



Ann Doyle President/CEO

“Everyone can experience the joy and blessing of generosity; because everyone has something to give.” – Jan Grace

Children’s Museums have the challenge of keeping the galleries fresh, everything in working order and safe for the children, as well as keeping the facility in the best shape possible. Over the last three years, we have been very busy doing just that and we are so very thankful for all who made our work lighter with the donation of funds, materials, and labor. Here are some of the projects that we completed with the help of donors:



- 2021:** Built and opened Flutter Field outdoor gallery \$13,218
Started an upgrade to Aunt Sugar’s Farm & Uncle Pickle’s Barn
- 2022:** Completed upgrade and re-opened Aunt Sugar’s Farm & Uncle Pickle’s Barn \$81,000
- 2023:** Completed and opened upgrade to Water, Water Everywhere \$102,028
- 2024:** Installed new HVAC system \$164,284
Installed new roof \$76,650
Updated backflow pipe to meet revised city requirements \$15,000

Car Works update started during the pandemic in regards to planning. This project will be completed this year. Currently, \$26,280 has been received and used, plus in-kind donations.

2024 is just halfway through. There have been many small repairs to galleries and the facility. MMCM’s team has a list of projects to complete in 2024 with some requiring funds to be raised.

- **Patching and repainting walls in the lobby area.** This project will be starting at the beginning of July and painting volunteers are welcome!

Since hiring out is too expensive for the museum, help is greatly appreciated. Donations are welcome too for the supplies. West Side Decorating is donating Krack Kote and giving a discount for the paint.

- **Cardiologist gallery: a heart transplant is needed!** Our gallery heart had a heart attack and we couldn't save it. We are currently raising money for a heart transplant. A heart has been found and the cost is around \$10,000 (with shipping). Perhaps one or more of our doctors reading this newsletter can help us out.
- **Dental gallery: This gallery also needs to be updated.** The dental chair gave out after being repaired several times. We appreciate any help from dentists, orthodontics, or any other dental professionals, who want to be a part of the upgrade. I was planning on asking for help to find a used chair, however, our board member, Stacie, was able to locate one just this last week. We still need funds/ideas/in-kind donations to refresh the gallery.
- **Eye Doctor gallery: We are looking for a gently used chair and phoropter ophthalmic manual eye tester (without the lenses).** We have not had one before and this will make the gallery more realistic. The rest of the gallery is in good shape. We might add some signage in the area.
- **Big Kids: One of the five Big Kids in the center of the museum had a make-over this last March.** We have three more that need a make-over. The fifth Big Kid will have additions made to it. For the three that still need a make-over, quotes have been received by two vendors and we are seeking another quote, maybe two. The cost so far ranges from \$14,000 to \$70,000. Each has a different method and we will be seeking revisions after the additional quotes are received.

As you can see, we do not sit still at the museum! There is always something that needs to be done. Your help is instrumental in these projects being completed. If you want to help with labor, in-kind donations (items), and/or monetary donations, please reach out. Here are some ways to let us know:

Volunteer form on the website online at: [Volunteer Info](#)

In-kind donations delivered to our address: 315 W. Genesee Ave., Saginaw MI 48602

We can also be reached by phone if you have questions, want to volunteer, or to donate, just call 989-399-6626.

E-mail is another method: (Ann) President@michildrensmuseum.org OR (Jessie) playeducator@michildrensmuseum.org.

Online donations can be made at: [Donate | Mid-Michigan Children's Museum \(michildrensmuseum.org\)](#) (Be sure to designate where you want the funds to go)

We always appreciate the help given to the museum. You help us to keep the museum updated.

Thank you and have a safe July!

Ann Doyle

Summer Theme Weeks are still going strong!

Each week, we will have a new theme. Come dressed up according to the week's theme and each person participating will get \$1 off their regular admission. Have fun, be creative, and save! Check out the schedule below!

Dress up, Cost down Theme Week Schedule

Theme weeks - Dress up according to our themes!

Each participant will earn \$1 off regular admission!

July 7-13 Hawaiian Shirt

July 14-20 Retro

July 21-27 Dinosaur

July 28-Aug 3 Artist

August 4-10 Super Hero

August 11-17 Old Western

August 18-24 Mismatched Clothes

August 10-24

Unmatched Clothes

August 25-31

School Spirit

Diane Novak - Museum Experience Coordinator



When the weather is too hot or it's raining this summer, the museum is a great place to visit with children. They can use their imagination while playing in the galleries or creating artwork to take home. Also, if you visit the museum often, check out our Basic or Premium Membership [on our website.](#)

Summer Camps



Jessie Teeter - Director of Exhibits and Education

It is amazing how quickly the first month of summer has come and gone already. We still have room in our Steel Chef Cooking Creations, Magic of History, and Let's Get Down to Business camps. In Steel Chef, kids will learn about cooking safety, how to follow a recipe, and get to eat some delicious treats. Magic of History is all about bringing the world of magic and Harry Potter to Saginaw with the help of our friends from the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History. In the Let's Get Down to Business camp, kids will hear from kid entrepreneurs and Kids Rule Now about how they can become an entrepreneur and what it takes to start a business. **Click the Camps button below to register.**



This summer MMCM is also part of the Meet Up and Eat Up program in partnership with the YMCA of Saginaw. If you stop in between 11:30am-12:30pm and want lunch or from 1:30pm-2:30pm and want a snack you can just ask at the front desk and we can provide one for your kids ages 17 and under. Hope to see you soon!

