

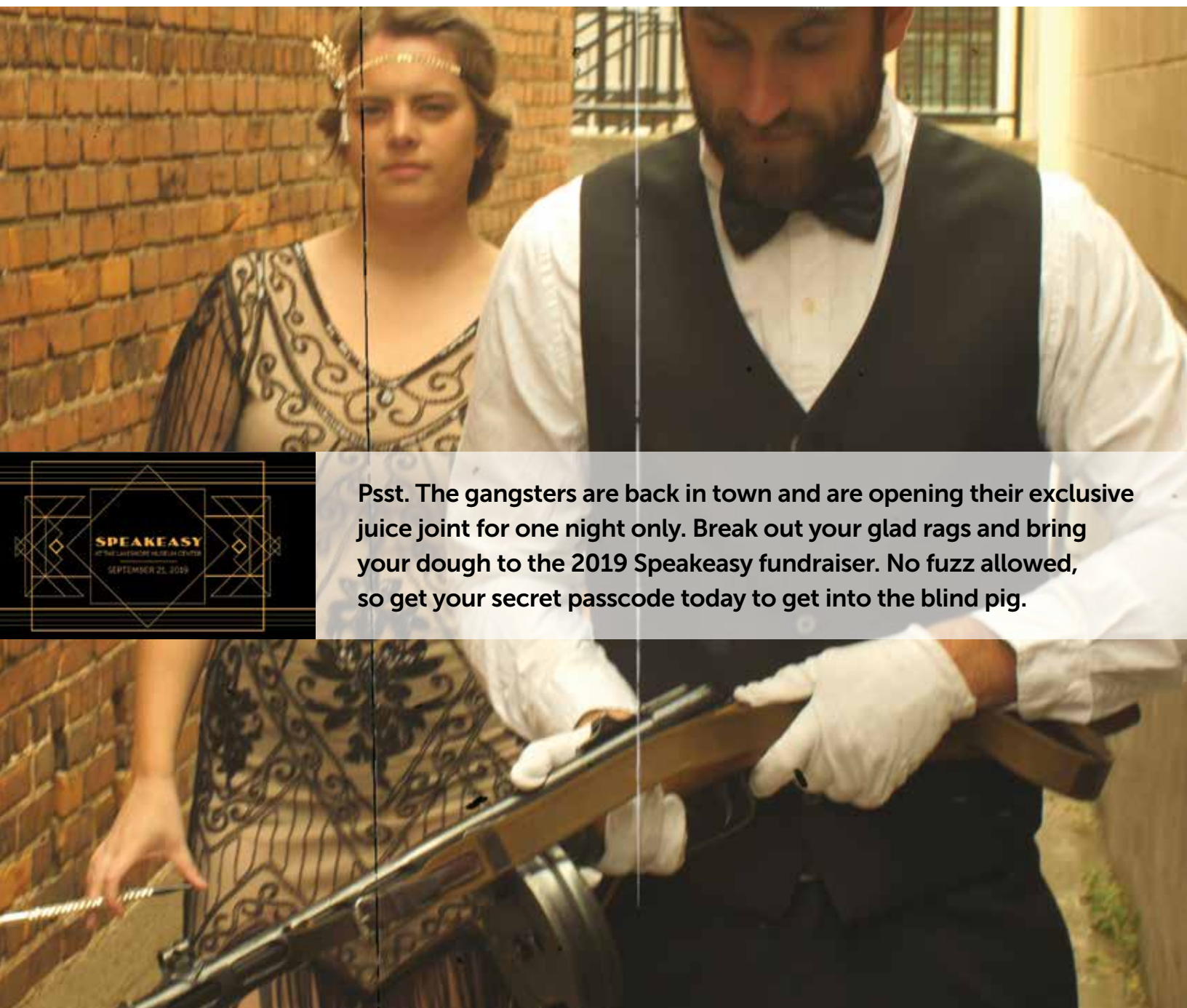


# THE FUTURE OF HISTORY

8/2019

VOL 19

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**SPEAKEASY**

AT THE LAKESHORE MUSEUM CENTER  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Psst. The gangsters are back in town and are opening their exclusive juice joint for one night only. Break out your glad rags and bring your dough to the 2019 Speakeasy fundraiser. No fuzz allowed, so get your secret passcode today to get into the blind pig.

