

Urban Forest Program
Youth Engagement
Recommendations

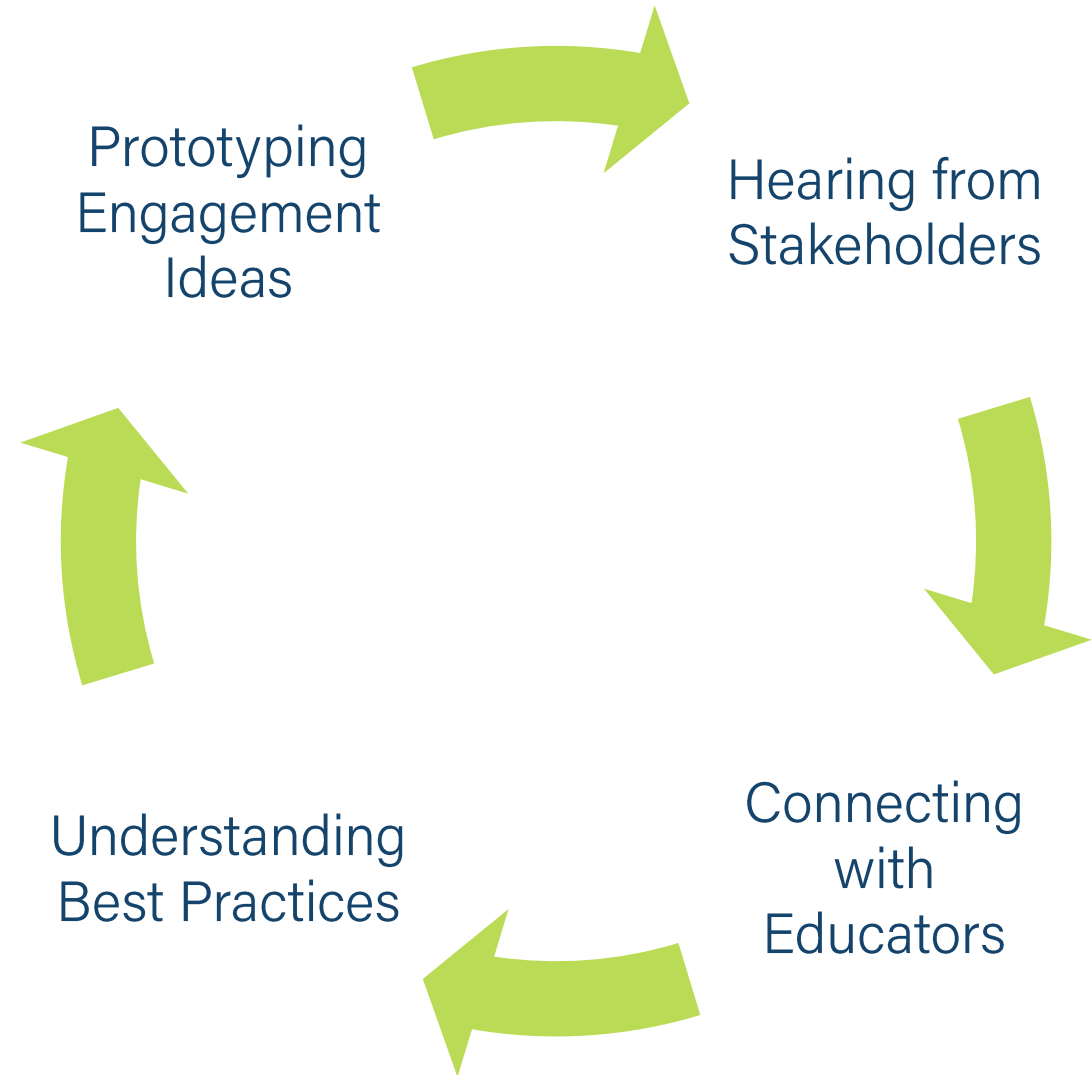


2018



A Year of Learning

Throughout 2018, the UFP sought to gain a sense of what was already happening in the field of nature-based youth education across the city, opportunities to deepen collective impact, and possible engagement models.



