DEC and the NYS Siting Board will set a schedule for joint evidentiary hearings that will lead to a final determination on the siting certificate and air permit Danskammer needs in order to build and operate its proposed fracked gas plant. As part of the effort to insure its passage, Clearwater organized a flotilla emphasizing the importance of a drinkable, swimmable, fishable Hudson River.

Indian Point Decommissioning

In February 2023, Holtec informed the Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight

Board (created in 2020) of plans to release up to one million gallons of treated, but still highly radioactive water into the Hudson River as soon as August of this year. In April, Holtec accelerated their timeline for discharging up to 45,000 gallons from the Unit 2 fuel pool now occurring as early as May 4, reversing course after significant public outcry. NYS Senator Harckham and Assemblymember Levenberg introduced legislation (S.5181/A.5338) to prohibit the discharge of any radiological agent into the waters of the state. Clearwater is calling for urgent action to pass this bill.

Solar Mapping

In addition to preventing projects that will be harmful to the Hudson River, Clearwater works to actively support the transition to a renewable energy economy by facilitating the Mid-Hudson Regional Energy Working Group. In partnership with New Yorkers for Clean Power and Scenic Hudson, Clearwater offered four 5-week trainings to more than 100 representatives from 50+ municipalities to ensure wise siting of solar and other renewables in their communities.

PCBs

The Hudson River remains the largest Superfund site in the country, largely due to General Electric dumping polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) into the Hudson River between 1947 and 1977. In 2022, EPA announced a legal agreement that directs GE to fund a study of contamination throughout the Hudson. In May 2023, EPA will release its Third Five Year Review (FYR) reviewing fish, water and sediment data collected between 2017 and 2021. In a parallel process, federal and state trustee agencies are conducting a natural resource damage

assessment (NRDA) investigating whether fish in areas highly contaminated with PCBs show more indicators of injury than fish from reference areas that are less contaminated with PCBs.

Environmental Bond Act

One of the most important environmental actions in 2022 was the passage of New York's \$4.2 billion Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act, which will fund a \$4.2 billion investment towards conservation and restoration across New York State. Funding includes climate change mitigation: more than \$1 billion for flood reduction, fixing dams and culverts for aquatic life; \$650 million for water quality improvement through wastewater and stormwater upgrades; \$650 million to preserve parks, open space and farmland; up to \$1.5 billion for green infrastructure and renewable energy projects to fight climate change; and advancing environmental justice -dictating that 35% of funds must be spent in communities disproportionately affected by climate change and other environmental risks.

Take Action! NY/NJ Watershed Protection Act

Clearwater celebrated passage of Congressman Paul Tonko's bill HR.4677 in the House of Representatives in July 2022.

HR.4677 would authorize the appropriation of \$25 million annually over the 2022-2027 period for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to provide grants for restoration and habitat protection within the New York-New Jersey Watershed and to coordinate those activities. The bill would open opportunities for financing local restoration projects, bolstering shorelines to increase climate resilience, protecting valuable wetlands,

improving the quality and safety of our water, ensuring environmental justice for priority communities, and facilitating access to our majestic river. The Senate version, S.3484, sponsored by Sen. Schumer (NY), Sen. Gillibrand (NY), and Sen. Cory Booker (NJ) now needs our support!

Take Action! Round Goby- Invasive Species

Timely action is needed to proactively stop further introduction of invasive species into the Hudson River through the Erie Canal by separating the Hudson River, Great Lakes and Lake Champlain's watersheds.

Call Gov. Hochul and request she act to stop further migration of new invasive species into the Hudson River through the Erie Canal (518) 474-8390.



How did COVID impact our community?

Students are still coping with the results of the pandemic and evidence of racial injustice, reminding all of us of our reliance on equitable access to the outdoors. Today, strained school budgets and the ongoing availability crisis of bus drivers for transportation still impact our ability to fill program slots. (*See Appendix A for the impact of COVID-19 on Program Revenue*).

How has Clearwater used this knowledge to inform programmatic impact?

