



Magic Highlights, 2023

Thank you! Empowered by a long standing and growing circle of friends and supporters who see the rising costs and shrinking benefits of business as usual, Magic is becoming better able to communicate the essential role of valuescience as a foundation for successful adaptation. In 2023, we completed the first year of our planned seven-year semicentennial transformation. To lead with ideas, being, and action we're evolving all three. In the highlights that follow, you'll see evidence of both continuity and pivotal change. We look forward to enjoying your partnership in these during 2024 and beyond.

Ideas - Valuescience



With the presentation of valuescience in April at the Third Annual Stanford Existential Risks Conference, we marked its inaugural in a peer-reviewed symposium and its published proceedings. Throughout the year, we conducted a series of tests quizzing more than two hundred individuals—many from populations historically underrepresented in science—with the purpose of learning how to motivate and inform people to adopt a scientist identity and to science more



consciously, competently, and consistently in a full spectrum of life circumstances. In addition, we increased by an order of magnitude—from dozens to hundreds of learners—valuescience teaching using Magic residential communities as a venue and case study. With three hundred hours of online and in-person instruction, we honed content and delivery to reach diverse audiences more effectively. Though we've long

been rewarded by former students, residents, clients, volunteers, and others who renew contact with gratitude for how they've benefitted from having learned valuescience through Magic, the tempo and intensity of reconnection accelerated sharply. Among the results have been new collaborations and increased financial support including the largest single gift from an individual in Magic's history, to support valuescience development and dissemination at this precarious time when radical alternatives to conventional wisdom appear so necessary to common good.



Being - Community



Magic now sponsors two residential service learning communities. In December, we celebrated the first anniversary of Magic Mammoth Lakes. During the year, 33 residents from 11 foreign countries and 10 US States joined 160 overnight guests and 500 other visitors to sustain these experiments in, and demonstrations of valuescience-based living.



Action - Stewarding, Cooperating, Promoting Health

Stewarding: We're wrapping up years of habitat stewardship on Stanford lands: 40+ regenerating native oaks and other trees and shrubs, and three creating research plots of native sticky monkeyflower for the Fukami Lab. We've established thousands of native trees and hundreds of native understory plants, and



engaged and informed tens of thousands of volunteers and recreational open space users. With grant support from the

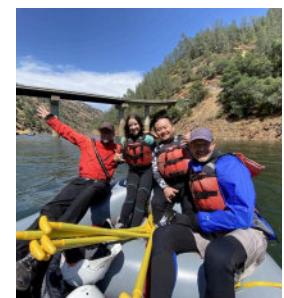
California Initiative for Biodiversity and gifts from dozens of individual donors we grew Silicon Valley Barcode of Life. We've now collected and DNA sequenced 70,000+ arthropod specimens resulting in addition of ~600(!) unique records to the 13 million record open-access Barcode of Life Data Systems (BOLD) library.



Cooperating: On 300+ days, we collected a total of 17 tons of surplus from 24 California Avenue Farmers' Market vendors and Country Sun Natural Foods, processed it, delivered most of it to local charities (Community Services Agency and 1,000 Grains) serving hungry clients, and used the remainder at Magic. We provided live music for the annual autumn Evergreen Park Neighborhood Association picnic and summer block party, and we partnered with local (e.g., Hidden Villa), regional (e.g., Tuolumne River Trust), and national (e.g., American Bird Conservancy) organizations to advocate ecology-based public policy.



Promoting health: We guided clients and Magic residents in 150+ hours of life-planning, resistance training, yoga, swimming, running, hiking, and indoor rowing, and delivered 250+ hours of counsel about healthful sleep, dietary, meditation, and gratitude practices. We served as fiscal fiduciary for the Escondido Outings Club, which provided experience in wild nature for 160 people of all ages.



Thank you!

Thank you again for making Magic! May you flourish in every way, and may we together be successful in contributing to the evolution of adaptive human culture. We welcome your thoughts about how we at Magic may serve more effectively and how you and we can make common cause for common good.

