



Quarterly Update

SPRING 2024

HELLO FRIENDS,

The period since our last update in January feels like it flashed by. This edition highlights what we worked on and accomplished from January through March 2024.

This was—and still is—a time of constant motion in all areas at Threshold: we are producing two upcoming seasons of the show, drafting marketing plans to help us reach new listeners, and submitting foundation grants to help support our work. Our production team is reviewing hours upon hours of tape, scripting the episodes, recording, getting feedback, editing, re-recording, and mixing in the music. They do this over and over and over again. It requires deep focus and being in a near-constant creative and generative state. As someone close to the work but outside the production team, I find it inspiring and impressive to see it all come together. I know you'll appreciate the thought and care put into every minute of every episode that lands in our feed.

This update is one way we give you a glimpse into what's been happening at Threshold, and I hope you enjoy it. As always, I'd love to hear from you if you have questions, suggestions, thoughts, or words of encouragement you'd like to share. [Send me a note here.](#)

With gratitude,



DENEEN WISKE

Executive Director, Auricle Productions

All images used throughout our spring quarterly donor update are from the Smithsonian Collection (CC0)

COVER PAGE

"Elk and Buffalo Grazing among Prairie Flowers"
Artist: George Catlin
Gift of Mrs. Joseph Harrison, Jr.

THIS PAGE

"Mt. Fox and Mt. Dawson from Asulka Pass, Selkirk Mountains"
Photographer: Unknown
Gift of Mitchell and Nancy Steir

Season Sound Design

**Original
music is an
essential
part of
every
season of
Threshold**

The sound of the next two seasons of Threshold is taking shape. Making music for a podcast differs considerably from writing music for a performance or album. Music written for documentary audio must add to and complement the story without distracting or competing with the host or subjects' voices.

Our producer Jay is currently in conversations with musicians she met on her first reporting trip back in July 2023 to find the right sound for her season. For Amy's season, we're working with Todd Sickafoose, who you may be familiar with from [Season 4: Time to 1.5](#). Todd was a key collaborator on Season 4, creating compositions and sound elements that added rich layers and emotion to the narrative. We can't wait to hear what he crafts for the next season of Threshold!



"California Spring Landscape"

Artist: Elmer Wachtel

Bequest of Mrs. James S. Harlan (Adeline M. Noble Collection)

MORE ABOUT TODD SICKAFOOSE

Todd Sickafoose is a Tony & Grammy Award-winning composer, producer, orchestrator, bandleader and double bassist. He arranged and orchestrated the hit Broadway show *Hadestown* and has performed and recorded with countless esteemed musicians, including Ani DiFranco, who he's worked with since 2004. Amy and Todd first met in 2007 when they collaborated on a children's album called [Ask the Planet](#) in partnership with Biomimicry Institute.

You can hear Todd's compositions throughout [Season 4: Time to 1.5](#), or you can stream the soundtrack in full at toddsickafoose.com.



EVENT RECAP

Stories in the Wild

We're grateful to everyone who registered for our virtual event, "Stories in the Wild," held on March 13. Amy shared the show's origin story, took us into her production studio, and answered your questions about what makes a story a 'Threshold story.' Plus, there was trivia!

If you could not attend or would like to revisit the event, [you can find a recording of the full hour here.](#)

We received great questions from our audience but didn't have time to answer all of them. You can read our full Q&A with Amy and Erika on [The Campfire](#), the content home for Threshold Base Camp, our community of monthly donors.

”

FROM EVENT ATTENDEES

Keep up the good work, please! **We are all depending on enough good people to tell better stories, and you are doing well**—please continue!

I was impressed with everyone. Warm, intelligent, highly competent. Caring. Doing truly great work.

"Utah Lake"
Photographer:
Unknown
Gift of Mitchell
and Nancy Steir

New for Base Campers

We're closing in on a year since setting up Base Camp, our way of giving back to our community of monthly supporters. Occasionally, we review the community benefits based on your feedback and what's on the horizon here at Threshold. Below are changes coming May 2024.

SPECIALS

You love hearing from Team Threshold, and we're thrilled to give you insight into what goes on behind the scenes of the show. Monthly donors will continue to receive monthly updates, including voice notes from our team, a look at how we make the show, and thoughts about our place in the natural world. You'll find all of this at [The Campfire](#). All donors will receive our quarterly update, and as we get closer to releasing new seasons of the show, you'll get a first look at what we've been cooking!

