



Ann Doyle President/CEO

"It's the things we play with and the people who help us play that make a great difference in our lives." ~ Fred Rogers

September was a very busy month. We started out doing repairs, updates and carpet cleaning the first week. In addition, the MMCM team did 'super-deep' cleaning of everything in the museum. While we clean all the time in the museum, the deep cleaning is still necessary. It's like spring-cleaning our homes, but for the museum, it's late-summer cleaning.

Two gallery upgrades were completed. Both are super exciting and we hope you will visit to check each one out. First, Car Works received an upgrade in the form of a Cadillac! It was delivered the first week of September and it is outfitted for children. This was a 4-year project and everyone involved is thrilled to see it to completion. Nexteer took the lead and both Nexteer and Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation funded the project.

Caveman Auto did a wonderful job of making the car look new and also made it safe for children with certain components in the car. They also replaced the seating to something easy to clean and practical for the many thousands of kids who come through the museum each year. Auto Pride in Hemlock tore out all the 'stuff' that couldn't be left in the vehicle. This included pretty much everything under the hood, the original seating, and more.

Nexteer made all of the electronic upgrades to the vehicle as well as a new windshield. I don't know about you, but I love new windshields in vehicles. It just makes the vehicle as a whole look new again. Nexteer also hunted for all those areas that might 'pinch' little fingers and made sure the areas were covered or removed. Stay tuned for the ribbon cutting!



During the fall of 2023, I visited another children's museum. While we have a few similar galleries, our museums are really quite different. One of their exhibits really caught my eye and I shared it with the rest of the team. Dr. and Mrs. Constan expressed a big interest in funding the exhibit when they asked how they could help us. After researching the cost and who makes it, the Constans donated a restricted grant to MMCM's Art Mart to make this exhibit a reality. Several months of having to make some modifications passed and we are excited to share Kids Jump Tech (Constan Corner) with you! You simply have to see it! It's so much fun and a big hit.

Children color an object on a piece of copy paper that has a QR code on it. The colored object (let's just say it's a fish) is then scanned. The scanned object is sent to a computer and projector. It then becomes a part of an animated scene. In this case, the fish becomes part of an underwater scene and is swimming around with other aquatic animals. We have the ability to choose different scenes from a library that came with the exhibit. Oh! Even the screen is interactive! The Constans provided additional grant money to cover supplies for the Kids Jump Tech as needed.

We are so thankful for all who made both of these gallery updates a reality for MMCM. Thank you!

I also want to thank everyone who made this year's Touch-a-Truck a great success on 9/14/24. We had fun with all that came and shared the day with us. Thank you to all of the sponsors and presenters of vehicles at this year's event. Please see the names of those who made this event possible for the community in this newsletter. Thank you so much to all!

Now, it's time to make October memories. We look forward to seeing you.

Ann Doyle

Touch-A-Truck 2024 Sponsors

Mighty Motor - \$3000+

- LiUNA!
- GFL Environmental

Powerful Piston - \$1000

- DHT
- Garber Buick Saginaw
- Murray Painting Co.

Glorious Gear - \$500

- Applied Innovation
- Eikenhout

- General Machine Services
- Graham Construction
- R.C. Hendrick & Son, Inc.
- Howard Structural Steel
- Michigan Kenworth
- Pumford Construction
- Remer Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning
- Spence Brothers
- UAW Local 686

Wonderous Wheel - \$250

- IBEW Local 557
- J.R. Heineman & Sons
- J.W. Hunt OTC Inc.
- Rifkin Scrap Iron & Metal
- Teamtech
- Wieland Truck & Trailer
- Wobig Construction

Pit Crew - \$1 - \$249

- Enszer's Auto Repair
- Future Insurance
- Garber Chevrolet Midland

Touch-A-Truck 2024





Touch-A-Truck 2024 Music Provided by:
Jeff Poirier (Morning) & Frank N Jude (Afternoon)

Touch-A-Truck 2024 - Derrick Harge



© Derrick Harge



© Derrick Harge



© Derrick Harge



© Derrick Harge

Diane Novak - Museum Experience Coordinator



While our outdoor pavilion is currently closed until May 1st, there are picnic tables inside the museum near the entrance available for anyone who wants to take a break and eat lunch or a snack.

Starting October 6th, the museum will be open on Sundays from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm, and Sunday birthday parties may once again be scheduled. The entire museum is available for after-hours birthday parties or your company's evening event.

