Manifesto: Common Ground Educational Estate Trust

# Our Vision

To create and protect a living sanctuary where land, knowledge, and community flourish together. We believe that regenerative land stewardship, education, and biodiversity can thrive in harmony through the power of collective care and trust.

# The Ethics of Stewardship

We reject the commodification of land and treat it as a commons — a living system, not a transaction. The trees, the water, the soil, and the seeds are inherited gifts we are bound to steward. Our 6.2 acres carry the legacy of ancient trees, flowing streams, and over 170 years of human cultivation.

# Living Systems, Living Knowledge

From heritage apple wines to medicinal tinctures, from geothermal systems to botanical propagation — our estate is a learning ecosystem. We teach not just what grows, but how to grow wisely. We believe that practical education rooted in ecology is the foundation of a resilient future.

# Why a Trust, Not a Business

Our structure is a living trust association, not a for-profit entity. We limit financial return to sponsors at 17% of interest earned annually. This ensures reinvestment, protects legacy, and aligns all activity with long-term ecological and educational purpose.

# A Call to Common Ground

We are not selling products — we are offering a way of life. Join us as a sponsor, a member, a steward, or a learner. Walk the paths of the old walnut grove. Press apples into wine. Fold a gilded ginkgo envelope. Watch the ferns catch the morning light. Together, let’s make common ground sacred again.