MERCH

We're now offering monthly donors a 15% discount on all Threshold merchandise! Base Campers will also get early access to our merch store when new designs drop, in addition to a discount on every order. Look forward to a store promo code in your inbox in May.

YOU HAVE OUR EAR

We love hearing from you! We had fun experimenting with Slack as a way to communicate with Threshold listeners and Base Campers, but you let us know that you prefer to hear from us via email so we'll be retiring the Slack experiment in May. We'll always be available at connect@thresholdpodcast.org to answer your questions, receive feedback, or hear your transformative experiences in the natural world.

AND THERE'S MORE TO COME!

We had so much fun at our seventh-anniversary event that we can't wait to map out more opportunities to connect with Base Campers. Occasionally, we'll offer exclusive content, incentives, and new ways to engage with our team—let us know what you enjoy, and maybe it'll become a permanent part of the Base Camp experience.

Thank you to all those who participated in our annual Base Camper survey and in one-on-one conversations with our team—we're so grateful for this thoughtful and generous listener community.

Note: While Base Camp's primary site is at thresholdpodcast.org/monthly-giving, all benefits continue to be available to campers who use Patreon for their monthly giving.

"Aurora Borealis"
Artist: Frederic Edwin Church
Gift of Eleanor Blodgett

BASE CAMP

THRESHOLD

By the numbers

1.32M+

All-time total downloads of Threshold

11K+

Number of podcast episode downloads between January and March 2024

60

Number of people who registered for our "Stories in the Wild" event held on March 13


121

Number of interviews conducted to date for upcoming seasons

19

Number of locations visited by Amy and Jay

All-time total downloads of Threshold were pulled April 1, 2024



"Pulpit Terraces from Above, Yellowstone National Park"

Photographer: Unknown
Gift of Mitchell and Nancy Steir

Read. Watch. Listen.

As part of our ongoing work to think, learn, and talk about diversity, equity, and inclusion, our team does a monthly read, watch, listen, accompanied by a group discussion. These pieces were particularly compelling, and we thought we'd share them.

ON RECONSTRUCTION

● **"Why is America Afraid of Black History?"**

The Atlantic

ON INCLUSION IN TRANSLATION

● **"Why podcast companies are investing in AI-generated podcast translations despite questionable quality"**

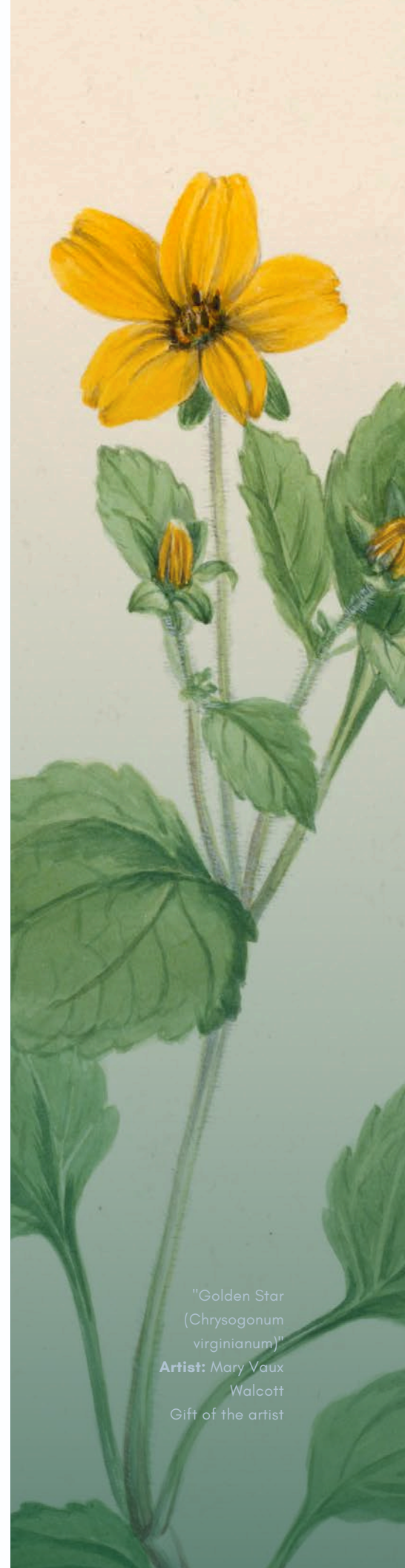
Digiday

● **"Why translators should be named on book covers"**

The Guardian

● **"English still rules the world, but that's not necessarily OK. Is it time to curb its power?"**

The Guardian



"Golden Star
(Chrysogonum
virginianum)"
Artist: Mary Vaux
Walcott
Gift of the artist

NEW RESOURCES

Education Hub

We released instructional materials for [Season 2: Cold Comfort](#) in February on our online [Educator Hub](#). Season 2 resources include a glossary, episode outlines, and additional reading.

