



Wings

Partnerships, Programs and Our Online Presence
www.therbf.org

Spreading its Wings, The Roberta Bondar Foundation reaches hundreds of young women in Kenya through partnerships in education.



The Bondar Challenge Rolls Across Canada



The Roberta Bondar Foundation continued its work with the Canadian Camping Association in a successful cross Canada program in summer camps for youth. Over 4000 campers in 32 camps were eligible to participate in the 2013 Summer Camp

Bondar Challenge. This year, an online password-protected Toolkit available to all trainers, facilitated education and ensured quality and consistency in the delivery of the Bondar Challenge.

Nikon Canada partnered with The Roberta Bondar Foundation and became the Official Sponsor of the Camera Loan Program for the Summer Camp Bondar Challenge ~ The Nikon Camera Loan Program.



Innovative materials that aided leaders in delivering the Challenge included field notecards. These GEM cards recognized different levels of skill and experience and were submitted along with the photograph.

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Highlights 2013 – 2014

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| Spring | Leadership workshop in photographic art and environmental science, Royal Ontario Museum |
| Summer | 2013 Sumer Camp Bondar Challenge rolls across Canada with the CCA |
| Fall | Wilderness Bondar Challenge on the ground at Wood Buffalo NP; in the field at Dinosaur PP |
| Winter | Travelling Exhibition moves to the TELUS Spark The New Science Centre, Calgary; Essar People's Choice Award |
| Africa | Workshop, Lectures with HAT and Starehe Girls' Centre plus fieldwork in Kenya for biome exhibits |

"I was thrilled with the program and very pleased with the increased awareness for the natural surroundings at camp. The enthusiasm was contagious." Jeff Brown, Director/Owner, Camp Otterdale, Ontario



Inspiring Hope Through Light and Insight

Reaching across generations, cultures and interests to promote respect and love for the natural world

Through the last half of 2013, The RBF and its host gallery, the Art Gallery of Algoma, finalized arrangements to bring over 50 large framed fine art photographs on the theme of Biodiversity and Extinction to the TELUS Spark The New Science Centre in Calgary, Alberta (January 24 to June 15, 2014).

The Travelling Exhibition and Learning Experience or TELE, features images from the Foundation's Biome collection and Student Winners of the Bondar Challenge. For Calgary, this included Biomes of: Forest, Wetlands, Desert, Grasslands (incl. Savannah Grasslands), Lakes & Rivers, Coastal & Marine and Ice Across Biomes.

The Learning Experience comprised photo-specific labels; above-image labels fusing art and science; two 46-inch LCD screens with continuous looped videos of Desert, Wetlands and Savannah Grasslands; a Learning Guide and the book, *The Arid Edge of Earth*. Dr. Bondar also worked with the Science Centre's volunteers to give them insight on the back story behind the photographs~ the Art and the Science.

Courtesy of THE WALRUS, readers of the January/February 2014 issue were treated to a full-page invitation to the TELE in Calgary.



A new Learning Guide showcasing the Masai Mara, Kenya and Wood Buffalo NP of Canada

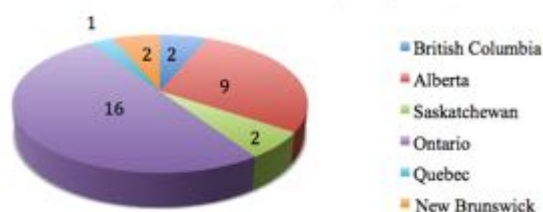


To see the world in a new way ~ to reframe what we see

(Continued from Page 1)

In 2013 the Bondar Challenge took place in a wilderness setting, two elementary schools and summer camps across Canada. From 32 camps, there were 2751 entries.

Province Distribution of Participating Camps



Every entry was reviewed and judged according to both image and GEM card information. In the case of the Diamond level, participants had the option of also submitting a brief Artist's Statement. Certificates of participation were given to each student as well as a prize package for the winners of each GEM card level. The winning photographs were framed for the winners and will also be displayed in the Travelling Exhibition and Learning Experience at various venues.

