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## **Ann Doyle President/CEO**

"The best adventures are found in your own backyard."

Lately, I have been thinking back to when I was a kid (about a year ago). My dad made sure that every year we had a vacation as a family. Every other summer was a trip to Texas to see family, and camping the rest of the weekends in Michigan. The summers in between were mostly all camping with some short trips to Canada and other states to see more family and visit museums. At that time, we had not heard about Children's Museums, and if we had, I am sure we would have gone. Dad was big on us relaxing, and he also gave us the opportunity to learn about history, music, current events, and life in general.

As parents, my husband and I tried to do the same, and now I am watching my boys carry on the tradition. However, financially, it is a bit more difficult today than it was when I was a kid. Many families have both parents working, and in single-parent households, the parent often works two jobs.

So, how do we give our children and grandchildren the opportunity to learn while having fun when money and time are tight? How do we create memories for our children that they someday will want to do with their children? The answer is a "staycation" with Mid-Michigan Children's Museum (MMCM) at the top of the list.

The Great Lakes Bay Region has a lot to offer families, and your MMCM has a summer of fun planned. Theme weeks and summer camp are a great way to create memories that your child(ren) will remember for a long time. Be sure to check out the summer activities in this newsletter and also at [michildrensmuseum.org](http://michildrensmuseum.org). We hope to see you this summer!



*Ann Doyle*

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## Summer Camps



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### Diane Novak - Museum Experience Coordinator



This summer, when you visit the museum, be sure to spend some time in our 'Scrap Studio' gallery. Here, you'll find materials like empty water bottles, egg cartons, and cardboard tubes, with new items being added each week to inspire unique craft projects.

In our 'Art Mart' gallery, you can draw or paint a picture to take home and display on your wall to add a touch of creativity to any room.

Before you leave, please stop by the reception desk and show us the creations you and your child/children have made together. We love seeing all the unique artwork!

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### Jessie Teeter - Director of Exhibits and Education

This month marks the start of summer camp here at MMCM! From music to sports to superheroes, we have a camp theme for everyone! Registration is available on our website. Limited scholarships are still available. If you have any questions, please reach out to me at [playeducator@michildrensmuseum.org](mailto:playeducator@michildrensmuseum.org)



In addition to summer camps, museum staff will be hard at work this summer making updates to some of our galleries. Our "Big Kids" in the middle of the museum will be getting a new look. Our Insides Out gallery will have some new items being added throughout the next few months as

well. Be sure to stop in and check out what's new and take advantage of our "Dress Up, Cost Down" theme weeks. Have a great summer!

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## 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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**Whitney Watt - Volunteer Coordinator**



## Summer Camp Volunteers Needed

When:

Each camp is scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

**June 17-19:** Museum Mixtape (partnered with Musico Lessons LLC)

**June 24-26:** Cirque de Muse

**July 8-10:** Let's Get Physical

**July 15-17:** Once Upon a Time (partnered with Read Association & Hoyt Library)

**July 22-24:** Secret Agent Academy (partnered with Castle Museum of Saginaw)

**July 29-31:** Up, Up, and Away Superhero Academy

**August 5-7:** Disaster Defenders

**August 12-14:** Into the Wild

There are 3 shifts available:

Shift 1: **10 AM - 1 PM**

Shift 2: **1 PM - 4 PM**

Shift 3: **10 AM - 4 PM**

Up to 3 volunteers needed per shift, per day

Volunteers are needed for the following tasks:

- Assisting Camp Director with themed activities
- Monitor campers in galleries to ensure safety
- Keeping the camp room clean and organized
- Tasks are not limited to this list

Who:

- 14 year old Students
- College Students
- Educators (current or retired)
- Adults
- Anyone interested in working with children aged 6-10 years old
- The list goes on and on!

MMCM's contribution to the community is made by hosting fun and educational Summer Camps for children aged 6-10 years old. Volunteers play a crucial role in a safe and educational experience for campers.

