



**WILDERNESS  
INQUIRY**

# *2024* **14th Annual Great River Race**



***Race to Close the Opportunity Gap - September 14, 2024***



# Why We Race ...

BECAUSE EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HEAD START. Funds raised through your sponsorship support engaging kids in the outdoors through Wilderness Inquiry's Canoemobile program. Canoemobile works with more than 25,000 youth annually through our "floating classroom" to help improve school performance, cultivate a stewardship ethic, and create pathways to higher education and career opportunities in the outdoors.



## A Race for Our Future

- Our goal to raise \$175,000 will directly address the opportunity gap through place-based education
- Together we will build awareness for programs that engage students in the outdoors
- Join us to inspire stewardship while introducing opportunities in the outdoor industry

## A Race for You

- Build a team of paddlers and race the Mighty Mississippi in a 24-foot canoe
- Join a community to support equitable outdoor access
- Highlight your organization's dedication to positive educational outcomes for youth

## Race Day Itinerary

(Routes/times subject to change)

<b>DATE</b>	SEPTEMBER 14, 2024
<b>LOCATION</b>	HIDDEN FALLS REGIONAL PARK
<b>SCHEDULE</b>	8:45 am Registration
	9:00 am Kick-off ceremony
	9:30 am Instructions & safety
	10:00 am Race begins
	11:45 am Race concludes
	12:00 pm Awards & lunch
	12:30 pm Event concludes



Students learn science by testing water quality



## Past Sponsors

Aggregate Industries  
Ann Bancroft Foundation  
API Group  
Arctic Wolf  
Associated Bank  
Cargill  
CarVal Investors  
Craig-Hallum LLC  
Dorsey & Whitney LLP  
Dunn Bros Coffee

Faegre Drinker  
Fjällräven  
Friends of the Lock & Dam  
FRWD @ Bain & Company  
Huntington National Bank  
Lakewinds Food Co-op  
LimnoTech  
Lubrication Technologies  
Medtronic  
Minnesota Women's Press

Mississippi Park Connection  
Mortenson  
Nature Valley  
Neil DuBois Memorial Fund  
Neuger  
Pelican Leadership Academy  
Polaris Industries  
Race Judicata  
Ryan Companies  
Sawmill

Shakopee Mdewakanton  
Sioux Community  
Thomson Reuters  
Travelers  
UCare  
University of Minnesota  
VAA  
Whitney Ulvestad  
Endowment Fund  
Winnebago Industries



# Sponsor the Race Today!



Dear Friends,

The longterm 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.



**Tim Walz**  
Governor  
State of Minnesota



**Melvin Carter**  
Mayor  
City of Saint Paul



**Jacob Frey**  
Mayor  
City of Minneapolis

## Sponsorship Information

Your support raises funds and awareness to close the opportunity gap.

Contact Julie Edmiston  
[julie@wildernessinquiry.org](mailto:julie@wildernessinquiry.org)  
612-676-9424

[greatriverrace.org](http://greatriverrace.org)



# Get Involved ...



## Join the Fun!

- Sponsor a boat in the Great River Race
- Join as a volunteer on race day: wrangle boats, help with set-up, and more
- Donate to provide scholarships for youth participants
- Join a Canoemobile event as a volunteer
- [Follow us](#) on social media - [#MNGreatRiverRace](#)
- Spread the word about the Race to Close the Opportunity Gap!



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Wilderness Inquiry's mission is to connect people of all ages, backgrounds, identities, and abilities through shared outdoor adventures so that everyone can equitably experience the benefits of time spent in nature. Through our core values of paddling together, finding a way, seeking the exceptional, and nurturing inclusion, we strive to ensure that the outdoors is a place where everyone belongs.