Ann Doyle, CEO/ President



“Every step forward we take is powered by your kindness and commitment.”

Happy April!

For a moment in time, sponsors, donors, guests, volunteers, board members and team members came together to make this year’s Kids at Heart an evening of fun, camaraderie, great entertainment and food. Where else can an adult go and have fun like a kid?

So many children will have smiles on their faces when they visit the museum, and it’s because of all who helped to make this year’s event a great success. At the end of the evening, we had great fun watching the bidding on Karen Sumption’s crocheted Lions afghan. It sold for $1200, and we are truly thankful for Karen’s creativity and for the buyer who had just the right place for it.

I also want to thank Hemlock Semiconductor for donating used desktop computers, laptop computers, monitors and the accessories for three stations. All the computers are a great addition for interns, volunteers and staff as needed. HSC also helped the team with a grant for new computers in 2025.

We are so blessed to have a community that supports Mid-Michigan Children’s Museum's mission: to provide a hands-on, “play and learn” environment that engages and motivates children to use their curiosity and creativity to learn about the wonders of our world.

Stay tuned for more fun in 2026!



Ann Doyle

MICHIGAN ARTS & CULTURE COUNCIL

Thank you to MACC for their generous grant, so we can get new phones and cameras!

Check out our Kids At Heart sponsors!

The Big Kids - $5000

HSC® HEMLOCK SEMICONDUCTOR

MERRILL
A BANK OF AMERICA COMPANY

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

The Iles Schropp Group

Joe Hausbeck Family Fondation

Creators - $3000

GARBER AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

CHEVROLET Cadillac NISSAN HYUNDAI CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep RAM

nexteer AUTOMOTIVE

a leader in intuitive motion control





Explorers - $2000





Learners - $1000







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John & Martha Kaczynski

Morley

Prost! Wine Bar & Charcuterie

Shaheen Development

Trident Manufacturing

Tri-Star Trust Bank

Michael & Kimberly Keller Zehnder

Problem Solvers - $500

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Blue Thumb
Ponds / Waterfalls / Fountains

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Kyle & Raquel Braun

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Auto-Owners INSURANCE
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J.E. JOHNSON
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PATRIOT Carpet Cleaning
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SAMSA
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TEAM ONE CREDIT UNION
Winninger Fire Protection



Diane Novak, Museum Experience Coordinator

Hosting your child's birthday party at the museum is a great way to celebrate their special day.

Our dedicated team ensures that your party room is thoroughly cleaned before and after the party, allowing you to relax and enjoy the celebration without worrying about the mess. You have the flexibility to personalize the room with tabletop decorations and create lasting memories with your family and friends.

Our versatile rooms are available to rent for a wide range of occasions, including meetings, baby showers, family reunions, and holiday parties. Also, the museum can be exclusively rented for private after-hours parties or events, providing a unique and memorable experience. You can easily schedule a birthday party, rent a room, or the whole museum, in person or via phone.

For more information, please visit our website at michildrensmuseum.org or give us a call at (989) 399-6626. Please be aware that our birthday party rooms fill up fast! We recommend

booking a few months in advance to secure your preferred date and avoid disappointment.

Jessie Teeter, Director of Exhibits and Education



It may be early, but we are already starting to plan for summer camps at MMCM. We are bringing back some favorites like cooking, LEGO, and messy science! We also have a new one partnered with the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History that will bring the past to life. Registration is now open! We hope you will plan some of your summer with us!

Before we get to summer at the museum, we still have Toddler Time every Tuesday from 11-11:30am. Join us for crafts geared toward your 2-5 year old. Hope to see you soon!

Summer Camps

Field Trips

Kids At Heart 2026








Farm
Barn















Whitney Watt, Volunteer Coordinator

Special event volunteers are needed for the Indoor Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt on Saturday, 4/5/26.

