

Ann Doyle - President/CEO



Tropical Vibes, Giving Hearts

Can you feel it coming? Are you ready? Flowers! Pig Roast and Hawaiian theme food! Games! Adults only partying! A Luau! Wait! Can guests wear their Hawaiian shirts? Whoa! This sounds like fun!

Awards to Hemlock Semiconductor and Ron Helmer!

Catered by From Scratch! Soda, Beer, Wine, oh my!

Raffles! 50/50! Silent Auction! Live Auction! Did I mention bidding includes trips?

What is this, you ask? How do I become a part of this super fun evening? Only $35 per person! That's amazing! The best part? It's for the kids!

Kids at Heart is the annual fundraiser for Mid-Michigan Children's Museum. We need you! We need your friends, family, and co-workers. See Jeff's section for how to purchase a ticket, and/or a sponsorship (comes with tickets). Money is used to keep prices low or discounted for many different events so that kids can visit the museum and learn while playing. Your help is greatly appreciated by the staff and board of the museum, but also by the children and their families.

Check out all of our great Kids At Heart sponsors throughout the newsletter!!!

The Big Kids - $5000

HEMLOCK SEMICONDUCTOR

MERRILL
A BANK OF AMERICA COMPANY
Merrill Lynch Wealth Management
The Iles Schropp Group

Creators - $3000

GARBER AUTOMOTIVE GROUP
CHEVROLET Cadillac NISSAN HYUNDAI CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep RAM

MEMBERS CREDIT UNION FIRST

nexteer AUTOMOTIVE
a leader in intuitive motion control

wildfire credit union



Diane Novak - Museum Experience Coordinator

While the museum is closed on Mondays, the staff and some volunteers are still working. 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.

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, tissue boxes, 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. When all the toys are clean and dry, they place them back in the galleries. They also clean all the galleries in the museum.

The museum staff spends Mondays cleaning and washing the toys, 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. We are grateful for all the help we receive in cleaning the museum. That is why we are closed all day on Mondays.

Explorers - $2000

APPLIED INNOVATION

YEO & YEO CPAS & ADVISORS

Jessie Teeter - Director of Exhibits and Education



March is set to be a busy month! We have our Kids at Heart fundraiser coming up on March 5th. Due to this, we will not be doing Toddler Time on Tuesday, March 3rd, but it will return the following week on Tuesday, March 10th at 11am.

In addition to the fundraiser, your Gallery Guru has been hard at work making updates for you to enjoy. The first update is Mind Unwind. It is in a new location across from the Airways. Help your child manage their emotions and have a sensory unwind with a new bubble wall. Take a seat and talk about where they are mentally. The other update I am excited to share is that the museum finally got the giant heart! It is back in the cardiologist's office in the Insides Out Gallery.

The staff loves to hear your feedback, constructive or positive. Please share your experiences with us!

Learners - $1000

CASE SYSTEMS
BOSTONtec
DriveCentric
FRANKENMUTH CHEESE HAUS
MORLEY
Drost! WINE BAR & CHARCUTERIE
SHAHEEN DEVELOPMENT
TRI-STAR TRUST BANK
TRIDENT MANUFACTURING
Michael & Kimberly Keller Zehnder



Whitney Watt - Volunteer Coordinator

The Moe Esrkine award is an annual award presented at MMCM's Kids at Heart fundraiser to honor and acknowledge a volunteer who goes above and beyond to support MMCM's mission. This year's Moe Erskine Awardee is Ron Helmer. Ron is a cherished volunteer who started volunteering in 2016. His talents include maintenance in our galleries that help keep the exhibits working and safe for the families and visiting guests with his best friend Tucker, a certified therapy dog. It is volunteers like Ron that help keep the museum operating.

Kids at Heart volunteer opportunities are still available for fundraiser set-up & clean-up on Tuesday, 3/3, Wednesday morning & afternoon 3/4/, Thursday 3/5, and clean up Friday 3/6. If you are aged 17 years or older, opportunities are available on the night of the fundraiser, Thursday, 3/5.

