



P.O. Box 90
116 Sutton Place
Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525
skitaos.com

Taos Ski Valley Expands Children's Programs Through Uplift Youth Fund and Local Community Partnerships

Twirl offering immersive STEAM-focused experiences in new Taos Kids space this winter

TAOS SKI VALLEY, N.M. (December 17, 2025) – Taos Ski Valley continues to expand ways local children and teens can affordably learn to ski, grow their future work skills, and have fun at the resort; and this year, an exciting new initiative is underway. Through a new partnership with [Twirl](#), the local nonprofit play and discovery space, Taos Ski Valley will add to its youth-focused programs and initiatives by opening a new store on December 20th – Taos Kids – that will provide science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM)-based family engagement every month, along with fun toys, games, clothing, and treats.

“Improving access to the mountain is important, but we also focus on giving local youth opportunities to learn new skills that can help them explore future career opportunities, provide educational experiences, or explore their creativity,” said Dawn Boulware, Taos Ski Valley Vice President of Social and Environmental Responsibility. “Additionally, partnerships with local organizations build community ties and create stronger connections so everyone benefits.”

Twirl’s programs at Taos Kids will take place monthly throughout the winter ski season (Dec. 20th, Jan. 24th, Feb. 21st, Mar. 7th, and Mar. 17th) from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. In a ‘pop-up’ approach, play-based experiences rooted in STEAM education will be available for children ages 0-12 and their families.

Taos Kids’ partnership with Twirl is the latest addition to Taos Ski Valley’s many initiatives for local youth. Its [Uplift Youth Fund](#), launched in early 2025, provides more than \$100,000 annually to local organizations supporting youth-focused projects in four key areas: outdoor equity and youth programming, environmental stewardship, economic and workforce development, and connection to community.

“We encourage all local nonprofits and organizations serving Taos County’s youth to apply for funding,” continued Boulware.

Applications will open for the Winter funding cycle in Feb. 2026. Awards range from \$2500 - \$10,000 per cycle. Funding decisions are guided by a Community Advisory Circle. Sponsorship and in-kind giving opportunities are also available to community nonprofits and schools through the [Community Support Request Form](#).

The Uplift Youth Fund has enabled Taos Ski Valley to increase its financial support of youth programming, but the resort spearheads other initiatives as well. For example, last year, in partnership with Taos Municipal Schools, The Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Mayor Pasqual Maestas, and the LOR Foundation, the Slopes to Success program began, which provides free instruction, lift tickets, and equipment rentals to more than 120 local novice participants. Slopes to Success also provides first-time skiers and snowboarders with transportation, warm ski clothes, and lunch.

In 2021, the resort teamed with [Working on Wellness](#) to launch the Charles N. Romero Snowsports program, which helps provide dozens of Taos Pueblo youth with lessons and lift





P.O. Box 90
116 Sutton Place
Taos Ski Valley, NM 87525
skitaos.com

tickets, plus opportunities for teens to learn about being a ski instructor by becoming instructor assistants.

Taos Ski Valley also hosts a Junior Ski Patrol Day annually so kids can gain exposure to working as ski patrollers by shadowing and learning about key skills. This winter the Junior Ski Patrol Day will be Feb. 22nd and targeted exclusively to girls. Registration opens Jan. 25th. Interested girls can email Leah.Matamales@skitaos.com for more information, including details about available scholarships.

Taos Ski Valley is also participating in CEO Fridays with Taos High School and is providing paid internships for the participating students. The resort also provides free access to the [Taos Youth Hockey League](#) for practice two evenings a week on its ice rink.

To learn more about locals' programs, lessons, events, and other community initiatives, please visit <https://www.skitaos.com/taoscounty>. For more information about free weekly events throughout the winter, please visit <https://www.skitaos.com/events>.