Volunteer requirements are at least 14 years old or in the 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

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 free with admission. This month's kits include:



- **June 7th:** Sunglasses
- **June 14th:** Paper Plate Seagulls
- **June 21st:** Paper Plate Sun Visors
- **June 28th:** Toilet Paper Tube Frog Jumpers

Summer doesn't slow down for us at MMCM! Don't miss us at the community events this summer! You can catch us at these events coming up:

- Greater Midland Dow's Run Walk Expo at the Greater Midland Community Center on Friday, **June 6th**
- The Castle Museum's Summer Kick-Off on Saturday, **June 7th**
- D.E.A.R. at the Saginaw Children's Zoo on Wednesday, **June 25th**
- National Night Out at the Saginaw Soccer Complex on Tuesday, **August 5th**
- Children's Fun Night at Haithco Park on Wednesday, **August 13th**

It's also time to begin planning for our annual Touch-A-Truck!

Are you looking for a short-term volunteer opportunity? We are seeking help for our Touch-A-Truck planning committee. Committee members may be responsible for assisting in securing sponsorships and participating vehicles, organizing crafts and activities for the day, or helping to arrange volunteers for the preparation and completion of the event. It's a great opportunity to help put smiles on the faces of children.

Touch-A-Truck will be held on **Saturday, September 6, 2025**, from **10:00 AM to 3:00 PM** this year! The outside portion is free to the public, and children get to experience vehicles of all types by climbing into them and imagining themselves driving a dump truck, a fire truck, an emergency vehicle, a race car, and many more. With additional crafts and activities around the museum, it's sure to be a fun day to learn and play! Keep an eye on our Facebook for more updates on this event.

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# Dress Up, Cost Down Theme Weeks

**Dress up according to our themes, each participant will earn \$1 off their admission! This doesn't count toward event days or summer camps.**

|            |                         |               |                    |
|------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| June 3-7   | Tie Dye                 | July 22-26    | Secret Agents      |
| June 10-14 | Hawaiian Shirt          | July 29-Aug 2 | Cowboy/girl        |
| June 17-21 | Crazy Hat               | August 5-9    | Super Hero         |
| June 24-28 | Dress like Grandparents | August 12-16  | Retro              |
| July 1 - 5 | Red, White, and Blue    | August 19-23  | Mismatched Clothes |
| July 8-12  | Sports!                 | August 26-30  | School Spirit      |
| July 15-19 | Fairy Tale              |               |                    |

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## Jeff McLellan - Marketing Director



Hey \*|FIRST\_NAME|\*,

Above this text block, you will see the schedule for our summer theme weeks. The savings are easy! (And fun, I might add!) Just do a little dressing up, it doesn't need to be an entire outfit!

Take tie-dye week for example. It could be a scarf, or a shirt, or maybe socks, or if you wanted to, you could do a full outfit, kid-friendly, of course! Just like that, you get a dollar off your admission!

It may be "just a dollar," but if everyone in a family of 5 participates, that's \$5 off your admission! That's like 2 pounds of Honeycrisp apples, it's like a sleeve of Thomas' everything bagels, or 3 Lunchables, or Lofthouse White Frosted Patriotic Sugar Cookies 10 count, 13.5 oz... What? No, I'm not looking at a grocery store ad just for this bit... 🙄

Anyways, it's fun, easy, and will save you some money. Give it a try!

Is anyone else hungry?

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

This month's Anagram:  
**Choose Roomful Strums**

How did you do with last month's anagram?

Last month's:  
**A Myer's Fowl - May Flowers**

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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)  
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Karen Stiffler: (MyMichigan Health)  
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Kristen Opperman: (Hemlock Semi-Conductor)  
Dr. David Cline: (SVSU)  
Michelle Youngstrom: (Teacher)  
Domingo Vasquez: (Musico Lessons)  
Dennis Barlow: (SISD)

\*|NPO\_NAME|\*

\*|NPO\_ADDRESS|\*

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