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Annoesjka Soler

## Accessibility, inclusion, and FUN

In May, I attended the American Alliance of Museums conference in New Orleans with Melissa Horton, our Program and Exhibits Director. I was focused on sessions pertaining to building a new Science/Children's Museum (and beignets!) and Melissa focused on Visitor Experience and Exhibit-related sessions. If

cost had not been a factor, it would have been great to bring more staff and board members along to soak in the ever-evolving trends of Museums and the communities they serve.

The over-arching theme of the conference was accessibility and inclusion in museums, whether history, science, art, historic homes, or even an obscure museum of ramen noodles! Every museum wants to serve its community but due to the nature of our buildings and culture, many of us are not as inclusive or accessible as we need to be.



Giant Lego® hummingbird exhibit in a recharging station at the conference.

As Melissa and I debriefed each day about the sessions we attended, the people we met, and the museums we visited, we would ask, "How does this apply to our museum?" We were energized knowing much of what we have been doing with changing and adding programming over the last five years is exactly what the national trends are. Our direction for more hands-on and experiential exhibits is right on track. Some of the powerful take-aways included ethnic fraud awareness, unintentional barriers, and potential funding options for programs and capital needs.

While we are anxious to start building, we are moving forward with the expansion of our museum in a deliberate and intentional way. We are discussing the layout of all internal spaces so they can be multi-functional when needed, retrofitted in the future without major hassle, and accessible to everyone. The new look and feel inside and out will be so much more welcoming and inclusive than the existing space.

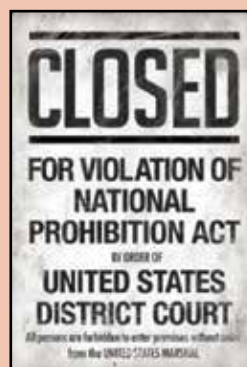
You will be seeing and hearing more about our exhibits, programming, and expansion plans over the next year and I welcome your input on all of it. The way we share Muskegon's amazing history through stories and playful experiences is intended to make learning fun. Come have fun with us!

Being greeted at the New Orleans Museum of Art and Botanical Garden networking event.



# Lumber Baron's Ball Speakeasy

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Secret entrances. Passwords. Games. Drinks. Flappers. Gangsters. It's all in store for you on September 21 from 6p until 10p at the Lakeshore Museum Center. This is the place to be!

Time to get all done up in your glad rags and come on down to the juice joint! This year's Lumber Baron's Ball, our signature fundraising event, steps back in time to the Roaring '20s, and along the way we lowered the scratch you need to get in the door. For just \$50 per person, you too can party like it's 1920, while helping support the mission of the Lakeshore Museum Center.

**Swell, you say!** I have \$50 and am ready for putting on the Ritz in the seedy world of illegal speakeasies that cropped up when the 18th amendment was passed. What's the blind pig got in store for me?

Well, we will level with you. First you will need to find the secret entrance, and don't forget your password! Once inside, sneak through the back hallways to find the cash bar, and choose from an array of delicious appetizers from Harris Catering. Learn to play Vegas-style games without risking your own money, compete to take home your

favorite silent auction package, and get a steal of a deal on a great bottle of wine.

But wait, you say, how is this on the up and up? I don't want to end up on the lam! Rest assured that while we are having a great time with our theme, we've got the proper permissions for this event. You will be free to have a nifty time, while using your kale to support the mission of the Lakeshore Museum Center.

Tickets are available on our website through Eventbrite. If you need costume inspiration, we've got a Pinterest board for you to peruse. <https://www.pinterest.com/063mqnqlqemchwsjx5e6vkwvtmesiw/roaring-20s-costume-ideas/> You can also check out the silent auction packages ahead of time on the event page. <https://lakeshoremuseum.org/fundraiser-2019/>

Thank you to our generous sponsors for helping make this event a reality: The Hilt Foundation, Mart Dock, Muskegon Community College, Nichols, Systema Funeral and Cremation Services, Almond Products, Community Shores Bank, Eagle Alloy, Eagle Aluminum Cast Products, Shoreline Insurance Agency, UBS Financial Services: Kendall Group, and Newkirk Electric.



## We Want You! The future of exhibits at LMC

by Melissa Horton, Programs and Exhibits Director

Calling all hat owners! As we continue to grow, the exhibits team has been researching the future of exhibits. Through this research and by listening to our community, the team agrees it is all about community connections. Museums need to be an inclusive place for all to attend *and* for all see their own history and culture exhibited.