Check back if you're interested in education materials for future seasons—we continuously update this resource.

VISIT
[THE HUB](#)
TODAY

"Arctic Regions"

Photographers: John L. Dunmore & George P. Critcherson

Museum Purchase from the Charles Isaacs Collection made possible in part by the Luisita L. and Franz H. Denghausen Endowment

Recognizing Our Donors

Thank you to these donors who contributed between March 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024

Anonymous (6)
Alaska Listener
Rebecca Abrams
Rebecca Akin
Ruby An
David Andrews
Rebecca Ashcraft
Paul Axinn
Matthew Barnard
Maria Beauchamp
Cale Bergschneider
Maxime Bineau
Mark Bir
Lisa Birnbaum
Luca Borghese
Philip Boshia
Dawn Bowen
Martha Boyd
Barbara Bradley
Elizabeth B. Bradley
Carol S. Breuch
Angelina Burnett
Julie Busch
A. Cameron
Karen Campbell
Hana Carey
John & Barbara Carey
Daniel & Virginia Carreno
Alexandre Champagne
Daphne Chang
Joe Chang
Robert N. Chester III
Peggy Christian
Erin Clark
Lila Cleminshaw & Keith Erickson
Eleanor Cleverly
Michael Connor
Jason Cons
Jock Conyngham & Emily Kodama
Ian Cook
Kara Cromwell & Cordel Anderson

Brian Crowley
Brittany Damico
Jonathan Davie
Ben Davis
Bill Davis
Louise & Joth Davis
Ian Descamps
Allison De Jong
Aaron Derry
Brian & Kathy Derry
Dave Deutsch
Joel Dippold
Justin Domingus
Nona Donahue
Christopher Downs
Anita Doyle
Michelle DuBarry
Brigette Durocher
Sam E.B.
Johnathan Eck
Shelley Eisenrich
Ray Ekness
Jacob & Christa Fagnant-Sperati
Taliah Farnsworth
Susan Feathers
Robert Fend
Catherine Filardi
Michael Fix
Stephen Fletcher
Susan Frett
Anna Foster
Ned Funnell
Steven Gary
Travis Gerjets
Steve Gisselman
Sandy Gmur
Susan Goedeken
Karan Goel
Mark Goldman
Eddie Gonzalez
Shamim Graff

Ali Gray
Kelley-Jean & David Griswold
Alicia T. Haidden
Stuart Harrington
Doug Haseltine
Peter Hellwig
Elliot Hendry
Rachel Hensler
Matt Herlihy
John Hermanson
Carolyn Home Humpal
Gretchen Hooker
Jacob Louis Hoover
Benjamin Howe
Melissa Hoyer
Sean Hoyt
Nancy Huntingford
Stuart Huston
Britt Ingalls
Diane Ives & Jon Lickerman
Karin Janik
Scott Johnson
Dr. Ken Jones
Tara Joslin
Sophie K.
Chelle Karcher
Leslie Katz
Kelle Kersten
Natalie Kiley-Bergen
Rachel Klein & Denny Trimble
Leslie Kline
Lori Knosalla
Matthew Knox
Jason Koontz
Michael Kretzler
Jessica Kulp
Caroline Kurtz
Debra Nickle Kurtz
Tracy L.
David LaLuzerne
Jess Landgraf

Sarah Lane
Ariel Lavery
Erika Leaf
Nancy Le Clair
Sarah Henry Lederman
Michael Litter
William Lonnerberg
Joe & Karen Loos
Joe Loviska
Robert Lowe & Michelle Berlin-Lowe
Jeffrey Lutsey
Emily Maitino
Antonia Malchik
Ashleigh Magill
Amy Martin
Will McTaggart
Rob McWilliams
Nancy Menning
Rod Michel
Karly Miller
Diane Minear
Frank Moore
Katherine Moore
John & Beth Morrison
Hanna Moser
Cory Mosiman
Christina Neff
Heidi Neff & Laura Pierce
Catherine Ness
Martha Newell
Curtis Newton
Theresa Nguyen
Robin & Chris Nielson-Cerquone
Scott Noort
Kelly O'Connell

