



McMaster students enjoy a day on the Bruce Trail with Iroquoia Bruce Trail volunteers.

The Bruce Trail Your Way: McMaster University Project

Last fall, in a novel partnership with the McMaster Academic Sustainability Programs Office and the BTC, a group of eight senior students from mixed faculties participated in a community-based experiential learning project. The students determined the goal of the project was to raise awareness for the Bruce Trail, the BTC and the Niagara Escarpment with a younger demographic in Hamilton and on the McMaster campus.



Photo: Shannon Wu

Called *"The Bruce Trail Your Way"*, the project involved two parts: student hikes (2) led by Iroquoia Club hike leaders on October 17th ; and an afternoon lecture event on November 24th, at Gilmour Hall on the McMaster campus.

The hikes were unique as they were designed as "bus" hikes and attracted over 60 students. Leaving from campus, participants used student cards for a public bus ride to Ancaster and an access route to the Bruce Trail, and then hiked past Sherman Falls to Tiffany Falls, catch-

ing the bus back to campus. It was a wonderful way for students to access the Trail in their area, all at no cost.

The afternoon lecture event attracted over 60 students, faculty and community members. BTC Ecologists Adam Brylowski and Brian Popelier gave attendees a detailed slideshow on the ecology and unique habitats along the Escarpment, and BTC Executive Director Beth Gillespy gave an overview of the Bruce Trail and the Conservancy. Adventure Attic and SAIL were on site with booths

featuring new products and door prizes, and the Iroquoia Club had a display to provide additional information.

The two events resulted in raised awareness for the Bruce Trail on campus and encouraged students to participate and explore the Escarpment.

As part of the event there was a photo contest which asked McMaster students to submit their favorite images of the Bruce Trail. The two winning entries are presented here. •

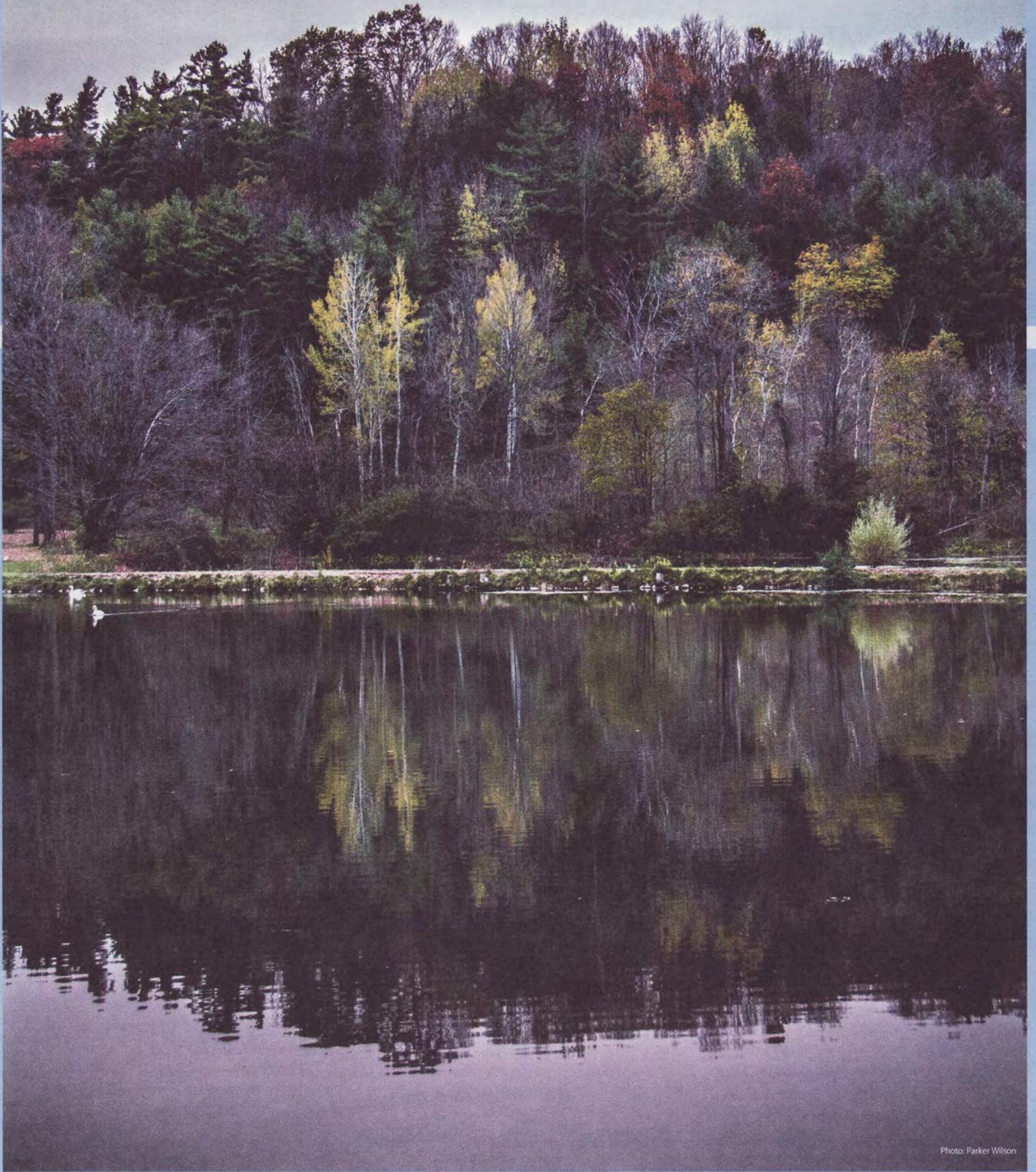


Photo: Parker Wilson