Hats from the collection of the Lakeshore Museum Center

The Lakeshore Museum Center is showcasing a series of community-curated exhibits for 2019 through 2021. It began with the Muskegon Civic Theatre anniversary exhibit that is up now until November 2. It will continue with a partnership with local breweries as our next exhibit, *Cheers! A History of Brewing in Muskegon*, which opens December 6.

Here's where you come in: we want to showcase your unique story and special hat. During the summer of 2020 Lakeshore Museum Center is hosting a community-curated exhibit focused on hats and the stories behind each hat. If you have a hat with a cool story, please let us know by emailing [melissa@lakeshoremuseum.org](mailto:melissa@lakeshoremuseum.org) or attending our **Hat Happy Hour on September 12**. More on page 5.

We want you to help us create this exhibit.

## STEM Fun!

It's finally ready! Come check out the STEM Center and Science Center and see what we've been working on all year. In the STEM Center you can see the laws of motion in action with our giant Newton's cradle. Test your building skills to see if your structure can withstand an earthquake. Race Hot Wheels® cars down a track and learn how to use the Makey Makey. If you get stuck or need some guidance, ask our STEM Team! We will be hanging out in the STEM Center to assist you and your family as you explore the room. The STEM Center is fun for all ages.

The Science Center also has new exhibits for you to discover. Learn how water drops move through the water cycle with a new interactive model. Predict how the "water" will move through the system by adjusting the angle and test your theory. Complete your weather journey by forming your own tornado, and watch the globe travel through the different seasons. Lastly, see how the planets rotate around the sun with our new Orrey.

**Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math:** fun for all!



Earthquake Table



Newton's Cradle



Water Cycle Interactive



ASD Sensory Saturday



It is an opportunity for community members to bring in their favorite hats and provide information about them to be considered for the exhibit. We will have a brief presentation at 6p by Collections Manager, Brenda Nemetz about some interesting hats in our collection, as well as light appetizers and a cash bar.

## September Museum Fun!

by Jackie Huss, Program Manager-Museum Center

We have a wide variety of engaging programs planned for this fall. We will kick off our *Friday Family Fun Nights* for the school year on **September 6** from 5:30–7:30p with a Muskegon Civic Theatre theme. This a great opportunity for community members of all ages to enjoy evening hours at the museum! *Friday Family Fun Nights* are supported by *Mart Dock*.

**September 7** is an *ASD Sensory Saturday* morning from 9–11a. Families whose children have ASD, or sensory disorders, are invited to attend this special event! This is a FREE event where a variety of accommodations have been put into place to create an inclusive, welcoming, and safe place for children and families. *Thank you to the Community Foundation of Muskegon County for their support of this program.*

Then **September 12** we will host a *Hat Happy Hour* from 5:30–7:30p. Have you ever wanted to be part of an exhibit? This free event is a kickoff to our 2020 community-curated exhibit *Hats Off to Muskegon*.



numerous examples from performances she has worked on over the years.

On **September 18** at 5:30p, guests may join Muskegon Civic Theatre Costumer, Deb Patten, for a glimpse into the theatre costuming world! She will cover the process of costuming a show with

Please RSVP through our website calendar at [www.lakeshoremuseum.org](http://www.lakeshoremuseum.org) or by calling 231-722-0278. There is no need to RSVP for the *Friday Family Fun Night*, and all four events are free of charge to Museum Members and Muskegon County Residents!

Looking ahead to October, we will be hosting another *Legends and Lore Walking Tour* as well as *Smashing Pumpkins Friday Family Fun Night*. In addition, we are introducing a new museum escape room: *Escape the Mad Scientist's Lab*! Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for details on these fun and exhibiting programs!



## Internship Spotlight

by LMC Intern Avery Lowe



As a kid, I grew up visiting Muskegon's Lakeshore Museum Center. In kindergarten, I remember staring up at the Museum's mastodon in awe and gawking at the ornateness of the Hackley & Hume Houses. I love history and have from a young age, and now so many years later, I have the opportunity to come back again as a general intern. Through this position, I get to see how all of the different

museum departments work together to preserve Muskegon's natural and cultural history.

Through this internship, I get to work in the archives, collections, exhibits, and education departments, seeing the integral role each department plays throughout this institution. While working in the Education Department and Exhibits, I've been able to help set up the LMC's new STEM center for children, as well as help run educational programs for kids. While at the archives and collections, I get to work with Muskegon's historic documents and artifacts, working to preserve them for future generations and make them accessible for the public. I love being able to hold history in my hands and see how the Muskegon we know today came to be.