As the weather gets colder, our indoor birthday parties become more popular and are often booked months in advance. Please book your party as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

You can find information about our birthday parties on our website by clicking the "parties" button below, or calling the museum directly.

To check for date and time availability, please call us at 989-399-6626.

Parties

Touch-A-Truck 2024 Presenters

ABC Supply - Kenworth Boom Truck

Best Towing - 50 Ton Wrecker

City of Saginaw - Fire Engine, Bucket Trucks, Police, MRAP, Hummer, Sewer Truck

Dan Boudaux - Off-Road Racing Truck

DHT - Semi, Lowboy trailer, Excavator

Garber Buick Saginaw - 2024 Buick Envista

GFL Environmental - Roll-Off Truck, Recycle Truck, Residential Truck

Kona Ice - Snow Cone Truck

Lee's Towing - 2024 Hino Flatbed Towtruck

McNally-Nimergood Inc. - Crane Truck

MDHHS - Mobile Lab

Michigan Kenworth - Semi Truck

Mike Gosselin '75 Dodge Power Wagon Truck

MMR - Ambulance

Pumford Construction - Concrete Pump Truck

Saginaw Road Construction - Snow Plow Truck

Saginaw Public Libraries - Book Mobile

Saginaw Valley Air Museum - Plane Fuselage on Trailer, Dog Tag Machine

Scientific Brake - Two Trailers

Top Shelf Racing - Ramp Truck, Race Car
Team Wieland Truck & Trailer - Semi, Children's Bicycle Giveaway

Touch-A-Truck 2024





Jessie Teeter - Director of Exhibits and Education

Welcome October! The weather is finally starting to cool down and the museum is heating up for an eventful fall. We are kicking off the school year right with field trips already being scheduled for this year and 2025. If you are interested in bringing your class on a field trip to MMCM, fill out the form on our website using the button below. In October, we will be bringing back Toddler Time for ages 2-5 years old. We will be trying some new times including Tuesday at 10:30am and 12:30pm and Thursday at 10:30am. We will also be keeping our regular time of Wednesday at 1pm. Come join us for a fun craft or activity free with admission!



In September, the staff was hard at work completing two new exhibits. We are so excited for you to come and check them out. They are unlike anything else in the museum. A Cadillac with interactive touch screens put kids in the driver's seat, and the passenger seat, as they adjust the radio, call the pizza shop, and get directions to Saginaw locations. The interactive art wall, now called "Constan Corner," brings art and technology together in a fun and engaging way in our Try It area. What an awesome way to kick off fall!

Click below to register for a field trip!

Field Trips

T O D D L E R

T I M E

Ages 2-5 Welcome

Join us for crafts and activities geared toward toddlers!

Tuesdays at 10:30am and 12:30pm

Wednesdays at 1pm

Thursdays at 10:30am.

Touch-A-Truck 2024 Vendors

**Bavarian Inn
Bay County Health Department
Ennis Center for Children
Girls Scouts of Michigan
Midland Center for the Arts
READ Association
Saginaw Valley Air Museum
Teamtech**

Touch-A-Truck 2024



Whitney Watt - Volunteer Coordinator



Happy Fall! We have our special event on Saturday, October 26, 2024. It is a family-friendly Monster Mix & Mash. Volunteers are needed so that families have a great time. There are 2 dates to volunteer to assist with this event. Event set-up is Friday, October 25th and the day of event is Saturday, October 26th.

On Friday, October 25, 2024, there is 1 shift available:

- 3:00 pm-4:30 pm

- 4 volunteers needed
- Volunteers are needed for the following:
 - Sanitizing and moving tables & chair
 - Assist with gallery organizing
 - Set-up craft and game stations

- Weather depending: Removing debris and rocks from museum grounds and parking lot

On Saturday, October 26, 2024, there are 3 shifts available:

- Shift 1: 9:45 am – 1:30 pm

- Shift 2: 1:30 pm – 5:15 pm

- Shift 3: 9:45 am – 5:15 pm

Volunteers are needed for the following:

- Entry level to experienced Face Painters needed
- Assisting kids with crafts such as TP tube monsters, Sugar skull plates, and so much more.
- Assisting kids with indoor games such as Monstrous graham cracker treats, Mummy bowling, Monster Bean Bag toss, and many more.
- Assist in handing out goodies to families
- Putting up, sanitizing & taking down tables.
- Assist guests and maintaining a clean and safe play space in one or more museum galleries

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.

Becoming a Volunteer:

At least 2 days before the event, click the appropriate button below and complete the volunteer application and background check authorization.