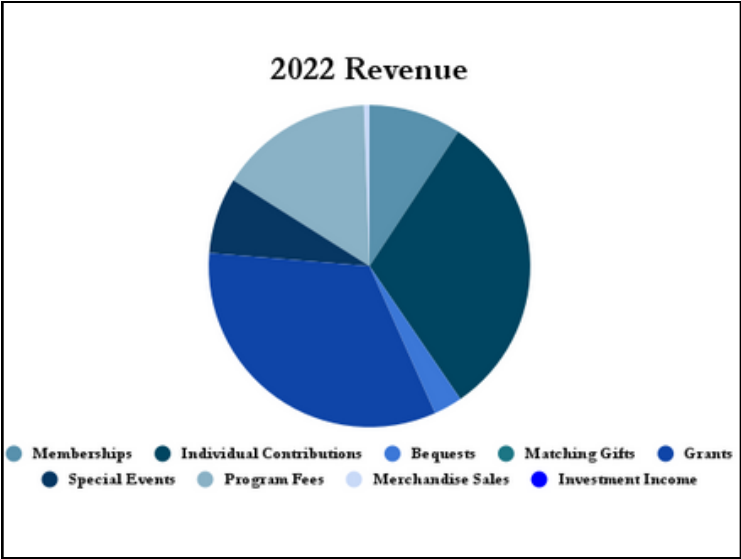
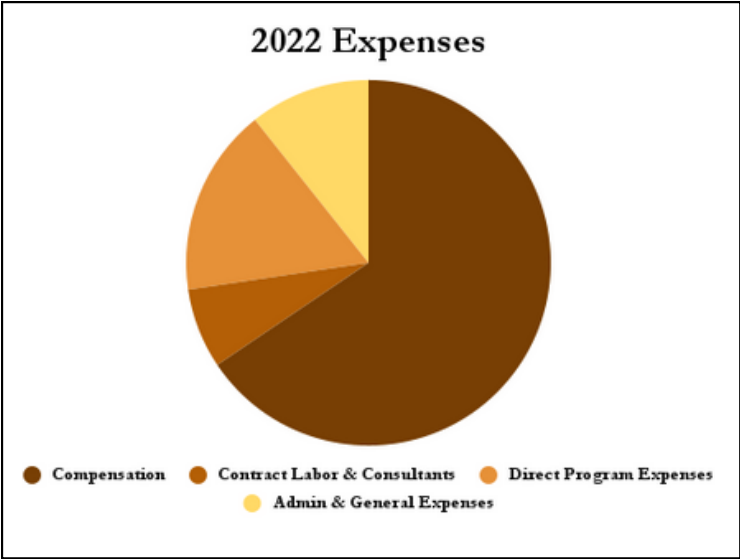
Clearwater's programs are uniquely equipped to meet the needs of today's students and educators. Clearwater facilitates authentic learning that is culturally connected and sustaining. We create a student-centered learning environment that promotes belonging, safety, inclusion, and anti-segregation.

Clearwater's place-based, hands-on education programs are aligned with NYS Education Department learning standards.

A Clearwater program will reinforce, enhance, and elevate classroom instruction, and create lifelong connections with our region's living environment.



Financials



Due to shortened sailing season to complete our 2021-2022 winter overhaul project and interruptions driven by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, 2022 revenue did not meet expenses.

Board of Directors

Officers

Steve Stanne
Samantha Hicks
Rosemary Thomas
Neil Gordon

At Large

Mitzi Elkes
Arthur Jones
Henry Neale

In Memoriam

Thomasina Winslow
Allen Gutkin

Directors

Capt. Sarah Armour
Peter Capek
Joan Gaylord
Scott Greathead
Gareth Hougham
Aaron Mair
Jennifer McMillan
Jeremy Rainer
Daniel Riesel
Larry Rothbart
Donna Stein
Sarah Underhill
Greg Williams

Staff and Crew

Executive Director

David Toman

Marketing & Development

Meg Mayo, *Director*
Ann Mellor, *Membership Manager*
Amber Stewart, *Communications Coordinator*

Programs

Ruthie Gold, *Director*
Capt. Rory Kane, *Sloop Captain*
Amali Knobloch, *Outreach & Engagement Manager*
Eli Schloss, *Tideline Director*
Elmina David, *Onboard Program Coordinator*
Chloe Grey Smith, *Onboard Program Coordinator*

