

The Audacious Foundation's 2026 Connecting Children to Nature Retreat

AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:45-9:15 a.m.

Registration

Buffet of Healthy Breakfast Snacks

9:15-9:30 a.m.

Welcome

Catherine Brozowski
Executive Director, The Audacious Foundation

9:30-10:45 a.m.

The Science of Play

Mia Sundstrom
CEO, National Institute for Play

10:45-11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Opportunities for Collaboration & Advocacy

David Beard
Director of Policy & Government Affairs, Children & Nature Network

12:00 noon-1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00-2:00 p.m.

HOPE Panel

Moderator - Michelle Robertson, First 5 of Santa Barbara County
Diana Borjas, Santa Maria Valley YMCA
Dan Fontaine, Wilderness Youth Project
Rachael Steidl, YouthWell

2:00-3:15 p.m.

Playful Sessions

- Neurographic Art (Painting in the Vineyard) - Christi Belle
- Learn to Line Dance - Tin Le
- Pause, Breathe, Connect - Tracy Johansson
- Independent Journaling, Drawing, and/or Free Exploration

3:15-3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30-4:15 p.m.

Colleague Circles - Divide into Play Styles

Connect Through Guided Prompts

4:15-4:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Wine & Appetizers