Volunteer requirements: Must be at least 14 years old or in 9th grade. New volunteers must submit an application and background check.

If you have any questions, please contact me
volunteer@michildrensmuseum.org

Volunteer Applications:

[Individuals Apply Here](#)

[Groups Apply Here](#)

October's Volunteer of the Month - Tim Smith

Tim Smith is a wonderful volunteer that donates his time on our Touch-A-Truck committee which is MMCM's largest annual special event. Together with other committee members, he assists in raising funds through sponsorships, recruiting truck presenters, and planning promotional materials to make the event a huge success year after year. Tim works at Scientific Brake and joined the committee in 2023.

"As a kid, my parents took my siblings and I to different Touch-A-Truck events quite often. I always remembered these as some of the most fun things I would go to as a kid. So, when Emily asked me, I

was excited to get involved in something that was such a good event for the community. This has now become something that I look forward to and I enjoy helping with the process that brings this event together. " --Tim

A HUGE thank you to Tim for his continued support of MMCM!

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:



Or Click Here!

Touch-A-Truck 2024



Touch-A-Truck 2024 Volunteers

We might have the best group of Volunteers this side of the Mississippi. Truly we're blessed to have every single one of them. People come from all over to help us make our events run smoothly and to help out in cleaning beforehand and afterward! We can't say a big enough **THANK YOU!**

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.

- October 5th – Mail-A-Hug!
- October 12th – Farmer's Day Cows
- October 19th – Paper Sloths

Fall is creeping up on us - along with our annual Halloween Monster Mix & Mash! Join us Saturday, October 26th from 10:00AM until 4:00PM for a day of spooky games, crafts, all-day gallery play, and so much more! Fill up on Monstrous Graham Crackers, create your own Toilet Paper Tube Monster, and decorate your own Paper Plate Sugar Skulls! Wear your favorite costume and mix it up with other ghouls and ghosts and then participate in our costume parade. Stop in for a frighteningly fun time!



Halloween Monster Mix & Mash - Saturday, October 26th!

Halloween Monster Mix & Mash

Saturday, October 26th, 10AM-4PM

Join us for spooky games, crafts,
all-day gallery play, goodie bags,
and family friendly costumes!

Dont forget! We will have a super
fun costume parade!



Touch-A-Truck 2024



Jeff McLellan - Marketing Director



Hey *|FIRST_NAME|*,

Welcome to October!

It's the spooky season. Quite possibly the best season of all! Pumpkin Spice everything, changing of the leaves, jeans and hoodie weather, and all the spooky lawn decor! I love those skeletons some people have that are as tall as their houses! So fun!

It's that time of year again when nonprofits make their end-of-the-year appeal. This is a chance for us to raise more funds for things like updating or repairing galleries, updating or repairing the building, general administrative expenditures, or providing "unrestricted" funds if you would like us to use your donation toward whatever we may need at that time.

We really hope you will make a donation to help keep this community gem running in great condition! Below is a step-by-step walkthrough on how to donate. If you run into problems please don't hesitate to call, we can help walk you through it!

How to:

Below is a red button "Click here to donate!"

1. Click this button to view our donation page.
2. Click the desired amount, or write in your own.
3. Select your frequency (How often you would like to make that donation) - One-time is an option!
4. Select where to allocate your funds via restriction, or leave it to us with "unrestricted."
5. Choose whether or not you'd like to honor someone with your gift.
6. Click the red donate button.

Next Page:

Fill out your info, and click continue.

Next Page:

Click the cover fees button if you wish to cover the fees.
(It shows you the amount beforehand)

Next Page:

Select your payment preference,
Input CC info if necessary,
Then click complete.

(You did it! Thanks!)

We really appreciate how the community comes together to help out their local businesses and nonprofits. It's always refreshing to see how many people are willing to help out. As with all donations, there is neither one too small nor too big. We appreciate every penny.

This month's Anagram:

ok rat critter!

Clue: Tis the season.

How did you do with last month's anagram?

Last months:

ah! apply by road - **Happy Labor Day!**

End of the Year Appeal

[Click here to donate!](#)

**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

Our Board of Directors.

Erika Ardouin: Chair (Garber Management Group)
Ryan Shepard: Vice Chair (Garber Management Group)
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Marisa Ahrens: Treasurer (Yeo & Yeo)
Karen Stiffler: (Ascension Mid-Michigan Foundations)
Stacie Quast: (Remax Results)
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