"About 80 campers participated and the benefits were incredible! We found campers asking questions about the small wonders that they were seeing through the camera lens. The resources included with the program are first class and the staff found it a relatively easy program to teach." Patti Thom, Camp Tanamakoon, Ontario

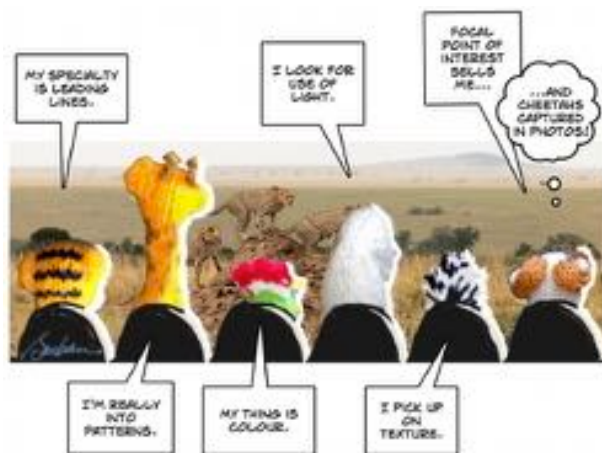
"Learning with the campers. This challenge taught me new things about cameras, nature and how to engage our campers. It really was a worth while experience." Shannon Bray, Camp Christopher, Saskatchewan

"The campers seemed to make use of many different techniques to get the shot they wanted, even if it meant getting their hands dirty." Adam Cheeseman, Camp Ta-Wa-Si, New Brunswick



Elizabeth Sarjeant (Lizzie), the Bondar Challenge Coordinator, directed the second annual Wilderness Bondar Challenge at Sweetgrass Station in Wood Buffalo National Park of

Canada in Fall 2013. Travelling by bus, boat and foot, Lizzie hiked for several hours along a forest trail with Grade 7 & 8 students from Ft. Smith for an intensive three days of culture and photography.



The RBF is committed to continuous improvement of its programs and here is what the directors of participating 2013 summer camps reported back to us.

Campers had fun participating in the Challenge	100%	From yes to the best
Campers were able to look more closely at and take new interest in their natural surroundings	96%	From yes to absolutely
Campers gained an appreciation of their natural environment	92%	From yes to absolutely
Campers would like to participate in the Challenge again	98%	Yes

The inaugural Essar People's Choice Award

Thirty images were selected from over 2,700 entries from participating camps across Canada. A blue ribbon panel of judges from Essar Steel Algoma adjudicated the 2014 Essar People's Choice Award. After much thoughtful deliberation, the judges chose "Flower and Bee", submitted by Michaela Parks, Centauri Summer Arts Camp, Ontario. We thank the judges for their commitment to excellence.



Leadership workshop in photographic art and environmental science

As a feature of Earth Month, the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) invited The RBF to deliver a workshop as part of an eco-mentor program for teachers, leaders and senior students. Four of the directors of The RBF worked with a sold-out group of eager participants in a room that the Foundation had turned into an outdoor studio. Plants, samples of mammal and avian taxidermy, snakeskin and rocks were among the many specimens to photograph against blue and desert brown backdrops.

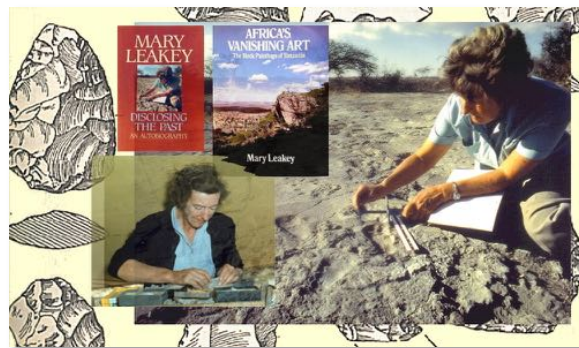


The "Lines in Art" exercise tested a participant's ability to recognize lines in large scale images from The RBF's Biome collection that were reproduced life-size as canvas/vinyl banners. Several students photographed segments of these banners to capture specific artistic elements and to create their own image from within the larger image.

The Roberta Bondar Foundation Team

We work in the field and in the office to give all ages a great experience in viewing the world differently. Our Board of Directors is active in hands-on activities, awareness building and fund raising. Their energy and commitment are commendable, especially given the calls on their time, expertise and resources.

