

THE DEVONIAN PERIOD

During the Devonian (duh-voh-nee-uhn) Period of the Paleozoic (pey-lee-uh-zoh-ik) Era, North America was part of the continent Laurentia (lore-en-shuh), and was located very close to, and perhaps even south of, the equator.

Most of what is now Michigan was flooded over and over again by warm shallow salt-water seas. These seas were home to many different and strange animals that lived and burred in massive coral reefs. As these coral reefs lived and died, their skeletons built up and eventually became the foundation for the Michigan basin, a structure that helps define the shape of our state. Within this formation, today we find salt and gypsum deposits, which were leftovers from the evaporation of the salt-water seas.

MUSEUMS MAKE A COMMUNITY.

A 2022 Annual Update from the Board and Staff of the Lakeshore Museum Center.



**LAKESHORE
MUSEUM CENTER**



WHAT IS THE LAKESHORE MUSEUM CENTER?



7 Museums, 1 Great Organization

In 2022, the overall focus for the year was on facilities maintenance. With nine old buildings, you can imagine that it is a never-ending task. At all of our museum sites, we addressed structural preservation and improvements to make our buildings work more efficiently. Some highlights were restoring the stained-glass windows at the Hackley & Hume Historic Houses, pouring a new basement floor at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry, and new roofs on the Archives building and the Muskegon History & Science Museum.

9

Buildings

229

Annual Programs

53,885

Annual Visitors

(up 22,293 visitors since 2021)

219

Volunteers

(5,920 hours)

Mission

Our Mission is to tell the story of Muskegon County by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of its people and natural environment.

History

The Lakeshore Museum Center began in 1937 as the Muskegon County Museum. Over its 85 years, it has had many homes, but the most permanent has been the old YWCA building, which opened as the museum in 1983 and still houses the History & Science Museum today.

The museum has been supported by a county-wide millage since 1981, and in 1986, we added the Hackley and Hume Historic Site to our operations. The restoration of the houses is a continuous process, and as new historic evidence is discovered, we make updates to maintain and preserve the houses' historic integrity.

In 2020, the Muskegon Heritage Museum blended with the Lakeshore Museum Center. This new addition complements the mission and collection of the Lakeshore Museum and showcases the businesses that have shaped Muskegon into what it is today.

A Letter from the Board President & Executive Director

In trying to summarize 2022, the phrase **“hold on to your hats”** accurately speaks to the whirlwind year we had throughout all of our sites of the Lakeshore Museum Center. We began the year with the excitement of getting new roofs, only to have to overcome massive flooding at the History and Science Museum. Thanks to mother nature and freak storms, we had water all the way down into the *Coming to the Lakes* gallery. Staff pulled up their bootstraps and got everything back in shape fairly quickly. From there, **we welcomed back the cruise ships** and saw our programs and tours bounce back from previous years. We are so close to being back to pre-pandemic numbers!

The Board of Trustees continued to strategically work on moving the museum forward. They interviewed and hired a feasibility consultant, took development training, and oversaw eight facilities projects. Making sure that our buildings are safe and secure was a priority in 2022 and will continue into 2023.

Some major accomplishments felt throughout the whole organization were restoring the stained-glass windows and chimney at the Hackley and Hume Historic Site, installing the *Dangerous Things* exhibit at the History & Science Museum and pouring a concrete floor in the basement of the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry. We were also happy to welcome back some of our favorite programs, like the BIG Lesson, which hit a 20-year milestone in 2022. We are looking forward to a strong 2023!

Melissa Horton
Executive Director

Michael Brower
Board President



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: CONNECTING IN MEANINGFUL WAYS.

The museum believes strongly in partnering with our community. In 2022, we did this in a variety of ways. At the Museum of History & Science, some of our collaborations included serving on the cultural committee for the Michigan Irish Music Festival, partnering with other downtown organizations for the first STEAM Along the Lakeshore event in Hackley Park, and bringing our trebuchet to Montague's Pumpkin Fest. At the Hackley & Hume Historic Site, we collaborated with the Muskegon Art

Museum for the *Dressing the Abby* exhibit, providing three unique programs to tie in with their show. Another partnership was recreating the feather cake recipe from Julia Hackley for the Taste of Muskegon event with Chef LaKisha Harris of Soul Filled Catering. The Heritage Museum of Business and Industry hosted the United Way Donor celebration and presented a program on the history of the Occidental Hotel with Occidental Eats.

