Lakeside’s experiential education program offers transformative experiences and opportunities that shape students into engaged global citizens, ready to make a difference in the world.

This program is a defining feature of a Lakeside education, fostering global citizenship and active participation within local communities through its dynamic curriculum, partnerships, and trips. The program has three components: Global Service Learning, Service Learning, and the Outdoor Program. Each encourages students to challenge their assumptions, explore their values and character, and directly contribute to our partner organizations and communities.

**Global Service Learning (GSL)** integrates learning, service, and cultural immersion to enhance students’ understanding of and respect for diverse cultures and the shared global challenges we face. School-year and summer experiences enable students to deepen their understanding of the world and engage with it meaningfully. Past locations have included Costa Rica, Ecuador, French Polynesia, Fiji, Morocco, and Thailand.

**Service Learning** empowers students to learn from people and organizations dedicated to addressing regional issues. Through personal connections and community engagement, students cultivate empathy, compassion, and
understanding. Service is integrated into the Middle School curriculum, while Upper School students fulfill an 80-hour service requirement with vetted organizations.

The Outdoor Program takes students well beyond campus (and often out of their comfort zones), fostering relationships and honing skills that enrich their daily lives. Traveling by foot, rafts, canoes, kayaks, crampons, and skis, students explore some of the nation’s most stunning outdoor places in Washington, Oregon, Arizona, and Utah. All Middle School students go on grade-level trips, while Upper School students complete at least one trip as part of their graduation requirement.

“Standing at the rim of the canyon, you’re forced to acknowledge that the world is bigger than yourself. Anytime I feel unhappy, I can think about this moment and put my life back into perspective.”

— Nisseffo N., Class of 2024