Upcoming special events volunteers are needed for:
- **Indoor Tooth-Friendly Egg Hunt Saturday 4/5/26**
- **Celebrating MMCM's 18th birthday with STEM activities on Saturday 5/2/26.**

Contact Whitney for more information

Problem Solvers - $500

BIERLEIN

Blue Thumb
Ponds / Waterfalls / Fountains

BK BRAUN KENDRICK
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

COX AUTOMOTIVE

DUPERON

KPA

LB LOOBY BAUMGARTEN P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

Mark & Anne Flegenheimer

M My Michigan Health
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH

Greg & Karen Stiffler

Profit Recovery Partners, LLC
Innovative Expense Reduction Solutions

Emily Schmidt - Special Events Coordinator



It's not too late 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! If you are interested in sponsoring this event or donating tooth-friendly materials such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, or floss, reach out to Emily at specialevents@michildrensmuseum.org or 989-399-6626.

Connectors - $250

Kyle & Raquel Braun

BUYREPOS.NET

CAROL M. THOMAS Elder & Estate Law

dealerlogix

Ben & Amy Denay

Steve & Ann Doyle

Grapp Lerash Certified Public Accountants

Luke & Danielle Hendrick

HOERNER & GEER CPAS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Evan & Alexia Houpis

IEUTER INSURANCE GROUP

Auto-Owners INSURANCE LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

J.E. JOHNSON Total Mechanical Solutions

MARLO

Michigan Pipe & Valve

netsource one

PATRIOT Carpet Cleaning

Winninger Fire Protection



Jeff McLellan - Marketing Director

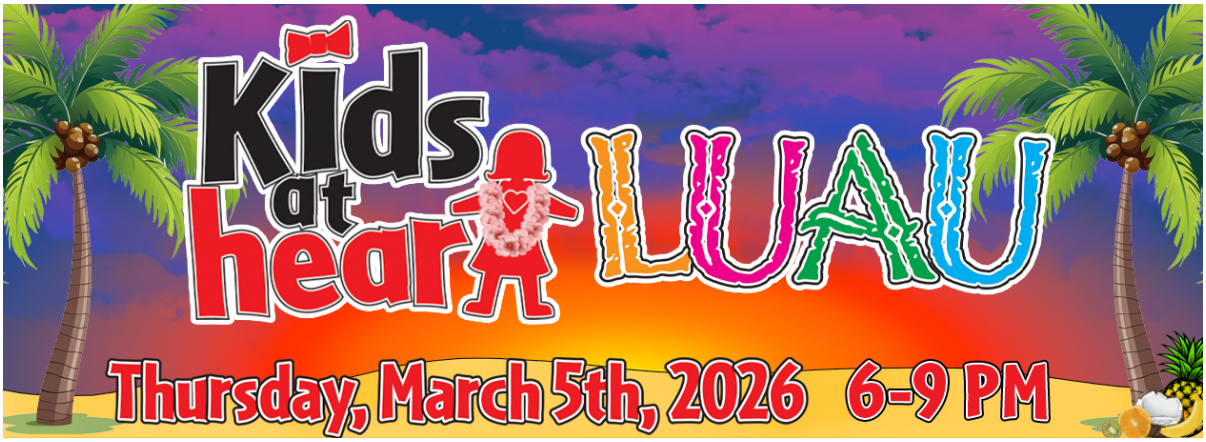
Howdy folks,

Below, I've added instructions on how to register for our Kids At Heart event on March 5th, 6 PM - 9 PM.

Registration is fairly straightforward, but here are some things to reiterate just in case:

• All sponsorship levels and general admission tickets will get you into the event at the museum with dinner and drinks included for the night.
• The "Just Bidding" tickets will not get you into the event. They just allow you to bid on the silent auction items. (from anywhere)
• The Givi app, while not necessary, does make bidding simpler once you've purchased your tickets. (including the "just bidding" ticket)
• The Givi App can be downloaded HERE for Apple users or HERE for Android users
• Any items you win can be taken with you on the night of the event after they've been checked out.
• If you won't be attending the event, any won items can be picked up thereafter during regular business hours.