As someone interested in eventually working for a historic museum, this internship has given me the opportunity to gain significant experience and find out what I enjoy doing. It allows me to fulfill my love of preserving and sharing history with others, as well as give back to the community I grew up in. And all these years later, I'm still gawking at that mastodon!



## Summertime Fun at the Historic Sites

by Erin Schmitz, Program Manager, Historic Sites

Have you been watching *The Curse of the Civil War Gold*? Many have been, and are curious to know the facts behind the show...and if the tunnels really exist! Actually, people were so curious that the *All Access Tours* in both June and July sold out. As of this writing, there is still room in the August, September and October tours. Get your tickets today, and discover for yourself what's behind those closed doors.

In the month of August, we will offer a closer look at the theory behind *The Curse of the Civil War Gold* and hope to answer the community's questions during the *Scandal!* program. YOU can participate in this illuminating interactive event as a juror to decide for yourself if Charles Hackley actually had something to do with stealing confederate gold and if there are tunnels. Sign up for this 90-minute program through our website or on Eventbrite by following the link on our Facebook page, Hackley and Hume Historic Site. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scandal-tickets-61163969078?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Even as we prepare for these programs, we find ourselves wondering how the summer goes by so quickly. Our fourth annual *Victorian Tea* was held in June. It has grown into an event that becomes more successful each year. We offered a beautiful tea in the City Barn and then a historic clothing fashion show!



Forty guests of our *Victorian Tea* oohed and aahed seeing the beautiful clothing from the 1890s bustle dresses to the 1920s flappers. With great feedback, we are already working on how we can top the event next year.

## Mise en Place: A place for everything and everything in its place

by Brenda Nemetz, Collections Manager

Playtime in our collection storage looks a little different from the rest of the museum. Admittedly, our department is a little nerdy and what we find fun does not appeal to everyone. Brainstorming and constructing artifact storage mounts allow us to show our creativity. Casually, we call these projects "arts-and-crafts." However, this process has a more serious role of aiding in long-term preservation.

Boxes, bags, and other enclosures protect objects against the environment, pests, and pollutants. A well-designed mount allows us to view the object from all angles while reducing direct contact. These projects are essential for preservation and show our commitment to professional standards.

You can see these projects in person during one of our two remaining members-only Collection Center tours. **They are scheduled for August 7 from 12–1p, and November 2 from 1–2p.**



### Fans

I designed custom boxes that not only protect the delicate edges of the fans, but also

can be stacked within another box to save space. Foam blocks lift the fan leaves to prevent distortion. Cotton ties secure the fans inside the box. Finally, I attached a photograph of the fan to the box exterior to help staff identify the correct object without opening and closing it.

I made a slipper out of Tyvek and polyester batting to put inside the shoe and prevent it from collapsing. The moccasins are stored in a custom-made box to increase visibility and minimize handling.



### Pens, Pencils, and Ice Picks

#### Oh My!

Pens and pencils were stored wrapped in tissue inside archival boxes. Creating accordion folds on card stock is a method to see every pen and pencil without handling. It prevents the objects from bumping into each other inside the box. We adapted the same method for rulers and ice picks.



### Yardsticks

The need to save space motivates some rehousing projects. Yardsticks were stored flat on a shelf, which resulted in storing more "air" than artifact. Corrugated board with foam spacers allowed the yardsticks to be stacked in one box. Now, they take up only a corner of a shelf.



### Epaulets

Unique objects create the opportunity for creativity. The metal fringe around the edges of these epaulets posed a dilemma for storage. Hanging them from its associated jacket puts unneeded stress on the epaulets. Over time, this would cause damage from the

weight of the metal. A custom cut section of foam supports the epaulets and allows the metal fringe to maintain its shape.



### Moccasins

Rehousing stabilizes objects with interior supports while also protecting from physical forces. The soft leather of moccasins requires support from inside to prevent the shoe from losing its shape.



## Who We Are and Why We're Here

by Gwen, Volunteer and Safety Manager

With the hustle and bustle of today's society, it can be hard to find time for yourself, let alone time to volunteer. But according to [www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com), volunteering is good for the mind and the body. Volunteering your time can even make it seem like you have *more time*.

At Lakeshore Museum Center, we are so grateful for those who have decided to volunteer their time with us. The volunteers at the Lakeshore Museum Center are a variety of ages, all with different experience, expertise, and interests. In this newsletter, I want to introduce you to three of our volunteers.