23

Podcasts Created

82

TikTok Videos

15,323

Facebook Followers

2,679

Instagram Followers

18

Youtube Videos

828

Participants at STEAM Along the Lakeshore that came to Museum of History & Science



Michigan Irish Music Festival

WHAT PEOPLE SAY:



Amazing display of Muskegon's industries & businesses:

"Outstanding! So many great displays of Muskegon industries! From the logging display to the steam engine, to Brunswick. Each area was interesting and well presented! Just a wonderful museum!!"

– Sharon P



They learned more than I thought they did!!

"Took the grands to the Fire Barn on Monday, 7/18. Susan was our guide. What a blessing! She had all three kids engaged and interested the whole time... not an easy job! They talked about the Fire Barn over dinner and the campfire that night."

– Jodie Engelhardt

WHERE SCIENCE AND HISTORY CONNECT US.



The Lakeshore Museum Center has always had a solid alliance with Muskegon County schools and teachers. In 2022, we served every elementary school in the county. In addition, every district was served with our preschool Dinosaur program and through it, we welcomed 1,112

students into our building. Our BIG Lesson program celebrated its 20-year anniversary, and we were able to bring back our popular Furs to Fire program, which is a 3rd grade Michigan History Week program that served 659 students.

374

BIG Lesson Students Served from 23 Classes



In the fall of 2022, we celebrated 20 years of the **BIG Lesson Program**. This is a week long, teacher-led science and history immersion program hosted at our museum sites. During that time, we have served over 5,800 students from eight school districts in Muskegon County. Over the 20 years, we have witnessed that their **hands-on learning** experience has led to many life-long museum lovers.



8,293

Students that came to History & Science Museum.



374

Students that took place in our BIG Lesson program with 23 classes participating.



1,854

Students served through our Outreach Program.



774

Students used our Loan Kits.

WHAT LOCALS SAY:



My boys love this space and all the ways to explore and use their engineering minds!

– *Leeza Garza*

Always tons of cool things for my siblings to do here. The staff is always very friendly

– *Victoria Mahoney*

A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE.



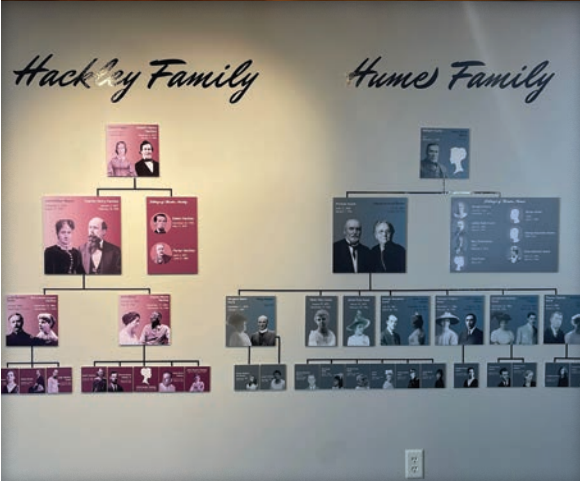
2022 marked the museum's 85th anniversary, and to celebrate, we highlighted some of the very first items donated to the museum in the *From the Ledger* exhibit. We also used our Annual Appeal to raise funds to restore our WPA historic dioramas.

Hands-on Galleries

- SCIENCE CENTER
- STEM CENTER
- BODY WORKS

2022 Exhibits

- **L'DOR V'DOR: GENERATIONS OF MUSKEGON'S JEWISH COMMUNITY**
MUSKEGON MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE
SEPT. 2021 - APR. 2022
- **DANGEROUS THINGS**
MUSKEGON MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE
MAY 2022-DEC. 2022
- **NEW AND IMPROVED HACKLEY & HUME FAMILY TREE AT CITY BARN**
MAY 2022 - DEC. 2022



SAVING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION.



The Lakeshore Museum Center collection contains over 60,000 items that are important to the natural and cultural history of Muskegon County. Statistically, only 10% of a museum's collection is actually on exhibit with 90% being cared for in storage!

This is a big job, and the museum staff take pride in the quality of care they provide to protect and maintain these objects for future generations.