Click below to register for a field trip!

Click below for summer camps!

Field Trips

Camps

Summer Camps



Whitney Watt - Volunteer Coordinator



Volunteers are needed for our Summer special event Fun in the Sun on Saturday, August 10th. Help with crafts such as making Binoculars, Tissue Paper Lanterns and with games like chalk & bubble stations, Marshmallow Toss, and Find Your Ranger Name.

Shift times are:

Shift 1: 9:45am-1:30pm

Shift 2: 1:15pm-5:15pm

Shift 3: 9:45am-5:15pm.

If you have volunteered in the past, please send me an email with your preferred shift time. All new volunteers must have a new application and background check (felony/misdemeanor only) completed.

The application is on our website: [Volunteer Form](#)

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact me at 989-399-6626 or volunteer@michildrensmuseum.org.

Volunteer(s) of the Month

-MMCM Board of Directors-

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)

All of us at the museum feel very fortunate to have a Board of Directors who are active in the museum. They help us to keep the museum in tip-top shape, plan Touch-a-Truck and Kids at Heart events, enter data into the CRM, prepare membership cards, teach music at summer camp, attend committee meetings and the monthly board meetings, raise funds and promote the museum, give encouragement and advice, and just be available as needed.

Each director has a special set of talents that are applied to the museum as needed. When looking for new directors, and we are, we let the applicants know upfront what is expected during the term. It's important for us to be able to count on the board's participation in whatever is needed. Our directors have many contacts and that is valuable!

Thank you to all of the directors. You are appreciated more than we can put into words. If you see any of the following directors, be sure to tell them thank you. They deserve a round of applause!

July Reciprocal Month - Mitten Museum

July's reciprocal memberships!
For the month of July your Mid-Michigan Children's Museum membership also works at the Mitten Museum,

AND

Your Mitten Museum membership also works at Mid-Michigan Children's Museum!



Emily Schmidt - Special Events Coordinator

Don't miss out on our Saturday Scrap Studio Kits! Each Saturday, we will have a new craft in our Scrap Studio to complete. These craft kits can be made at the museum in our Scrap Studio, or taken home to be done later. Scrap Studio Kits are included in admission into the museum.

- **July 13th – Paint a Rock!**
- **July 20th – Paper Plate Moons**
- **July 27th – Fabric Trees**

Join us Saturday, August 10th from 10:00am until 4:00pm for our Fun in the Sun. We're bringing some of the outdoor fun indoors! This year's event will have a camping-focused theme. Kids will have fun while crafting all of the essential gear they need for one final camp-out for the summer, like



toilet paper tube binoculars, tissue paper lanterns, and learning their "Ranger" names with wearable buttons.

We want your organization's semi-truck, heavy construction equipment, emergency vehicle, or any other vehicle that children may find interesting and exciting! Our annual Touch-A-Truck event is intended to allow children to experience vehicles from the driver's seat right in MMCM's parking lot. For more information, a presenter's form, or a sponsorship form, reach out to specialevents@michildrensmuseum.org. Stay tuned to our Facebook page and monthly newsletters for more information regarding other exciting activities at this year's Touch-A-Truck event!

Touch-A-Truck September 14th, 10 AM - 3 PM



Touch-A-Truck is our biggest event of the year, but we can't do it without your help! Whether that help is through sponsorships, presenting a truck, or even volunteering, we need you! Click the buttons below to Sponsor, Present a truck, or both!

Sponsor T-A-T

Present a Truck

Volunteer

Mid-Michigan Children's Museum Family Reunions

Did you know that MMCM is not only a great place for your child's birthday party, but also an ideal location for your family reunion? We have four spacious rooms and a large, beautiful outdoor pavilion available, providing ample space for most families. It's a perfect setting for children to play and learn while adults catch up on family matters. Additionally, adults can also engage in fun and educational activities with the children.



Jeff McLellan - Marketing Director



Hey ***|FIRST_NAME|***,

I hope your first days of July have been great! Mine included a trip to the Dow Diamond for the 4th of July Loons game, which was awesome by the way. They also won so that's a plus! Nothing says American summer like a baseball game on Independence Day.

We are getting closer to the new Car Works addition. Coinciding with that, I've been enjoying creating some pages for an upcoming Nexteer/MMCM activity book to be available during Touch-A-Truck, so don't miss out on that, it should be pretty fun!

Having an intern has been great, it allows me a little time to catch up on some projects, and really sink some extra time into others. I also get to teach someone something new, which I love to do. Sean has been doing great work and is a super quick learner. His course of study is Public Relations so he's also been joining Emily on our outreaches, and helping with event planning as well. We're glad to have him around and definitely keeping him busy!

Well, that's all from me this month. As always thanks for making it through the whole newsletter. We put lots of work into these so I hope you all enjoy them!



**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!**

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