I will be forgoing the word search this month because of how lengthy this newsletter is. Be expecting it next month though! Thanks, as always, for making it to the end of the newsletter! We hope to see you at Kids At Heart! LUAU!



Kids At Heart - How To's

The Kids At Heart fundraiser is our biggest of the year, and as such, requires a lot of info! We've condensed it and made it as easy as possible here! If you have a question that isn't answered here please reach out to either Jessie Or Jeff at the buttons below.

Ask Jessie Ask Jeff

Getting Registered

Registration is simple, and if you would like to bid online or attend the event in person, you will need a ticket. Tickets can be purchased using the button below.

Get Tickets

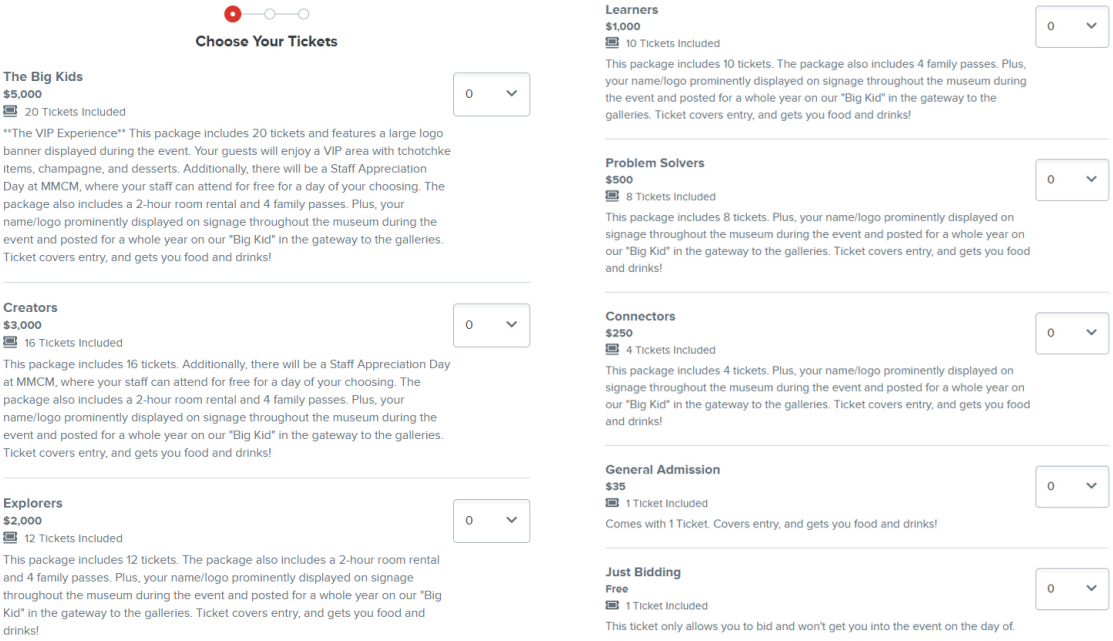
Once there, Click the big red "Sponsor/ Get Tickets" button that looks like this:

