

Will Steger's Short Biography

Will Steger, a polar explorer, educator, and eyewitness to the effects of climate change, has accomplished the most significant polar expeditions in history. Steger led the first confirmed dogsled journey to the North Pole without re-supply in 1986, the 1,600-mile south-north traverse of Greenland in 1988 (the longest unsupported dogsled expedition in history), and led the first dogsled traverse of Antarctica in 1989–1990 (the historic seven-month, 3,741-mile International Trans-Antarctica Expedition).

Steger joined Amelia Earhart, Robert Peary, and Roald Amundsen in receiving the National Geographic Society's prestigious John Oliver La Gorce Medal for "Accomplishments in Geographic Exploration, in the Sciences, and Public Service to Advance International Understanding" in 1995. This was the first and only time the Society presented these three categories together. Steger holds a Bachelor of Science in geology and Master of Arts in education from the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota, in addition to five Honorary Doctorates.

Steger has continued his commitment to the environment and education through Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy, a Minneapolis based nonprofit he established in 2006 that empowers individuals and their communities to engage in solutions to climate change. Will Steger provides a credible and moral voice for climate action and the environmental and economic impacts of climate change based on his unique eyewitness account of a warming world through 50 years of Arctic exploration.