



**Ann Doyle President/CEO**

Quote: "People will try to tell you that all the great opportunities have been snapped up. In reality, the world changes every second, blowing new opportunities in all directions including yours." ... Ken Hakuta



I am happy to share that in 2023, Mid-Michigan Children's Museum (MMCM) saw its 2nd best year in the number of guests who visited. 2019 was the best year with 58,347 guests. 2023 ended the year with 54,947 guests! It was a busy year and we are all committed to trying to pass 2023 with the number of guests in 2024. Your 2024 visit to MMCM will be instrumental for the museum to achieve this goal.

So many wonderful things are happening at MMCM. Last month I wrote about the gift of a completely funded new HVAC system and that we were 85% funded for a new roof. The new HVAC is currently being installed and will be done around mid-February.

A notification came in on 1/30/24 that MMCM is one of several benefactors of an estate. The money that we will be receiving will cover the last 15% of the roof with some money left over for a small upgrade project. The new roof installation is to begin in April if the weather is cooperative.

Dr. Lou Constan and his wife, Karen, are sponsoring an upgrade to Art Mart. Without spoiling "what" the upgrade is, I can tell you that it is different, fun, and uses the imagination of children.

Three different entities have contacted MMCM to discuss how partnerships can be formed. All are in the discussion phase planning out what these partnerships will entail. It's exciting because we will be able to bring in more school field trips and families. In addition, it appears we will be able to do a couple of smaller upgrades in the gallery of exhibits with at least one of the entities.

As you can see, 2024 is off to a great start for MMCM!

*Ann Doyle*

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## Current Kids at Heart 2024 Sponsors





YEO & YEO

**Michael & Kimberly  
Keller Zehnder**



Ascension  
St. Mary's



**Greg & Karen  
Stiffler**

**Pat & Marie  
Hengesbach**



## Pirates & Princesses 2024



### Diane Novak - Museum Experience Coordinator



We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who has generously donated to our Art Mart and Scrap Studio galleries. It's always a pleasure to witness the creativity of the children who visit our museum and the donated items play a vital role in bringing their imaginations to life.

In addition to the Art Mart and the Scrap Studio galleries, other exhibits have also received donations from our generous museum members. These items include a phone, a play horse, and several baby dolls.

If you come across any toys or other items during your spring cleaning that you would like to donate to our galleries, we would be more than happy to

accept them. All the toys in the museum receive a lot of love from the kids who visit, and they often need to be replaced.

Thank you once again for your continued support!

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## Pirates & Princesses 2024



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**Jessie Teeter - Director of Exhibits and Education**

Most of the year I am your Gallery Guru or your Education Extraordinaire. Right now, I am planning the museum's largest fundraiser of the year, Kids at Heart, with the help of museum staff and a committee. There are some similarities to last year. We still have a silent and live auction, raffles, food, and drinks. New this year, we have live performances from Todd Michael Hall with Amy Petty. We also have Frank n' Jude who performed at Touch-a-Truck 2023. This is winding up to be our biggest Kids at Heart yet! This event is for ages 21+!



I couldn't forget about our toddlers, though. Every Wednesday from 1:00-1:30 the museum will have a special craft or activity for them to participate in with regular admission. Can't wait to see you!

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**Click below to register for a field trip.**

[Register Here](#)

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**TODDLER  
TIME**

**Wednesday 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM**

**Ages 2-5 welcome**

**Crafts and activities geared towards  
toddlers specifically!**

The graphic has a light blue and pink background. It features several small illustrations of butterflies in green and purple, and ducks in green and purple. The text is in a playful, bubbly font with thick black outlines.

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## Pirates & Princesses 2024



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## Whitney Watt - Volunteer Coordinator



Attention all current and future volunteers! MMCM's next special event and fundraisers are coming very soon. Where in the World is on Saturday, February 25th 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This event is to teach children up to 10 years old about cultures all over the globe through dance, stories, and craft presentations. Help is also needed for the event set up on Friday, February 23rd from 3:30-5 p.m.

The following event is MMCM's 17th annual fundraiser Kids at Heart on Thursday, March 14th, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Age 18+ help is needed at the event with silent & live auction, coat check, the event take down, and more. If you are under age 18, you can sign up to help with the event set up the day before the event on Wednesday, March 13th, and the day of the event until 5 p.m.

If either of these sounds like something that you would be interested in volunteering for, please contact me at [volunteer@michildrensmuseum.org](mailto:volunteer@michildrensmuseum.org) for more information.

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## Pirates and Princesses 2024



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## Emily Schmidt - Special Events Coordinator

Go around the world with your Mid-Michigan Children's Museum! Join us Saturday, February 24th, from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM, for our 2nd Annual Where in the World Cultural Day. On this day, cultural groups from around the Great Lakes Bay Region are coming together to provide a day of educational fun. Come learn the arts of Origami and calligraphy with the Japanese Cultural Center, or play some tunes from around the world with Musico Lessons, LLC. Admission will be reduced to \$3 per person, ages 2 and older for the event.

