



Ann Doyle President/CEO

Board member Luke Hendrick said in 2022 that we need to set our goal for Kids at Heart at a gross income of \$75,000. Guess what Luke? Our community met your challenge and then some!

Kids at Heart 2025 was a great success. With 200 guests, amazing food catered by "From Scratch", fantastic musicians, numerous volunteers, wonderful staff and Board of Directors, and the one and only, Art Lewis! Just under \$80,000 was raised! Auctioneers Trace Hendrick and Ben Denay did a great job selling the live auction items.

The top usage of the monies raised is to help get children to the museum. This is done with grants to schools for field trips, reduced admission to community events, help with the costs involved, and keeping summer camps affordable. In a time of economic challenges, the funds raised are more important than ever.

Thank you to all of the sponsors who gave funds and/or a live/silent auction item(s), and to the guests. Your support is greatly appreciated and so many children will benefit from your generosity.

Thank you to Board Member Dr. David Cline, Board Member Domingo Vasquez, III, Frank n' Jude, and Amy Petty for all of your musical and vocal talents. You take this event to a new level!

Thank you to Art Lewis for emceeding Kids at Heart. Having Art's support means the world to the museum. Since the museum's early days, Art has been a supporter, and we are thankful.

Thank you volunteers who worked hard to set up, work the event itself, and clean up the next day. There is no way the staff could have done the work all by themselves. Volunteers came from United Financial Credit



Union, SVSU, Nexteer, and high schools. There were many individuals who volunteered to help, including prior employees of MMCM.

Thank you to the Board members and to the staff for your passion and dedication to the museum and for working so hard to make this a great event! MMCM is lucky to have such an amazing team.

Finally, we want to once again congratulate volunteer Beth Kersh, recipient of the Moe Erskine Award, and Mark and Anne Flegenheimer, recipients of the Kids at Heart Award. You all deserve the recognition, and your support of the museum is invaluable.

Ann Doyle

Thank you to all of our Kids At Heart Sponsors!

Please support the companies that support our community!

The Big Kids - \$5000

- [Balance Mental Health & Wellness](#)
- [Michigan Sugar Company](#)

Creator - \$3000

- [Garber Automotive Group](#)
- [Hemlock Semiconductor](#)
- [Members First Credit Union](#)
- [Merrill Lynch - Iles Schropp Group](#)
- [Nexteer Automotive](#)

Explorer - \$2000

- [Yeo & Yeo](#)

Learner - \$1000

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- [Thumb Bank & Trust](#)
- Trace & Kelly Hendrick
- [United Financial Credit Union](#)

Kids At Heart 2025



Diane Novak - Museum Experience Coordinator



The museum staff and volunteers work hard to ensure that the museum is a safe, clean, and inclusive space for children to play and learn. Although the museum is closed on Mondays, the staff and some volunteers are still working.

The Do-All volunteers begin by cleaning the tables and chairs in the classrooms. After cleaning, they sort and prepare various items such as water bottles, egg cartons, bottle caps, and more for the children to use in the "Scrap Studio" gallery.

When the SVRC volunteers arrive, they collect all the toys and parts in the museum. Once all the toys are clean and dry, they place them back in their respective locations. They also clean all the galleries in the museum.

The museum staff spends Mondays cleaning and washing the toys,

cleaning clothes, restrooms, and the "Water, Water Everywhere" water table and water tank. Cleaning the entire museum is a significant undertaking, and we want to ensure it is done correctly. That is why we are closed all day on Mondays. As the saying goes, "many hands make light work," and we are grateful for all the help we receive in cleaning.

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Membership information can be found at:

<https://michildrensmuseum.org/membership/>

For gift certificates, click here:

<https://michildrensmuseum.org/gift-certificates/>

You may also call the museum directly for more information.