Continuing with our daily blog on our browser-safe website, we are building on the hundreds of short articles with updates and graphics. Over the last 11 months our *On This Day* (OTD) feature has included over 100 pictures [including historical drawings, maps and journal entries], over 4 dozen original illustrations,



85 videos, and 40 links to sound files, webcams, interactive games, downloads [posters, brochures, DIY models and board-games], and virtual galleries, exhibitions and tours.

Through *Real World Content Advantage* and the creative talent of Barbara Bondar, OTD has become daily reading for educators and the general public. She worked with The RBF to design bookmarks and the new Learning Guide –



Biomes of Kenya and Wood Buffalo NP of Canada.

Social Media and The RBF



For the past year, Lizzie Sarjeant has worked with us in the capacity of Coordinator of the Bondar Challenge. A graduate of the Information and Technology Program at Western University, Lizzie ran one of the first Summer Camp Bondar Challenges in 2012, and brought her experience with campers to help The RBF continue to update materials and to provide support to trainers delivering programs. Lizzie developed The RBF Facebook page and has represented The RBF at the annual Ontario Camping Association Conference. Currently in Australia, Lizzie, during her own personal odyssey, will be piloting a Bondar Challenge in the Outback. Thank you, Lizzie.



This year, Carling Watson is our new Coordinator of Programs. A graduate majoring in Media and the Public Interest from Western University, she is completing a Graduate Certificate in Public

Administration. Carling worked as a volunteer for The RBF, and with Lizzie, produced a new training video for the Summer Camp Bondar Challenge. Amongst her many tasks, she will manage the Facebook page, coordinate the various Bondar Challenges and other programs of The RBF.

The Roberta Bondar Foundation welcomes the opportunity to deliver a meaningful message of hope and inspiration to as many people as possible.



The RBF's Facebook page is updated frequently to share news-worthy items related to The Foundation's programs, activities and interests. By posting images and links, we are able to draw many to our website. In addition, we post images to Instagram.

And you will be able to follow us on Twitter.



"Catch more of me" ~ reading between the lines

In support of the ROM's Biodiversity program and to promote our OTD daily blog postings, The RBF produced Cheetah bookmarks. This life-size strip from one of the framed images in the Foundation's Savannah Grasslands Biome collection has on the reverse, a teaser for the OTD.

In addition, for TELUS Spark The New Science Centre, we included information about the Travelling Exhibition and Learning Experience (TELE). We have watched students try to find the full image on the wall of the TELE, fitting the strip on the front of the bookmark to the actual life-size head of the Cheetah.



*Bonnie Patterson,
Board Chair of
The RBF, with
twin mentors*



Partnership with Hoopers Africa Trust

Every two years, Hoopers Africa Trust pays a site visit to the students whom they sponsor for secondary school education in Kenya, specifically in the Masai Mara. The government of Kenya pays only for elementary education. For girls, this means a bleak future without sponsorship. Many are married for a dowry while others are exposed to old customs that result in physical mutilation.

In selecting students, both need and intellectual capacity are considered. Thus, young girls must stay inspired to continue their education, either by seeing what is possible or by becoming interested or passionate about a field of study. Unfortunately, exposure to what is possible now or what might be in the future for them is severely limited.

Recognizing the richness and unique cultural and environmental history of Kenya and the Masai Mara in particular, The Roberta

Bondar Foundation delivers a passionate message and practical content to both students and their teachers during the site visits by

Hoopers Africa Trust. In 2013 we visited them at the Marariander School in the Mara.



This year for the students, we developed and supplied a Learning Guide featuring Wood Buffalo National Park of Canada and the Masai Mara, Kenya. In this way, we elevated their eyes and encouraged their engagement in the natural world by giving them a sense of pride of and ownership in their natural heritage, while increasing their knowledge of the planet on which they live.



Partnership with Starehe Girls' Centre & School Nairobi, Kenya

Starehe Girls' Centre is a national boarding school that offers secondary education to purely financially disadvantaged girls from all provinces of Kenya. The school was founded in January 2005 as a charitable institution. It caters for all the girls' academic, emotional and social needs.

