

INTERNATIONAL OWL CENTER

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Who do you contact if an owl lands on your ship 600 miles off the coast of Florida? Or if you need to figure out how to control rats without harming owls and you live in South Africa? Or if you live in England and are planning to make a film about owls and you need more information and contacts? These are all real questions the International Owl Center was asked in the past year, and we were able to help each person.

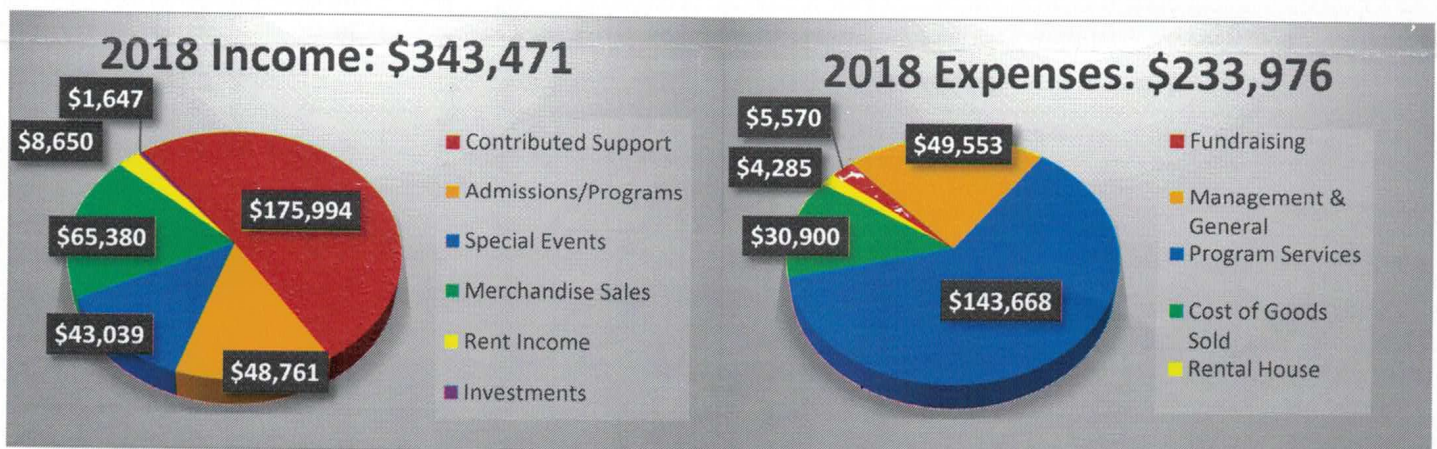
Everyone knows the International Owl Center presents owl education programs both on- and off-site, but we do much more than that. We also:

- Coordinate a network of several dozen volunteers to **rescue and transport injured raptors** to The Raptor Center
- Serve as a resource for **authors and filmmakers**
- Assist with **world owl conference** organization
- Publicly recognize people** around the world who are working to help owls
- Provide resources for other owl educators** to help them be more accurate and effective
- Conduct and publish **original research** and engage citizen scientists

At the conclusion of the 2017 World Owl Conference in Portugal, researchers identified a crucial first step: **educating more people about owl conservation**. We entrust our education mission to long-term paid staff and provide continuing education for them. We verify accuracy of our information in many ways: using our own direct experience with live owls in captivity and in the wild, examining dead specimens, discussions with field researchers, and checking published scientific literature.

Conservation begins with education. In 2018 we educated:

- 7,489 visitors to the International Owl Center
- 2,982 special program attendees
- 2,100 International Festival of Owls attendees
- 219,380 website visitors
- 788,220 Facebook post views



Enjoy the photos of what we accomplished in 2019 and what we plan to do in 2020 with your support. To enhance your impact, **our Board of Directors will personally give \$100 for every donation of \$100 or more** (matching dollars are limited.) Thank you very much to those of you who have already given this year or renewed your membership!

With your financial support in 2018 we:



Got a new owl ambassador.



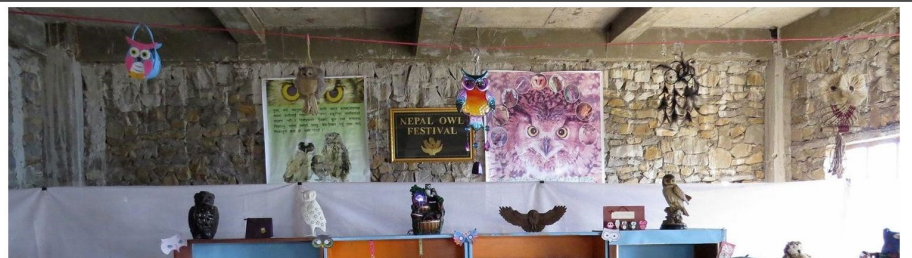
Developed a display about rodenticide alternatives.



Purchased new display cases.

Our website taught:

- 146,051 people why owls don't make good pets
- 4,679 people how to help an injured owl
- 2,884 people how to live an owl-friendly life



A scene from the Nepal Owl Festival (photo courtesy of Raju Acharya)

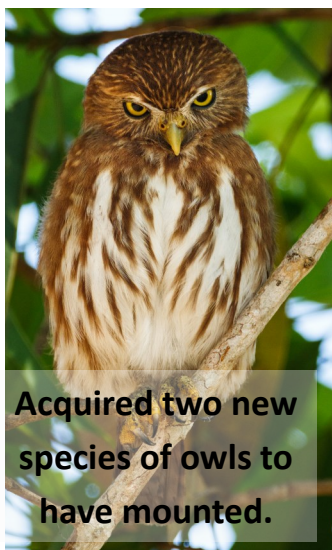
Owl Education Methods

When designing environmental education presentations, you should start by thinking about what you want to accomplish. What is the main point of your presentation? What do you want people to do or not do? Do you want people to change their attitudes or values about owls? Are there important points you want your audience to learn and remember?

A survey of 17 experienced owl educators working in 11 different countries generated the following list of key behaviors they were trying to encourage in their audiences to help owls:

- Leave dead trees standing (to provide nest holes and calling perches for owls)
- Plant native trees
- Protect habitat
- Use traps instead of poison to control rodents (to avoid poisoning owls)
- Take down soccer nets when not in use (owls get caught in them)
- Take down unused barbed wire (owls get caught in it)
- Use less paper (paper is made from trees, which is where most owls nest)

Started developing online resources for owl educators around the world.



Acquired two new species of owls to have mounted.

We educated over 12,000 visitors and program attendees about how to live an owl-friendly life.



Acquired another property for our building site.

With your financial support in 2019 we will:



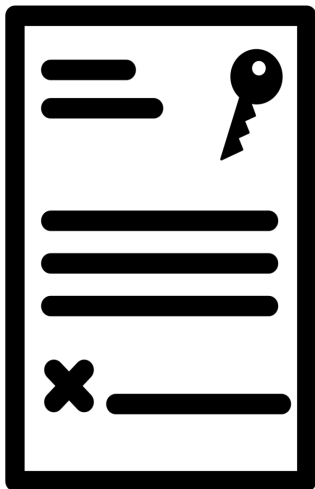
Keep our owls well-fed at a cost of up to \$485/month.



Continue to foster long-term staff for the best possible educational programs and owl care.



Have a dead tree carved into an owl bench.



Continue to acquire properties for our future building site.



Have new species of owl mounts prepared



Develop an online resource for ethical owl photography.