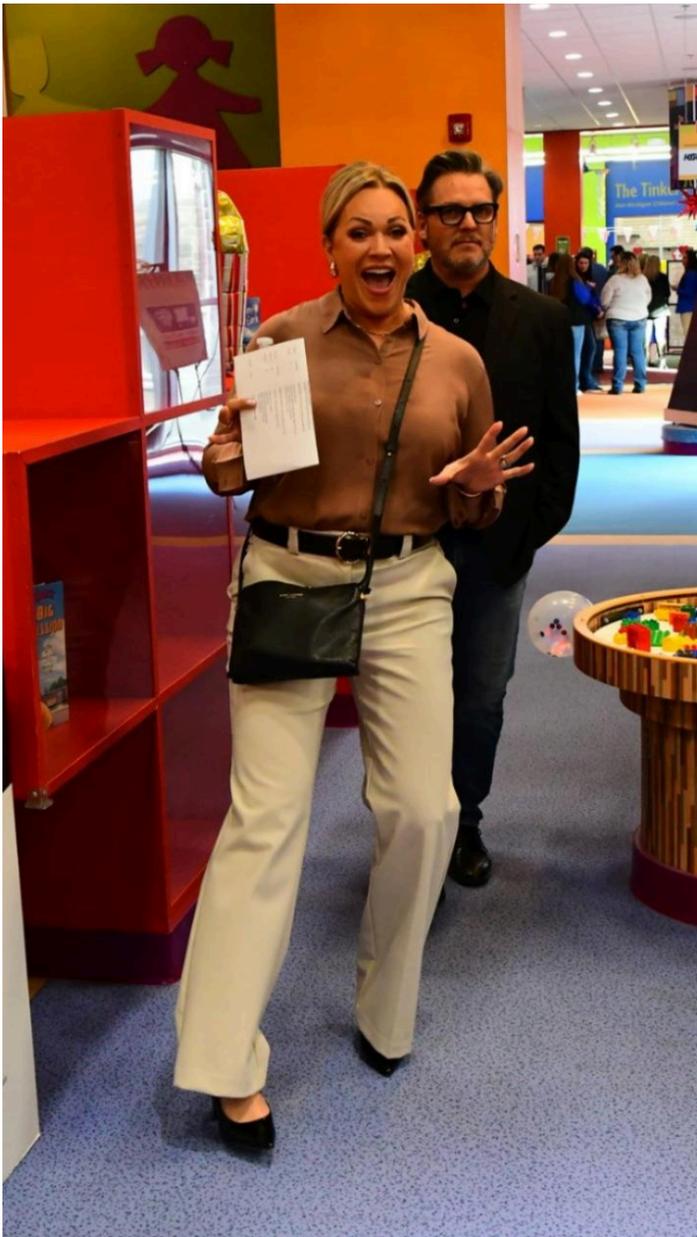
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## **Kids At Heart 2025**

**KAH Award winners Mark &  
Anne Flegenheimer**

**Moe Erskine Award winner Beth  
Kersh with Moe Erskine**





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## Jessie Teeter - Director of Exhibits and Education

The museum is excited to announce that summer camp registration is now open! Our camp themes this year are so much fun, and each week is different, so you'll never be bored! Learn music through color keyboarding, what it takes to be a secret agent, and how to survive during a disaster.

Summer camps are my favorite time because I get to be a kid again and facilitate all of the fun activities that are planned. For more information please email me at [playeducator@michildrensmuseum.org](mailto:playeducator@michildrensmuseum.org) or click the link below!





# Summer Camps At Mid-Michigan Children's Museum!

Per week: \$90 for non-members, \$75 for members

For ages 6-10

Time: 9am-4pm

Camp: Museum Mixtape (Musico Lessons LLC)

Date: June 17-19

Description: Whether your kid likes to rock 'n roll, jive to jazz, or bop to pop music, the museum invites them to drop their own mixtape. They will be learning the basics of music through color keyboarding with Musico Lessons LLC. Get ready to beat to the rhythm of your own drum in this expressive camp.

Camp: Cirque de Musé

Date: June 24-26

Description: The circus is coming to the museum! In this camp, your kid will experience the fun and mischief that comes with a cirque. From tight rope walking to clowning around, kids will become a performer worthy of the circus.

Camp: Let's Get Physical

Date: July 8-10

Description: Learn about the science behind sports. We will practice some of the most popular sports played in Michigan including baseball, golf, and tennis. Sports enthusiasts might even get to meet some professional players!

Camp: Once Upon a Time (READ Assoc./ Hoyt Library)

Date: July 15-17

Description: Explore your favorite fairy tales as we go on a hunt for a glass slipper, build a huff and puff proof house, and even write and perform our own original fairy tales.