### ***Meet Carrie, a volunteer in the Archives:***

**What does your job at the Museum entail?**

I help Jeff Bessinger, the Archivist, with cataloging things like photographs and other "2D" artifacts in the Museum's collection.

**Why do you want to volunteer at the Museum?**

I am attending San Jose State University online, working toward a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science. I wanted to gain experience and learn as much as possible, which I am! It's fantastic!

**Have you discovered anything interesting or surprising?**

I have so much fun learning about the Muskegon area and its history. I love looking at pictures from 100 years ago and seeing things like how downtown and other neighborhoods looked, the styles of clothes people wore, how people lived and the trends of what jobs were.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would it be?**

I think it would be to any of the Scandinavian countries to see how they live and to see their environment. Or, you know, somewhere in the Caribbean would be nice. Warmer too.

### ***Meet Ava and Amelie, Junior Museum Professionals.***

The JMPs are a group of kids 10–15 years of age who learn the ins and outs of the museum world through volunteering.

### ***What do you do as a Junior Museum Professional?***

**Ava:** I help! I helped build a straw house in the STEM Center to practice for the three little pigs experiment (for STEM Camp).

**Amelie:** I helped kids find fossils at the Maranda Park Party.

### ***What do you like about volunteering at the Museum?***

**Ava:** I get to help people and learn new things.

**Amelie:** I enjoy volunteering because it lets me do older kid stuff!

### ***If you could travel anywhere in the world where would it be?***

**Ava:** Alaska! To see the Alaskan rainforest.

**Amelie:** Rome! Because they have cool buildings and gladiator stuff.

Want to learn more about volunteering for the Lakeshore Museum Center? Visit [www.lakeshoremuseum.org](http://www.lakeshoremuseum.org) or contact Gwen at [gwen@lakeshoremuseum.org](mailto:gwen@lakeshoremuseum.org) for more information!



Ava and Amelie practice making a straw house in the STEM Center.





#whatliftsyou



Fire training fun



Muskegon Civic Theatre stage for exhibit



Plasma globe

## Adaptable and Playful

Our team has a set list of annual tasks we know we must get through, like any Department. But we see more “emergencies” than most departments, such as roof leaks, broken heating or air conditioning systems, clogged or broken sinks and toilets, and alarm calls. It keeps us hopping and we are never bored. But we pride ourselves on being adaptable and playful, trying to lift spirits when things get crazy. #whatliftsyou

Without an exhibits curator for some time, we helped pick up the slack by building STEM Center and Science Center exhibit components, fixing

broken items in other galleries, and working on the Muskegon Civic Theatre exhibit.

We keep it light and fun for our team as well other departments because even though the “emergencies” may set us back on our annual tasks, being adaptable for these unplanned projects keeps us on our toes and allows us to flex our various skills/muscles. Plus, we get to interact with other departments and the public more, and nothing has been more fun than seeing visitors enjoy the thunder making machine, race track, stream table, plasma globe, and other items we helped build and bring to life for others to enjoy.

## Thanks For Being Awesome

by Katie VanDoeselaar

Development and Guest Relations Director

Well, the big news around here is the Speakeasy fundraiser we are planning for September 21! We've been hard at work planning this awesome event and look forward to seeing you decked out in your '20s gear. Tickets are available through the Museum's website.

This year, we added a quarterly members-only collection center tour and two separate membership exchange months as special membership perks. It is still early yet, but we are hard at work planning for 2020, and you can help us make next year even better! What would you like to see us repeat? What else would you like to see as added membership benefits? Contact Katie at [katie@lakeshoremuseum.org](mailto:katie@lakeshoremuseum.org) or 231-724-5524.

Don't forget that you can visit the Historic Sites of the Lakeshore Museum Center seven days a week during August! Your membership entitles you to free admission to these Sites all season and we hope that you check out the wonderful tours and work that has been done in the homes.

Thank you for being a member! You are such an important part of what we do, and your support through your membership dues helps Lakeshore Museum Center continue to fulfill our mission to inspire curiosity and wonder about Muskegon County's natural and cultural history through our interactive exhibits and experiential programs.



Kids having fun in the STEM Center made possible with an Arconic grant.





## We've Got Plans for You!

Special events for all ages are planned at our sites in the months ahead. Look for the events you're interested in on our website calendar for more details, registration, and pricing information.