Molly Ortwein
Kaia Pearson
John & Linda Pilsworth
Mason Pew
Rebecca Power
C. Prange
Christopher & Lisa Preston
Kristen Quigley
Jon Quinn
Amy Ragsdale & Peter Stark
Carole Rayl
Darrah Rogers
Jaxon Roller
Zoë Rom
Pat Rosenak
Christopher Paul Ruess
Vicky Ruklic
Mitch Rundle
Connie & Steve Running
Ben Rushakoff
Corina Scoggins
Nicole Sedgeley
Banjo Bev Sencenbaugh
Chris & Jeannie Siegler
David Simon
Caysi Simpson
Beth Skubis
David Smith
Linda Smith
Stephen Smith
Aidan SmithVail
Mary Soule & Richard V. Smythe
Ali Solomon
Noel Spain
Davina Stebbins

Kat Stephens
Daniel Stirratt
Rachel Strickler
Claudia Strijek
Tracy Sullivan
Greg Suter
Tim Swartz
Angela Swatek
Benjamin Sweetland
Olga Symeonoglou
Shawna Taets
Sheridan Traner
Herb Trix
Amy Tykeson & John Teller
Carolyn Underwood
Lori Van Buggenum
Emery Veilleux
Ami Vitale
Paul W.
Joel Watters
Ali White
Holly Wielkoszewski
Holly & Maya Wilkinson
Kate Williams
Peter Williams
Zachary Wilson
Deneen Wiske
Kathryn Witkowsky
Gaylen & Tony Wobeter
Jackie Worstell
Miles Yazzolino
Joe Zeimentz
Jennifer Zuber
Andrea Zumbrum

ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS

Bmejwen Fund of Door County Community Foundation
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Impact Charitable
Network for Good
O-Six Impact Partners

Park Foundation Inc.
Renaissance Charitable Foundation
Schwab Charitable
The Miami Foundation (NewsMatch)
The Wild Lens Collective

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Barbara Bradley, in honor of Michael Litter
Sheridan Traner, in honor of Annika Skye

BASE CAMP

Recognizing Our Monthly Supporters

Just as a base camp offers essential support for climbers ascending a mountain, our **Base Camp** members provide reliable foundational support for our work. Thank you for your monthly donation—it's vital to sustaining our operations.

Anonymous (4)	Michael Fix	Karly Miller
Rachel B. Abrams	Stephen Fletcher	Katherine Moore
Ruby An	Susan Frett	Hanna Moser
David Andrews	Travis Gerjets	Cory Mosiman
Rebecca Ashcraft	Steve Gisselman	Christina Neff
Paul Axinn	Karan Goel	Heidi Neff & Laura Pierce
Matthew Barnard	Shamim Graff	Curtis Newton
Maxime Bineau	Stuart Harrington	Theresa Nguyen
Lisa Birnbaum	Elliot Hendry	Molly Ortwein
Karen Campbell	Rachel Hensler	John Pilsworth
Robert N. Chester III	Matt Herlihy	Carole Rayl
Jason Cons	Carolin Home Humpal	Zoë Rom
Ian Cook	Jacob Louis Hoover	Mitch Rundle
Kara Cromwell	Melissa Hoyer	Corina Scoggins
Brian Crowley	Sean Hoyt	Caysi Simpson
Jonathan Davie	Nancy Huntingford	Beth Skubis
Allison De Jong	Britt Ingalls	Ali Solomon
Ian Descamps	Tara Joslin	Noel Spain
Joel Dippold	Emi Kodama	Rachel Strickler
Justin Domingus	Michael Kretzler	Ben Swetland
Nona Donahue	Nancy Le Clair	Carolyn Underwood
Christopher Downs	William Lonnberg	Joel Watters
Michelle DuBarry	Joe Loviska	Deneen Wiske
Ray Ekness	Robert Lowe	Jackie Worstell
Jacob & Christa Fagnant-Sperati	Antonia Malchik	Miles Yazzolino
Robert Fend	Amy Martin	Jennifer Zuber
Catherine Filardi	Rod Michel	

ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS

American Online Giving Foundation
Atmos Financial
Microsoft Corporate Matching Gift Program
Tazama! For the survival of Nature & Humanity



thresholdpodcast.org

Auricle Productions is the 501 (c)(3) nonprofit journalism organization that produces Threshold. Auricle Productions was founded by Amy Martin and is incorporated in Missoula, Montana.

Our tax ID is 84-2931585

MAILING ADDRESS

35 West 31st Street #10017, New York, NY 10001

EMAIL

connect@thresholdpodcast.org