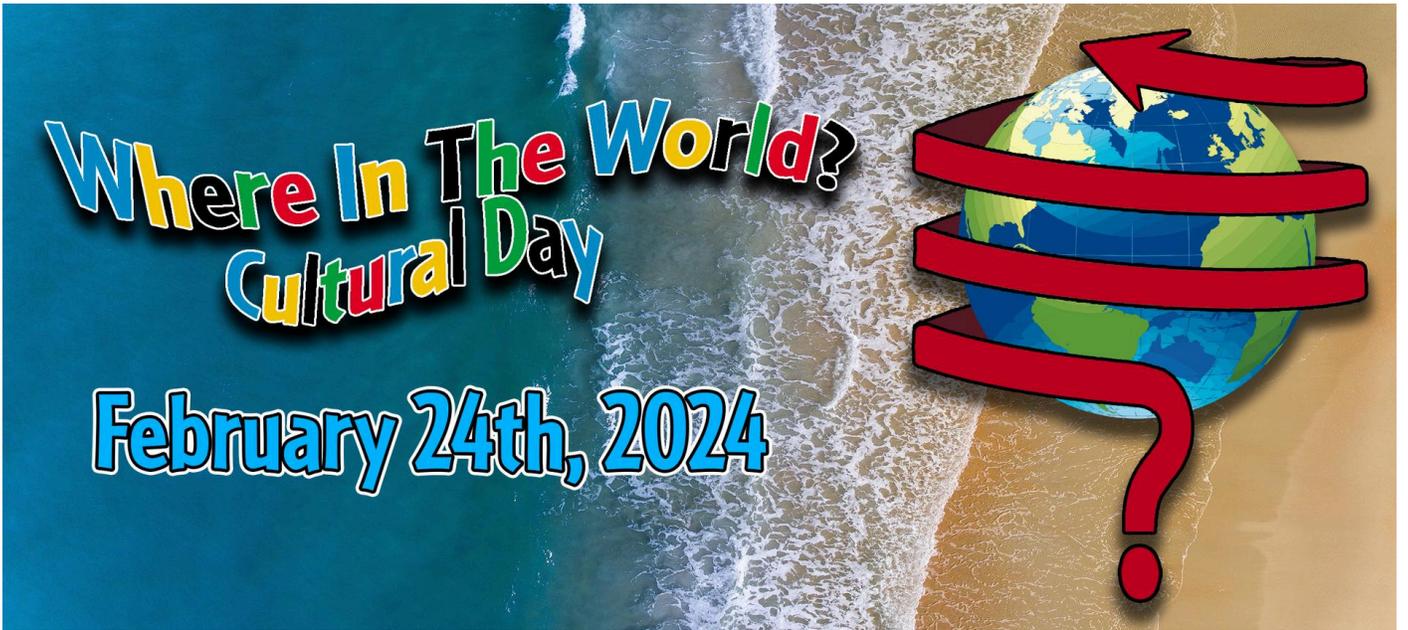


This event is designed to bring in different cultural organizations from around the Great Lakes Bay Region and showcase the different cultures that make up our community. If you are interested in sharing your culture with a craft, activity, or demonstration at this event, please reach out to [specialevents@michildrensmuseum.org](mailto:specialevents@michildrensmuseum.org), or by calling us at (989) 399-6626. Booth spaces are limited and are first come, first served.

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**Where in the World? | February 24th, 2024 | 10AM - 4PM**



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**Kids At Heart | March 14th, 2024 | 6PM - 9PM**

**Mid-Michigan Children's Museum's  
17th Annual Fundraiser**

**Kids  
at  
hear** 

**Live Performances by:**



**Todd Michael Hall      Frank N' Jude  
& Amy Petty**

**Theme: And The Winner Is! ( Gameshows )  
Thursday, March 14th, 2024  
6PM - 9PM**

**Live & Silent Auctions - Games - Food - Drinks  
21+ ( ID at the door )  
315 W. Genesee Ave., Saginaw**

**Tickets just \$35 per person!**

**Auction items added as they are received!**

Get your tickets here!

Check out the auction here!

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## **Kids at Heart Awardees 2024: Dr. Louis and Karen Constan**



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## **Moe Erskine Awardees 2024: Bob & Nancy Kaufman**



**Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt | March 30th, 2024 | 10AM - 4PM**

# 11th Annual: Indoor Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt March 30th, 2024 10AM-4PM

**Special Visit from the Easter Bunny!**  
Search the museum, collect eggs, and turn  
them in for a tooth-friendly goodie bag!



**Jeff McLellan - Marketing Director**



My dearest \*|FIRST\_NAME|\*,

We have been busy as of late. The waves of destruction have been crashing against our chattels. While burdensome, nary is a moment we've wasted on our preservation though, it is a labor in reverence, as the merriment of adolescents is a recompense in and of itself.

Seriously though, we are putting in a lot of work fixing and updating this month! We've had a spur of plumbing issues this last week, which, are resolved now. (fingers crossed)

Speaking of updates. I've been trying to get more of them out onto our social media platforms. I hope you like hearing from us and staying informed about our goings-on!

Also, all of the Kids at Heart links are live. At the time of typing this, we just started getting donations in for the auction so those should start going up to view ASAP. Check the link (above) regularly, as they will be popping up in the next few days!

These next couple of months always make me feel like a locomotive. There's always so much to do and it's full steam ahead into summer! TOOT TOOT!

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**Please take a moment to see the businesses, foundations, and people  
who make what we do possible!**

**Click the button below to go to our donor page!**

[See Our Donors](#)

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### **Our Board of Directors.**

Erika Ardouin: Chair (Garber Management Group)  
Ryan Shepard: Vice Chair (Garber Management Group)  
Luke Hendrick: Secretary (R.C. Hendrick & Son)  
Marisa Ahrens: Treasurer (Yeo & Yeo)  
Karen Stiffler: (Ascension Mid-Michigan Foundations)  
Stacie Quast: (Remax Results)  
Kosta Povich: (Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner PLC)  
Kristen Opperman: (Hemlock Semi-Conductor)  
Dr. David Cline: (SVSU)  
Michelle Youngstrom: (Retired)  
Domingo Vasquez: (Musico Lessons)



Dennis Barlow: (SISD)

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\*|NPO\_NAME|\*

\*|NPO\_ADDRESS|\*

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