Environmental Action

Manna Jo Greene, *Director*

Operations

Erin Macchiaroli, *Director*
Hal Cohen, *IT Director*
Caitlin Zinsley, *Administrative Sloop Liaison*
Anne Crowley, *Administrative Associate*
Gigi Rapetti, *Administrative Associate*

Pro-Crew

Fredi Guevara-Prip, *First Mate*
James Parker, *Bosun/ Second Mate*
Lily Kiser Taylor, *Engineer*
Smash Flores, *Sloop Cook*
Avi Zinder, *Deckhand*

Relief Captains

Capt. Sarah Armour
Capt. John Davenport
Capt. JC Parker
Capt. Nick Rogers

Farewell Captain Nick Rogers

Nick first came to Clearwater as a volunteer and soon rose through the ranks. He became Captain in 2008 and, except for a few years, has been with Clearwater ever since. Nick taught 13,000 navigation stations, oversaw multiple major maintenance projects, and spread his love of peanut butter and cheese sandwiches. After all of these years, Nick is moving on to exciting new projects that will keep the river close. We thank Nick for his many years of dedication to the Clearwater community, his excellence in teaching, and his knack for making people feel welcome. Countless crew, volunteers, and passengers have fond Clearwater memories with Captain Nick at the helm.

Captains

Following the official retirement of Captain Nick Rogers, Captain Rory Kane completed his first sailing season as Captain of the sloop *Clearwater*.

Onboard Program Coordinators

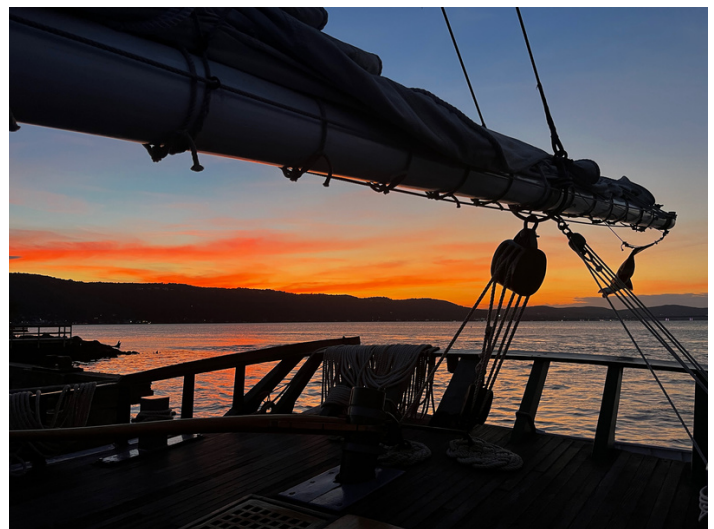
Fredi Guevara-Prip and Elmina David were Clearwater's Onboard Program Coordinators. They began on a part-time basis in February 2022 to begin coordinating our Onboard Volunteer Program, outreach for Youth Empowerment Programs, and preparation for the sailing season. Amali Knobloch assisted in late summer, Fredi took on mate duties, and Chloe Smith was hired for the fall season with Ella Agoos training.

Both Chloe and Ella have returned in 2023 as full time on board program coordinators!

Crew

Clearwater (like much of the Tall Ship industry) was unable to find a first mate, which meant that we had to pull Fredi Guevara-Prip from their role as Onboard Program Coordinator, leaving us short of an OPC. The crew as a whole was very green, as we continued to build back from the pandemic. These staffing challenges required Program Director Ruthie Gold and Outreach and Engagement Manager Amali Knobloch to spend much more time onboard leading and facilitating programs (including Young Women at the Helm) and training staff.

Despite these challenges, we began rebuilding the pipeline of engagement in earnest this year, with at least 4 crew members expressing interest in returning for the 2023 sailing season. This is a testament to the strength of the Programs Department team and onboard leadership of the Captain, First Mate, and Onboard Program Coordinator, as well as the quality of Clearwater's onboard programs.