Presented by **Mid-Michigan Children's Museum**

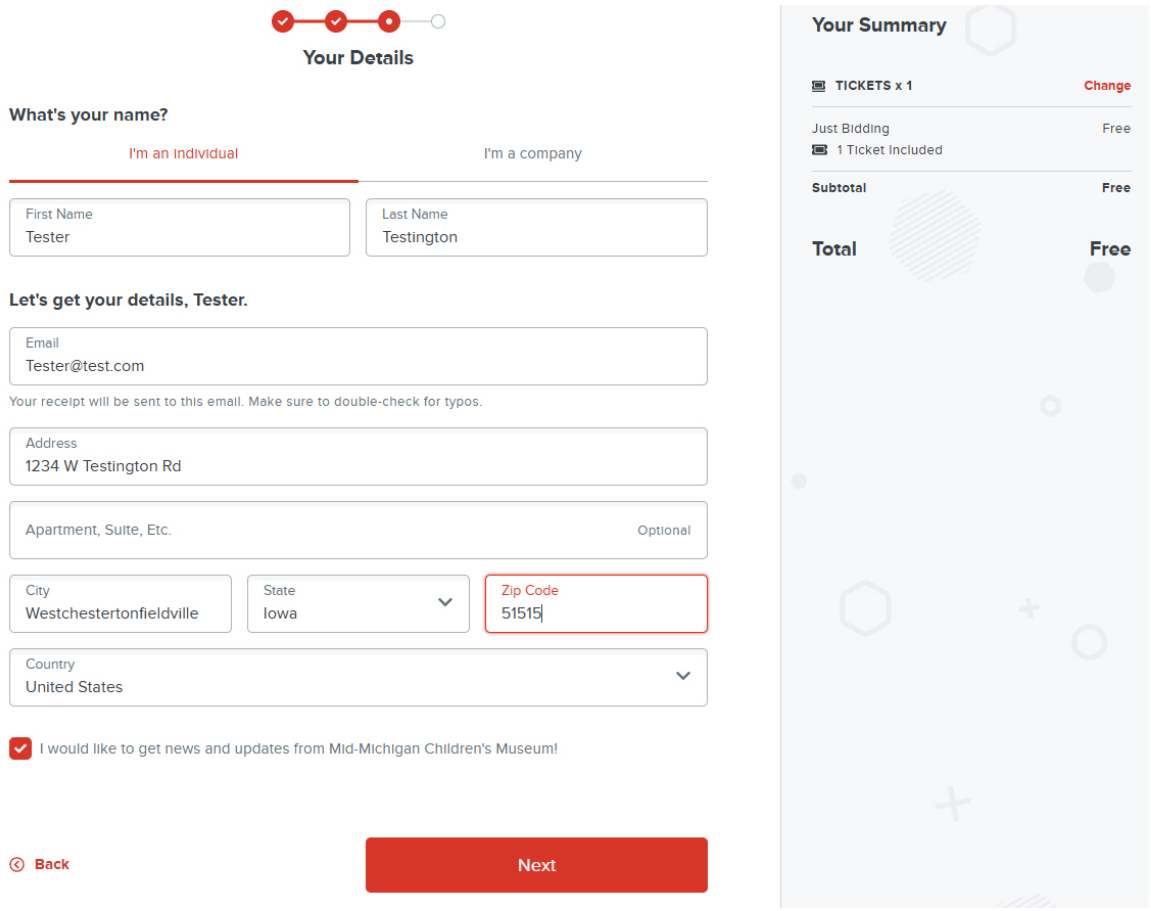
Kids At Heart Luau - 2026

Sponsor / Get Tickets

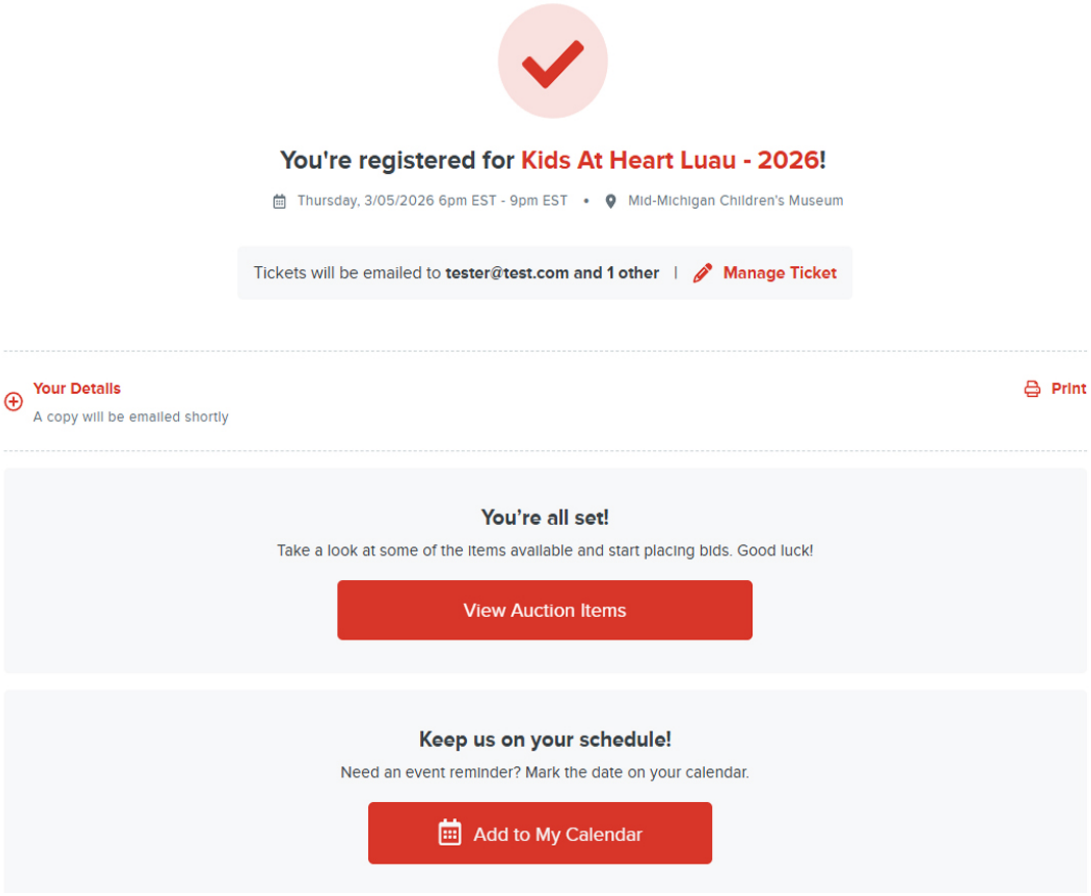
Share:



You'll then see the registration/Sponsor levels. (shown above) If you would like to become a sponsor, you can choose a level from "Big Kids" to our lowest-priced sponsorship option, "Connector." All Sponsorship levels come with extra perks on top of your event tickets. If you would like to just get into the event with food and drinks and be able to bid on silent auctions, select "General Admission," which is $35, or if you just want to bid on silent auctions from the comfort of your living room sofa, you can choose the free option "Just Bidding." Then enter your info as shown below, then click next.



After another brief info questionnaire, you will have completed your ticket purchase as seen below. Allowing you to view the auction or add the event to your calendar. You will be emailed links to the auction and a virtual ticket as well. In that e-mail will be a link to download the Givi app for Android or iPhones (which makes bidding easier, but is not necessary.)