Per week: \$90 for non-members, \$75 for members

Time: 9am-4pm

Camp: Secret Agent Academy (Castle Museum of Saginaw County History)

Date: July 22-24

Description: Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to identify a sneaky criminal mastermind that has pulled off the caper of the summer! To complete your assignment, you will have to look for fingerprints, create disguises and send coded messages.

Camp: Up, Up, & Away Superhero Academy

Date: July 29-31

Description: Develop your superpowers, disguise your true identity, train your body to be fit to face villains, and test yourself with supercharged challenges.

Camp: Disaster Defenders

Dates: August 5-7

Description: Are you ready for disaster? Learn tracking and searching skills, practice your survival engineering abilities by learning to make a snare, camouflage yourself and be prepared for almost anything!

Camp: Into the Wild

Date: August 12-14

Description: Bring the great outdoors inside! Experience the thrill of being outside and seeing wild animals from the safety and comfort of the museum.

Click below to register for a  
field trip!

Field Trips

Click below to register for a  
Summer Camp!

Summer Camps

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# TODDLER TIME

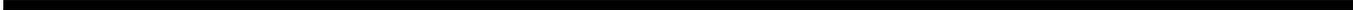
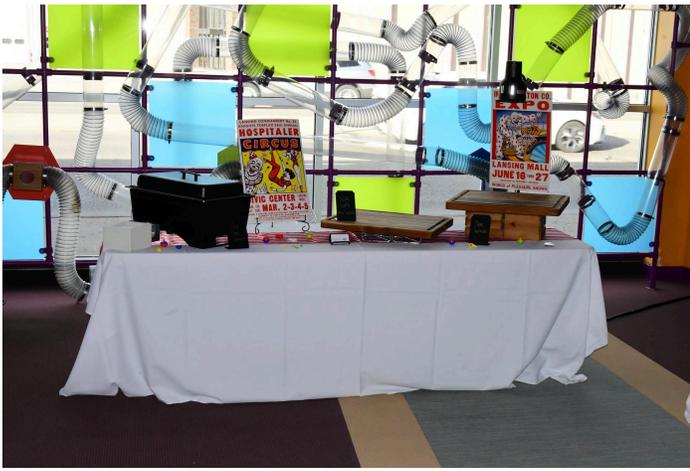
**Ages 2 - 5 Welcome**  
**Join us for crafts and activities geared**  
**toward toddlers!**

**Tuesdays at 10:30am & 12:30pm**  
**Thursdays at 10:30am**

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## Kids At Heart 2025





# Talent Needed!



**Do you have a family friendly, fantastic, talent? Do you want to be a star?**

**Would you donate your time to put a smile on kids' faces?**

**Then you might be what we're looking for!**

**We regularly have special events we need talent for! Talent like: **Jugglers, balloon artists, entry level to experienced face painters, singers, dancers, and others!****

**Apply here: <https://michildrensmuseum.org/rfp/>**

**Or Scan Here:**



## Whitney Watt - Volunteer Coordinator



Volunteers are needed for our Indoor Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12th and event set up is Friday, April 11th. Volunteers are a crucial part of a successful event.

**Event Set Up:** Friday, April 11, 2025

**There is 1 shift available:**

3:30 pm-5 pm

5 volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for the following:

Sanitizing and moving tables & chairs

Assist with gallery organizing

Set-up craft and game stations

Hide plastic eggs and set up the egg return room

**Event Day:** Saturday, April 12, 2025

**There are 3 shifts available:**

Shift 1: 9:45 am – 1:30 pm

Shift 2: 1:15 pm – 5:15 pm

Shift 3: 9:45 am – 5:15 pm

Volunteers are needed for the following:

Wearing the provided Easter Bunny costume

Entry level to experienced Face Painters needed

Assisting kids with crafts and games

Hiding plastic eggs, monitoring the egg return room, and passing out goodie bags

Put up/take down tables and sanitize tables and chairs

Assist guests and maintain a clean and safe play space in one or more museum galleries

Volunteer requirements are at least 14 years old or in 9th grade. New volunteers must submit an application and background check authorization on our website.

If you are a current or returning volunteer, you do not need to submit a new application. Send me an email with your name and preferred shift time.

If you have any questions, please contact

me [volunteer@michildrensmuseum.org](mailto:volunteer@michildrensmuseum.org) or 989-399-6626.