[www.lakeshoremuseum.org](http://www.lakeshoremuseum.org)

Hackley & Hume Historic Site **H**

Lakeshore Museum Center **M**

### August STEM Center Challenge: Roller Coasters

**M** Free

#### August 2

3–5p Pre-Party at the Museum:  
Space Lander Challenge **M** Free

#### August 7

12–1p Members-only  
Collection Center Tour **M** Free

#### August 16

7–8:30p All Access Tour **H** FEE

#### August 16

3–5p Pre-Party at the Museum:  
Roller Coaster Build-off **M** Free

#### August 20

1–4p Backstage Theatre  
Workshop for Kids **M** FEE

#### August 22–24

Scandal Program  
5–6:30 Session 1  
7–8:30 Session 2 **H** FEE

#### August 23

3–5p Pre-Party at the Museum:  
Ozobots on a Roll **M** Free

#### August 28

10a–1p End of Summer  
Open House **M** Free

### September STEM Center Challenge: Water Filtration

**M** Free

#### September 2

All Sites Closed

#### September 4

3:30p STEAM Play and Learn:  
Dinosaurs **M** Free

#### September 6

5:30–7:30p  
Friday Family Fun Night:  
The Show Must Go On! **M** Free

#### September 7

9–11a ASD Sensory  
Saturday **M** Free

#### September 7

12–1p History Buffs **H** FEE

#### September 12

5–7p Hat Happy Hour  
with Cash Bar **M** Free

#### September 18

3:30p STEAM Play and Learn:  
Dinosaurs **M** Free

#### September 18

5:30p Theatre Costuming  
Program with Deb Patten **M** Free

#### September 20

7–8:30p All Access **H** FEE

#### September 21

Museum Center Closed for  
Speakeasy Fundraiser **M**

#### September 21

6–10p  
Speakeasy Fundraiser **M** FEE

#### September 26–28

Live Clue – Hackley House  
5–6p Session 1  
5:15–6:15p Session 2  
6:30–7:30p Session 3 **H** FEE

### October STEM Center Challenge: Popsicle Stick Catapults

**M** Free

#### ALL OCTOBER

FREE Tours on the Weekends  
for Muskegon County  
Residents **H**

#### October 2

3:30p STEAM Play and Learn:  
Dinosaurs **M** Free

#### October 5

12–1p History Buffs **H** FEE

#### October 8

5:30p Legends and Lore  
Walking Tour **M** FEE

#### October 11

Escape the Mad Scientist's  
Lab Escape Room **M** FEE

#### October 12

Escape the Mad Scientist's  
Lab Escape Room **M** FEE

#### October 16

3:30p STEAM Play and Learn:  
Dinosaurs **M** Free

#### October 18

7–8:30p All Access **H** FEE

#### October 18

5:30–7:30p  
Friday Family Fun Night:  
Smashing Pumpkins **M** Free

#### October 24–26

Obituary Tour  
7–8p Session 1  
8:30–9:30p Session 2 **H** FEE

The museum offers  
free open house style  
programs every Saturday  
from 12–3p!

Lakeshore Museum Center  
430 W. Clay Ave. Muskegon  
231-722-0278

Hackley & Hume Historic Site  
484 W. Webster Ave. Muskegon

Fire Barn Museum  
510 W. Clay Ave. Muskegon

Scolnik House of the  
Depression Era  
504 W. Clay Ave. Muskegon

[www.lakeshoremuseum.org](http://www.lakeshoremuseum.org)



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\$15 per item or set of items (\$12 for MMA members)  
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[MUSKEGONARTMUSEUM.ORG](http://MUSKEGONARTMUSEUM.ORG)



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### SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

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William Grant Still "Afro-American"  
Mardi Gras in Muskegon  
Vivaldi The Four Seasons  
Mahler Resurrection Symphony

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## Whose cradle is it?

John Wallis, Christopher Wren and Christiaan Huygens all presented their findings to the Royal Society of London in 1662, describing the theoretical principles that are at work in the Newton's cradle.

Conservation of momentum had first been suggested by French philosopher Rene Descartes, but he was not able to solve the problem completely.

Although he did not develop the science behind the cradle, Newton gets name credit for two main reasons. First, the law of conservation of momentum can be derived from his second law of motion. Second, Newton had a greater overall impact on the world of physics and therefore more fame than Wallis, Wren and Huygens.

Once you have decided who your favorite physicist is, stop by your Museum and, just like stuffed Rex in these photos, check out the new oversized Newton's Cradle in the STEM Center and then bring a little one home from our Gift Shop.