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

Our next event is celebrating MMCM's 18th birthday with STEM activities (Sponsored by Cummins & partnering with Nexteer)on Saturday, 5/2/26.

New volunteers must submit a new volunteer application and background check authorization by clicking the registration button below.

E-mail Whitney | Volunteer Registration | Volunteer Group Reg.

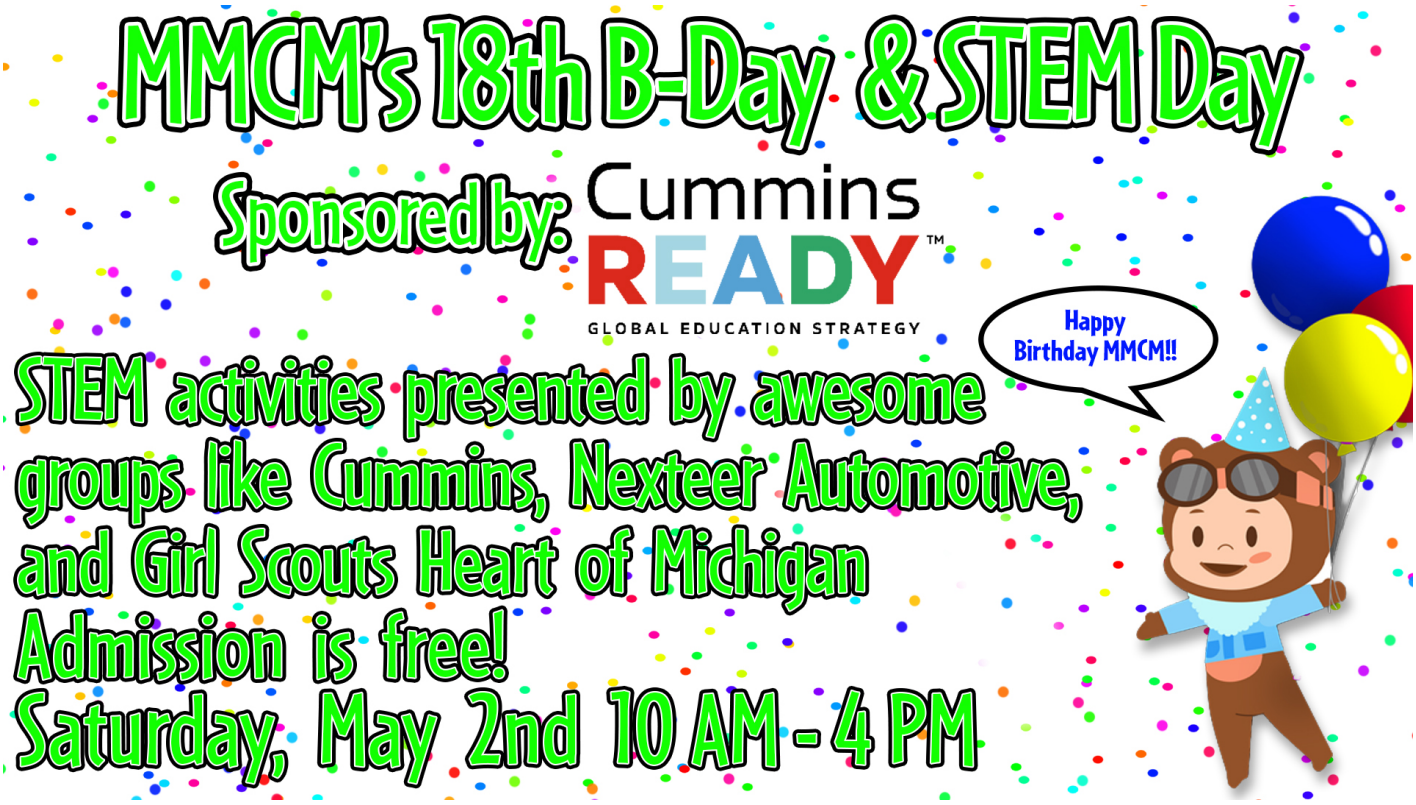


Emily Schmidt, Special Events Coordinator



Hop on over to join us for our annual Indoor Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt! This year, on Saturday, April 4th, from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, kids will be able to scour our galleries for eggs. In exchange for their find, kids will receive a tooth-friendly goodie bag with all the essentials for happy, healthy teeth! Admission for this event is $3 per person, ages 2 and older. Everyone under age 2 is still free! Thank you to these great sponsors: Jessica R. Bentoski, DDS, MS, PLLC; Dr. Robert Cady, DDS, PC; Dr. Monica Lamble Periodontics & Dental Implants; Dr. Benjamin Lievense, DDS, PLLC, Mertz-Bricker Family Dentistry; Jennifer Schau DDS Gentle Family Dentistry; and Dr. Patrick T. Ruth, DDS, PLLC! Also, thank you to Delta Dental Foundation and Ashly Bailey, DDS, for the dental supplies to stuff our goodie bags!

Then - Get ready for an awesome STEM-themed birthday bash! Your Mid-Michigan Children's Museum will be celebrating 18 years of serving the kids of the Great Lakes Bay Community on Saturday, May 2nd, from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. With the help of Cummins Inc., admission to the museum will be entirely free on this day! Don't miss out on STEM activities presented by awesome groups like Cummins, Nexteer Automotive, and Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, and take home an awesome STEM-filled swag bag. Keep an eye on our Facebook for more information about this event and learn how Cummins Inc. is working to fund hands-on STEM programming at children's museums across the world!





Jeff McLellan, Marketing Director

Hello *{{First Name}}*,

We've got a new four-legged friend at the museum… but there's just one problem - this good dog still needs a name!