Examples of
Youth Engagement
from 2018





Running Nature-Based Workshops with Partners

- Ran workshops with:
 - Austin Nature & Science Center
 - local vacation bible school focused on environmentalism
 - Summer Playgrounds Program
 - the Elisabet Ney Museum
- Incorporated Project Learning Tree activities
- Combined arts and nature



Hosting Kid's Tree Climbs

- Three held in 2018:
 - J. Houston Elementary in Dove Springs neighborhood
 - 2018 Roots & Wings Festival
 - Mabel Davis District Park with Families in Nature
- Extremely well-received
- Continuing conversation with PARD on expansion



2018 Roots & Wings Festival

- A reimaging of Arbor Day and Monarch Appreciation Day
- Cross-departmental and cross-sector effort
- The UFP served as key organizer
- Over 1,000 attendees at main event
- Focus on families

Best Practices for **Program Development**

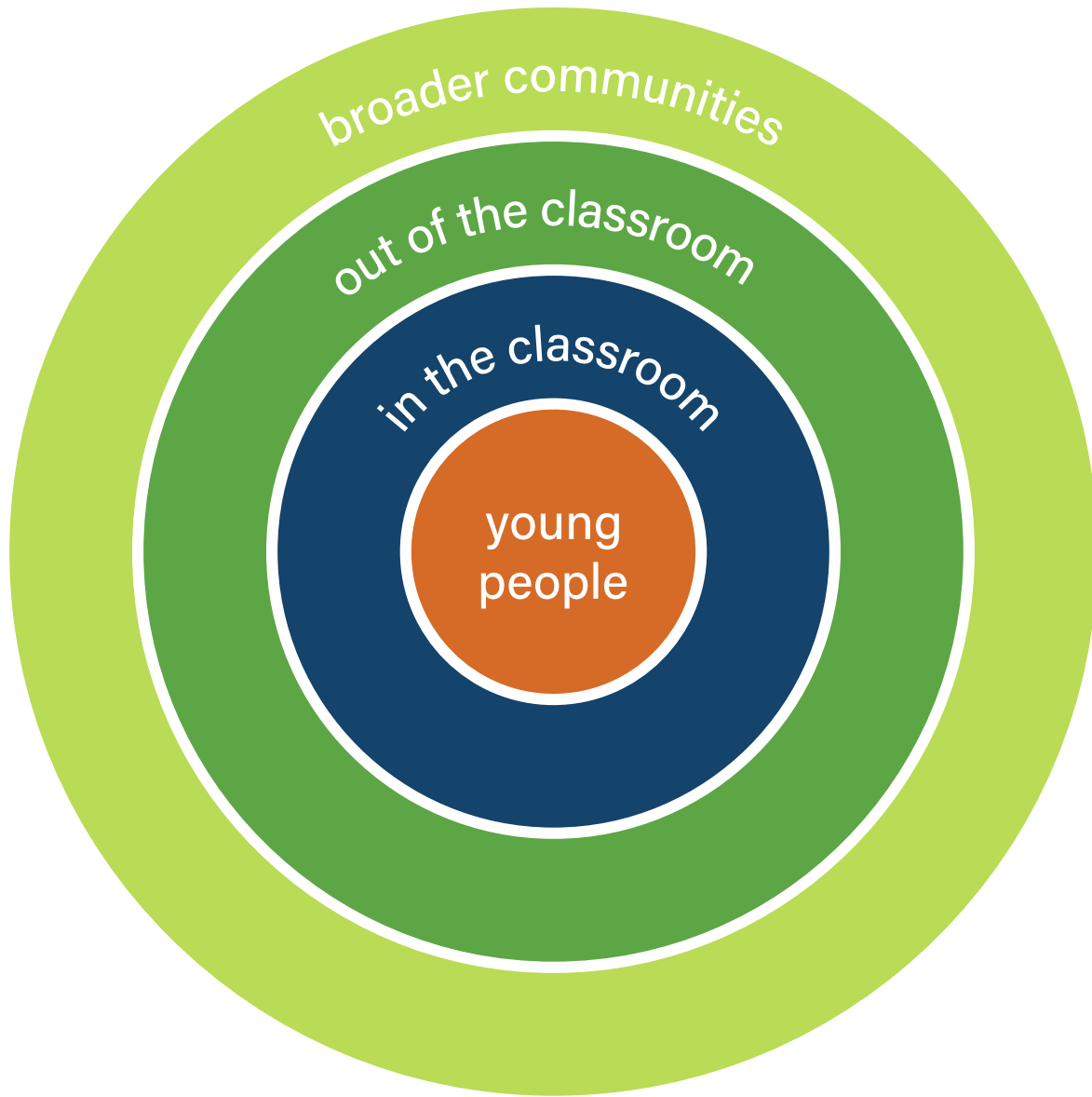


Best Practices for Program Development

- account for different approaches to environmental education as are appropriate for each developmental stage;
- incorporate education in, about, and for Austin's forest ecosystem;