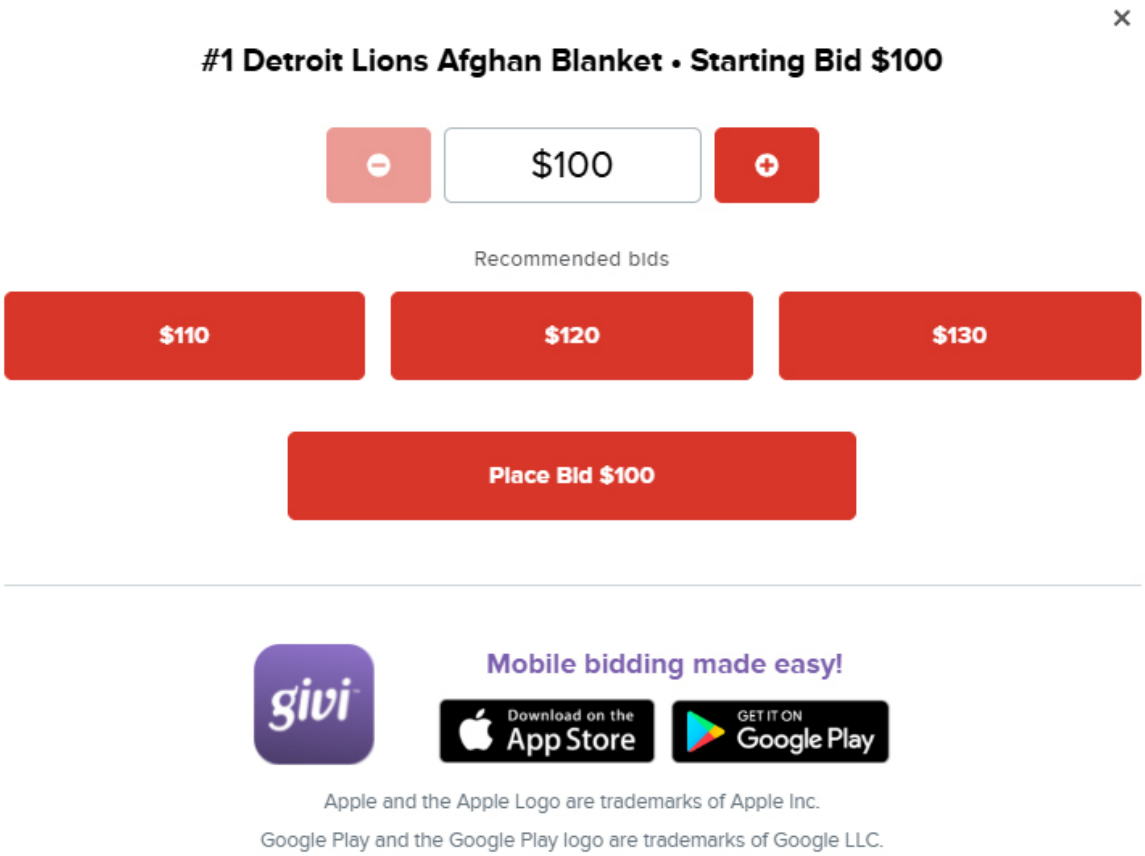


If you choose to use Givi, download the app, sign in with the same e-mail address you used to purchase your ticket, and add your payment info, this payment info will be used to process your winning bids. Now you're ready to bid!

If you choose to just use the web, you can click on "View Auction" and then clicking an item will prompt you to log in, enter the same e-mail address that you used when purchasing your ticket, and follow the prompts to input payment info. This payment info will be used to process your winning bids. Now you're ready to bid!

With either you use please check the "notify me by e-mail" or "by text" boxes. This way you will be notified if/when you're outbid!

Once you're set up to bid, clicking an item will bring up the bidding dialog box, shown below. Bids are increased by set amounts per item. You can set your max bid, and the software will bid on your behalf until your max is reached.



Winning bids are processed at the time of auction close (8:45 PM on March 5th.)

If you are attending the event we also have 6 live auctions to bid on during the event! See them below. You must be in person to bid on/ win these.





Our 2026 Board of Directors.

Luke Hendrick (Board Chair) - RC Hendrick & Son, Inc.
Ryan Shepard (Board Vice Chair) - Garber Management Group
Marisa Ahrens (Treasurer) - Yeo & Yeo CPAs & Advisors
Kristen Opperman (Secretary) - Hemlock Semiconductor
Erika Ardouin (Immediate Past Chair) - Garber Management Group
Dennis Barlow – Saginaw Intermediate School District
Dr. David Cline – Saginaw Valley State University
Stacie Quast – Remax Results
Kosta Povich – Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner PLC
Paul Sanderude - Dow Chemical Company
Karen Stiffler – MyMichigan Medical Center Saginaw
Domingo Vasquez III – Musico Lessons LLC
Chris Young – Dow Chemical Company
Michelle Youngstrom - Trinity Lutheran Preschool