

Classroom

## Cayuga Lake Floating Classroom

## 2017-18 Capital Campaign

Please help us "Buy a Boat"

Below are our suggested giving levels:								
Bald Eagle	Lake Sturgeon	Lake Trout	Largemouth Bass	<b>Rainbow Smelt</b>	Plankton			
\$5,000 and above	\$4,999 - \$2,500	\$2,499 - \$1,000	\$999 - \$500	\$499 - \$250	\$249 - \$100			
Below are the premiums you can receive for your donation at each giving level:								
Name on permanent sponsorship plaque on the Floating Classroom vessel								
	Name on permanent donor plaque on the Floating Classroom vessel							
Logo on banner on the Floating Classroom vessel for 2018 season	Logo on banner on the Floating Classroom vessel for 2018 season	Logo on banner on the Floating Classroom vessel for 2018 season						
Name imprinted on Floating Classroom life jacket	Name imprinted on Floating Classroom life jacket	Name imprinted on Floating Classroom life jacket	Name imprinted on Floating Classroom life jacket					
8 tickets for donor recognition cruise in 2018 season	6 tickets for donor recognition cruise in 2018 season	4 tickets for donor recognition cruise in 2018 season	2 tickets for donor recognition cruise in 2018 season	1 ticket for donor recognition cruise in 2018 season				
Floating Classroom logoed polo shirt	Floating Classroom logoed polo shirt	Floating Classroom logoed polo shirt	Floating Classroom logoed T-shirt	Floating Classroom logoed T-shirt	Floating Classroom logoed T-shirt			
Floating Classroom logoed water bottle	Floating Classroom logoed water bottle	Floating Classroom logoed water bottle	Floating Classroom logoed water bottle	Floating Classroom logoed water bottle	Floating Classroom logoed water bottle			
Donor recognition on Floating Classroom website	Donor recognition on Floating Classroom website	Donor recognition on Floating Classroom website	Donor recognition on Floating Classroom website	Donor recognition on Floating Classroom website	Donor recognition on Floating Classroom website			

Thanks in advance for your support for the Cayuga Lake Floating Classroom

Learn more about these iconic species found in and around Cayuga Lake									
Bald Eagle	Lake Sturgeon	Lake Trout	Largemouth Bass	Rainbow Smelt	Plankton				
The population of <b>bald</b> <b>eagles</b> ( <i>Haliaeetus</i> <i>leucocephalus</i> ) has rebounded quite dramatically in New York State since they were nearly wiped out in the mid-70s. While the species is no longer listed as endangered at the federal level, the bald eagle is still listed as <b>threatened</b> in New York State. The bald eagles' preferred habitat is forest with tall trees for nesting with access to water. The bald eagle is an opportunistic feeder which subsists mainly on fish, which it swoops down and snatches from the water with its talons. It builds the largest nest of any North American bird, a number of which can be spotted in trees near the Cayuga Lake shoreline.	The lake sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens) is New York's largest freshwater fish. Mature adults average between 3-5 feet in length and 10-80 pounds in weight. Lake sturgeon is one of the longest-lived and slowest to mature freshwater fish species. Females do not reach sexual maturity until 14- 23 years and may live up to 80 years. Lake sturgeon has been on the state <b>threatened</b> species list for years due to overharvesting and dams blocking their spawning grounds. The NY DEC began restocking them in Cayuga Lake in 1995. It took nearly 20 years for the oldest fish to mature and prepare to spawn. Lake sturgeon are intimidating looking, but their jaws lack teeth and aim downward for bottom scavenging; they eat small items such as snails, clams, and mussels.	The lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush) is prized as a game fish. Lake trout are the largest of the char family; 15– to 40- pound fish are not uncommon. The average length is 24–36 inches. Populations of lake trout collapsed in the 1950s due to the combined effects of overfishing and sea lamprey predation. Commercial fishing for lake trout is no longer permitted and the effects of lamprey predation have been reduced. It is hoped that lake trout stocking programs currently underway will lead to restoration of self-sustaining lake trout populations. Lake trout are daytime feeders that feed almost exclusively on smaller fish once they grow mature. Younger lake trout feed on insects, crayfish, and worms dug out from the bottom.	The largemouth bass (Micropterus) is among the most popular game fish in North America. The largemouth is the largest of the black basses, reaching a maximum recorded overall length of 29 inches and a maximum weight of 25 pounds. The fish lives 16 years on average. In terms of its conservation status, largemouth bass is listed as of "least concern." Adult largemouth bass prefer to feed on small fish like perch, sunfish, and minnows. However, they are also known to eat crayfish, insects, frogs, and even small aquatic birds. A bass under two inches, known as a "fry," does not act as a predator but instead feeds on zooplankton and insect larvae.	The <b>rainbow smelt</b> (Osmerus mordax) were intentionally introduced into the Finger Lakes in 1917. Trout and other larger fish prey on smelt. When full grown, the rainbow smelt is between 7 and 9 inches long and weighs about 3 ounces. In terms of its conservation status, rainbow smelt is listed as of "least concern." Rainbow smelt larvae and juveniles feed upon zooplankton, particularly microscopic crustaceans. Adult smelt feed on small crustaceans, insects and small fish. Smelt in turn serve as a major prey for bass and a variety of bird species.	Plankton, the all- important foundation of the Cayuga Lake ecosystem, is composed of phytoplankton ("plants of the sea") and zooplankton, tiny animals found near the surface in aquatic environments. Zooplankton are usually weak swimmers and drift in water currents along with the phytoplankton. Phytoplankton and zooplankton are key components of limnetic ecosystems, and form the base of most aquatic food webs.				