Canada's High Commissioner in Kenya, David Angell, approached The Roberta Bondar Foundation to visit and speak to the students about the importance of education and the role of the natural environment in all of our lives.



The school has two computers and after looking at The Roberta Bondar Foundation website, the students asked if they could do the Bondar Challenge. Working with the Director, Mrs. Margaret Wanjohi, we have plans underway to deliver cameras and materials for a Kenya-specific Bondar Challenge in 2014-2015.

We were honored to plant a tree in the grounds of the school to commemorate our visit.



Our Mission

We address the growing nature deficit in society, cultivating in all ages a sense of awe, respect and appreciation for other life forms that share our planet. We explore the relationship between life and the planet through the fusion of art and science.

Our Vision

To transform individuals and community members through programs that build a culture of curiosity, creativity and critical thinking about the natural environment.

Our Values

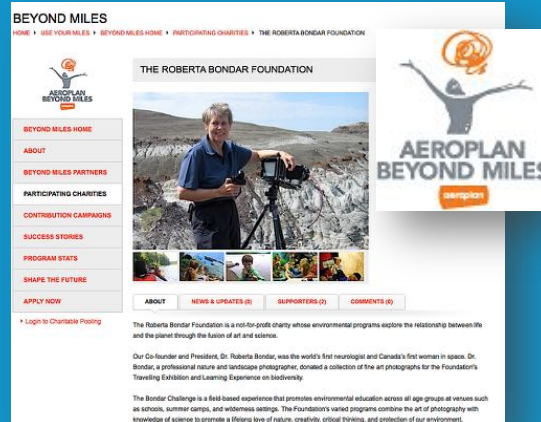
Curiosity ~ Seeking to learn, asking questions and unleashing creativity build enquiring minds and an informed society.

Engagement ~ in the natural environment closes the nature deficit from increased urbanization; makes the natural environment part of one's personal heritage.

Creative Expression ~ to frame and reframe the world around us in a way that we have not seen, expanding our understanding of the environment and our interrelationship with its elements.

Collaboration ~ Building partnerships with like-minded organizations and communities strengthens our common goals.

Respect ~ for other life forms through knowledge and understanding.



Through Aeroplan's Charitable Pooling Program, you can now donate your Aeroplan Miles to support The Roberta Bondar Foundation. The miles will be used for travel of trainers and supplies across Canada and to international destinations for program delivery of the Bondar Challenge and the Travelling Exhibition and Learning Experience. You *can* make a difference. <http://beyondmiles.aeroplan.com/eng/charity/569>
Thank you for your donation.

**Thank you to our supporters ~ our donors
our sponsors, our partners, our friends**

Our Founding Donors



Our Program Partners



Art Gallery of Algoma



STAREHE GIRLS' CENTRE & SCHOOL



The
ROBERTA BONDAR
FOUNDATION™

Engaging the Environment Through Photography

Learner-friendly tools help build a better understanding of environmental science and thus the health of our planet

The population at large has an important role to play in influencing change that will contribute to the preservation of our natural environment. A growing portion of humanity is estranged from nature. We need to cultivate a sense of awe, respect and appreciation for the other life forms that share our crowded and imperiled planet, forging an emotional bond between nature and us. Acquired knowledge of a subject has a heavy influence on subsequent attitudes and behaviours.

Photography anchors the learning experiences that The Roberta Bondar Foundation provides. It can be a gateway to understanding, inquisitiveness and life-long learning. Photography speaks the universal language of images, which is understood by people of every culture. It is a powerful medium for transmitting ideas, bringing the reality of unfamiliar perception closer to our emotional core. Through the fusion of art and science, learning becomes a creative and stimulating means to broadening our understanding of the environment, and our inter-relationship with the elements of nature and other life that exists on planet Earth. We also become better attuned to the intricate ecosystems that adapt to changing environments.

Make a Difference with Your Gift

Your support of The Roberta Bondar Foundation is an investment in the future well being of all forms of life on planet Earth. Your contribution will go directly toward the development of learner-friendly approaches to understanding the environment.

To donate: www.therbf.org

The Roberta Bondar Foundation is a Registered Charity No. 80743 8759 RR0001