Appendix

A: Five Year Program Capacity and Revenue Analysis

Year	Edu ¹	Revenue	Partic #	Public	Revenue	Pass #	Charter	Revenue	Pass #	Total
2017 ²	219	\$ 255,645	8,541	33	\$ 36,460	1,287	38	\$ 57,000	1,482	\$ 349,105
2018 ³	233	\$ 274,699	6,321	44	\$ 66,624	2,312	32	\$ 49,800	1,600	\$ 391,123
2019	222	\$ 242,746	9,460	25	\$ 31,493	1,250	21	\$ 19,047	1,050	\$ 293,286
2020 ⁴	48	\$ 12,000	2,490	0	\$ 0	0	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 12,000
2021	46	\$ 37,558	1,150	22	\$ 26,381	550	10	\$ 9,801	250	\$ 73,740
2022 ⁵	121	\$ 112,068	4,045	20	\$ 34,127	626	18	\$ 42,333	458	\$ 188,528

1. This column includes all education programs: the Sailing Classroom and all Tideline programs.
2. 2017 had a delayed start, forgoing the typical spring sailing season on *Clearwater*, to complete the 2nd phase of the sloop overhaul (midships project). *Mystic Whaler* operated on a normal schedule.
3. 2018 was the last year we ran programs on the *Mystic Whaler* as a secondary program vessel to *Clearwater*.
4. In 2020, all our education programs were virtual for a nominal fee.
5. 2022 had a delayed start, forgoing the typical spring sailing season to complete the final phase of the sloop overhaul.

B: Young Women at the Helm 2022 Participant Feedback

“I liked starting off the nametags and welcome circle by asking about pronouns, and I also felt glad that there are queer identifying people among the crew. All the activities were really fun, especially sailing and catching fish, which you don’t often get to see, so it’s really cool to see how many fish are just a few feet from the shore.”

-Charlotte, 17

“I learned how to work hard as a team in this program. I liked how we all pulled our weight, whether that be hauling the mainsail, setting up tents, or doing deck wash. I loved sitting peacefully on the deck admiring the Palisades, the city, and the water. Everyone on the crew took their job seriously, were very helpful, and were genuinely nice people to talk to.”

-Olive, 17

“At first I was nervous because I didn't know anyone, but I had such a great time. Everyone here is so different, which meant that every conversation was different and I got to learn a lot more. I never thought I would feel so in touch with myself and with the earth that I do now. I’ve definitely grown as a person and had so much fun trying new things. I’m going to miss this. 100% would do again, maybe as a volunteer because I want to spend more time here. I wish it wouldn’t end so soon.”

-Samantha, 17

C: Teachers' Feedback

"As an environmental educator who has been in the industry for many years, I am often skeptical of anything that is called "The Premier" anything, but in this case, I will say that the educators and crew of The Clearwater lived up to the moniker."

- Carol, Program Leader, Tenafly, NJ

"Sailing aboard Clearwater is the most memorable experience for students of all ages. There's nothing as magical as steering the ship, catching live fish, and viewing the world from the water. Every teacher should bring their students on Clearwater."

- Maija, Education Specialist, Staatsburg, NY

"I was so impressed with the crews gentle and engaging way of presenting information. The students were fascinated during the trip."

-Sunny, Teacher, Chestnut Ridge, NY

"My students raved about the trip. It really made an impression on them that lasted far beyond the three hours onboard."

- Cheryl, Teacher, NY, NY

"The program was engaging, educational, and interactive. The crew was amazing knowledgeable, and professional. I highly recommend this trip."

- Sandy, Teacher, Tuxedo Park, NY

"One of the best programs I've had students attend. The educators and content were engaging. Everyone was enthusiastic and my high school students would like to return."

- Chris, Teacher, Newburgh, NY

"Our students spend too little time in the classroom and need authentic, challenging experiences to grow. Sailing on the Clearwater teaches students many lessons, both explicitly and implicitly. They learn from the crew a passion for the river, a love of music, and what is possible to do as an adult. They learn from the boat, the river, and the weather, what it feels like to be out in the elements, working together as a community. This is the type of experience that can show students what paths are possible for their futures, as well as our shared future!"

-Laura, Teacher, Red Hook, NY

Thank You

Thank you to all who supported us over the fiscal year from December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2022. Without the support of Clearwater members and donors, our work this year increasing accessibility to waterfront towns and empowering communities to safeguard the Hudson River would not have been possible. Together, we will continue to make positive change in the Hudson Valley for generations to come.



*Fostering generations
of environmental leaders.*

Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Inc.
724 Wolcott Avenue,
Beacon, NY 12508
P: 845-265-8080
office@clearwater.org | www.clearwater.org