- amplify services already offered and not create competing or duplicate offerings;
- assess potential programs through a nature- equity lens;
- bring youth voices and experiences to the center.

Youth Program **Recommendations**





Taking a Multilayered Approach Across Audiences

For greatest impact, we need to approach engagement as an opportunity to not only work with young people but also with the communities that serve them.



young
people

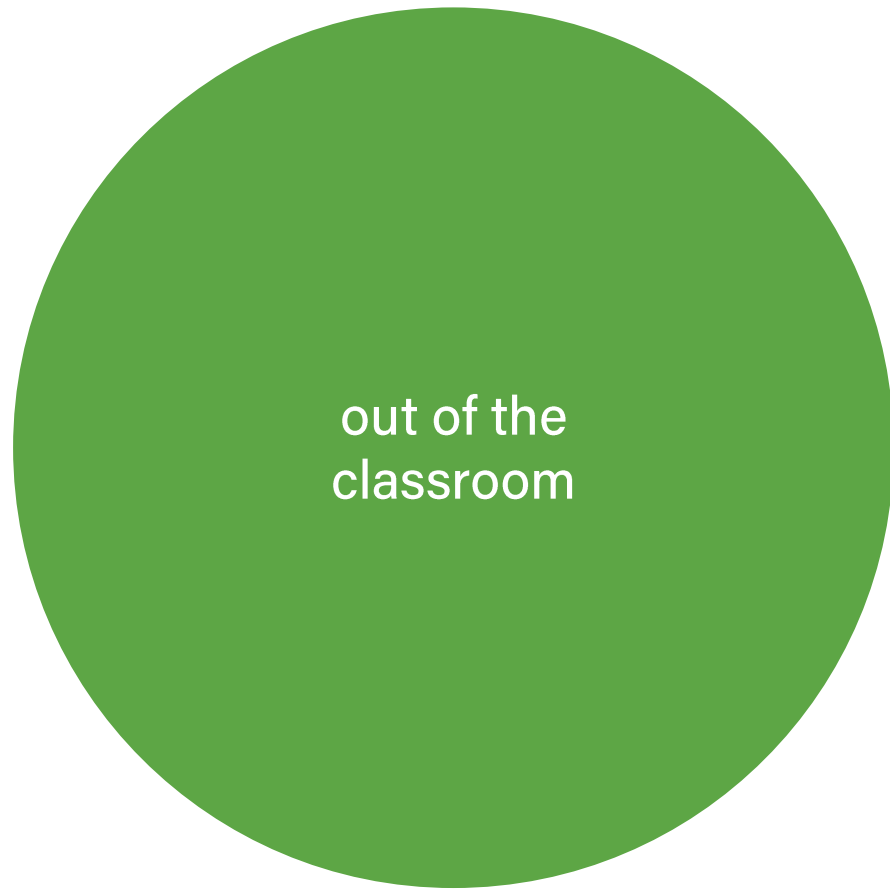
Focus Area One: Directly Facilitate Youth Program

Bring youth voices to the center
with education in, for, and about
the urban forest.



Focus Area Two: Provide Classroom Support Through Strategic Partnerships

Amplify existing services through fostering connections and encouraging grants.



out of the
classroom

Focus Area Three: Host Train-the-Trainer Experiences

Provide formal and informal educators with nature-based and youth-facilitation trainings.



broader
communities

Focus Area Four: Serve as an Idea Incubator and Connector

Create space, forge connections,
and provide resources for new
ideas to come to light.