We're inviting our community to help us find the perfect name for our four-legged friend! Submit your best name ideas through our quick form (one entry per IP address, so make it count), and once we hit the deadline, April 18th, we'll narrow it down to our top 8-16 favorites. From there, the real fun begins! Our social media followers will vote for their favorite in a bracket-style showdown until one name comes out on top. The winning name will earn a permanent spot on our pup's collar!

Got a good name in mind? Click the "Name That Dog" button and send it our way!

Name That Dog!

And thanks, as always, for making it to the end of the newsletter.

For those of you who are new here, I like to include something fun and interactive at the end of the newsletter. This year, I'm doing word searches! The words can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, and they can appear forwards or backwards to make it a little more challenging. Clicking on the image will take you to the website where you can complete it digitally! Enjoy!



Name That Dog

April 2026

U V D N D O S A D U H B G R T U A I F X
L Y K P O J D C T F D A T A E V D Y S U
C J N L B C P R F K D O M V S K E E G L
X U H N E M J G A L O S H E S A I R L S
V I Z B U X Y O B T I N W Q S L O E N M
E G X N U B J A H R N P B T F P N T I U
C W T Y G G R B D F A T E R Z O P S W Q
V W N Q N D R E M R S R E R V Z Q A I D
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Z Q H A S L C S L S T B I H F W E H U Y
P E G H B L T A T U H Z R C M S L T W B
L L G H W P M W B H A T B A P D D O K N
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K S U O T G F U G G Q U A R T D P W L F
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H R D N H O B C B P B B Q T E I O G P J
Y G Y H V U X L J S J E M T B N E D P I

1. Easter **2.** EggHunt **3.** TeethsterBunny **4.** Spring **5.** Showers **6.** Diamond
7. Toothbrush **8.** Toothpaste **9.** Floss **10.** Mouthwash **11.** ArborDay **12.** Tulips
13. Puddles **14.** Galoshes **15.** Butterflies

Our 2026 Board of Directors.

Luke Hendrick (Board Chair) - RC Hendrick & Son, Inc.
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Marisa Ahrens (Treasurer) - Yeo & Yeo CPAs & Advisors
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