**Or click the buttons below.**

**Volunteer Applications:**

Individuals Apply Here

Groups Apply Here

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## Emily Schmidt - Special Events Coordinator

Easter is just around the corner, and with it, our Indoor Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt! Saturday, April 12th, from 10:00am until 4:00pm, kids will be able to scour the galleries for eggs. In exchange for their find, they'll receive a goodie bag including all the essentials for proper oral hygiene! This event will be \$3 per person ages 2 and older, and everyone under the age of 2 is always free. Join us for Easter and tooth-themed crafts and activities such as our Bunny Tail Toss and Easter Charades. We'll also be receiving a special visit from the Easter Bunny before he makes his rounds on Easter Sunday!



It's not too late to sponsor and help us promote sparkling smiles and healthy kids! If you consider yourself a Floss Boss or Cavity Crusher, reach out to [specialevents@michildrensmuseum.org](mailto:specialevents@michildrensmuseum.org) for more information on how you can give and be a part of this event. We are also seeking the donation of items to fill the children's goody bags, such as toothpaste, floss, or other tooth-friendly goodies. Let us know if you'd like a copy of our event poster for your office!

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. This month's kits include:

- April 5th – Paper Peeps
- April 19th – Rockin' Records
- April 26th – Eeyore

# 12th Annual Indoor Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt

April 12th, 2025 10AM-4PM

## Thanks to these great sponsors!

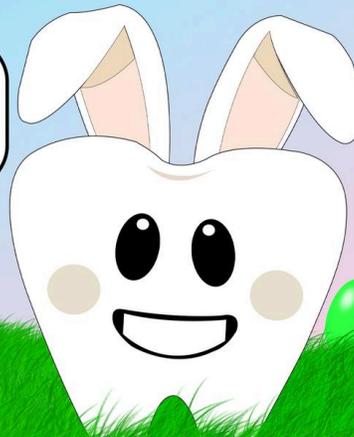
Smile Makers:

- Jessica R. Bentoski D.D.S, M.S. PLLC
- Kevin S. Bone D.D.S.

Floss Boss:

- Dr. Monica Lamble Periodontics & Dental Implants
- Dr. Robert Cady, DDS, PC

Thank you!



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Kids At Heart 2025





## Jeff McLellan - Marketing Director



Hey \*|FIRST\_NAME|\*,

We're closing the museum for good, sorry!

**April fools!** Haha! You should have seen your face! I'm glad to see you care!

No, we're not closing up any time soon; we have too much of a good thing going here! All the playing and learning going on is gearing kids up for the world ahead! We're arming them with knowledge and wisdom, and who could ask for more? As Brian O'Driscoll once said: "Knowledge is knowing that tomato 🍅 is a fruit. Wisdom is knowing not to put it in a fruit salad." And these kids will go on to make great fruit salads!

With the comestible conversation concluded, we can commence a casual conference concerning the creative construction of a commemorative collection of commendations. In other words, as soon as field trip season is over, we will be creating the new "In Memory of" and "In Honor of" walls on our big kids. We are taking the old bricks out front and

immortalizing their inscriptions on metal plates, which will be mounted to one of two of the big kids in the entry to the galleries.

The bricks out front are fading and degrading, and this is a way to preserve them for much longer! It's going to look so cool, and we're excited for you to see them when they're done. Of course, once they're up, people will be able to purchase a space on the wall of their own! So look forward to that! We're all excited to have them done!

Thanks, as always, for reading through to the end!

This month's Anagram:  
**Solar whisper**

How did you do with last month's anagram?  
Last months:  
**Kilt Cheifs Hour – Luck of the Irish**

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**Feel like making a charitable donation?**

[Click here to donate!](#)

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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, Inc.)

Marisa Ahrens: Treasurer (Yeo & Yeo)

Karen Stiffler: (MyMichigan Health)

Stacie Quast: Immediate Past Chair (Remax Results)

Kosta Povich: (Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner PLC)

Kristen Opperman: (Hemlock Semi-Conductor)

Dr. David Cline: (SVSU)

Michelle Youngstrom: (Teacher)

Domingo Vasquez: (Musico Lessons)

Dennis Barlow: (SISD)

Courtney VanWagoner: (Nexteer)

\*|NPO\_NAME|\*

\*|NPO\_ADDRESS|\*

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