121

Research Requests

196.5

Research Hours by Staff

27

Donors

202

New Objects Added

11,184

Records Digitized and Available on Argus

806

People Visited Digital Online Database with

44,432 Total Views of our Collections and Records

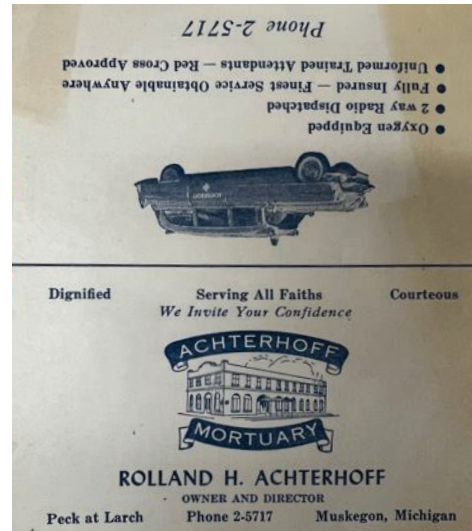
Currently, our Collection and Archives space occupies 14,000 square feet. In 2022, the Lakeshore Museum Center actively collected over 200 objects and 160 archival documents. We also had to decline 462 donations due to size, storage concerns, or because they were outside the scope of our mission. In order to prepare for the future, the museum will need to address our collecting limits and create a solution for more space, better accessibility, and modernization of environmental controls.



An Aerial Photo of the Muskegon Piston Ring Plant and the Corporate Office.



A six-piece Loring Andrews & Company sterling silver tea service owned by Constance Hume Koehler donated by her granddaughter Helen Read.



Advertising card for Achterhoff Mortuary, Muskegon, MI, circa 1950s.

A LASTING LEGACY – MUSKEGON HISTORIC SITES.



Built in the 1890s, the homes of lumber barons Charles Hackley and Thomas Hume are a treasured part of downtown Muskegon. The museum has been doing ongoing restoration since the 1980s. Also part of the Muskegon Historic Sites are the Fire Barn Museum and the Scolnik House of the Depression Era.

4,356

Hackley & Hume Visitors
(3,263 in 2021)

2,627

Scolnik House Visitors
(1,816 in 2021)

2,906

Fire Barn Visitors
(1,958 in 2021)

620

Visitors on FREE days
(166 in 2021)



Restoration is never-ending at the Hackley & Hume Historic Site. As these structures age, the museum is constantly faced with prioritizing which projects to take on each year. In 2022, we restored the stained-glass windows found in both houses, as well as the Hume North Chimney. Interior projects focused on finishing Peggy's room in the Hume House. None of these projects would have been possible without generous donors from our community.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY:



“Had a great time on the After Dark Tour! I highly recommend it as a must do in Muskegon! The staff were the best, very entertaining and kept us laughing.”
– Tina Schafer

809

Visitors Attended the Holiday Tours

546

Cruise Ships participants

705

School Tour participants

HANDS-ON HISTORY AT THE MUSKEGON HERITAGE MUSEUM OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY.



The Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry had a fantastic 2022. They welcomed many new visitors through creative programming. Some of the highlights include a partnership program with local restaurant and neighbor Occidental Eats, featuring the history of the hotel and a tasting of the hot fudge sauce they were famous for. The Carnival of

Industry was a family event themed to mimic an old-school carnival.

Lastly, at the end of the season, the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry hosted trick-or-treating inside the museum, providing a safe, warm place for kids to celebrate. That event brought 300 visitors to the museum, and for most, it was their first time visiting.

3,814

Annual Visitors
(2,127 in 2021)

10

Special Programs and Events
(341 visitors for special programs)

833

Students
(including 295 Reeths Puffer 9th
Graders in School Programs)

2,806

Volunteer Hours
Served by MHM



“I was surprised by this museum. They have an assorted collection of items made in Muskegon, most which I did not expect. The city has a varied history starting with lumber production to more modern conveniences. I enjoy learning about the history of the places I visit, and this did not disappoint, taking over 1.5 hours to wander around. The staff was friendly and helpful, eager to talk about their collection. Worth a visit if you enjoy local history.”

- *Brian Johnson*

WHAT PEOPLE SAY:



“Going museum hopping in Muskegon is quite fun, but we didn’t even know this one existed! We drove by and saw a sign that said ‘Museum Open’ and had to stop! From the outside, it looked like a quick in and out visit with a couple of rooms, but inside a whole world of history comes alive in an elongated three-story museum devoted to Muskegon’s businesses

and industry. There is so much to look at in here, but instead of feeling cluttered, it is very easily accessible. The workers are also very energetic, informative, and quite nice. This hard-working museum was one of the most pleasant surprises we had in our day trip to Muskegon and can’t wait for a return visit!”

- *Thomas Moore*



THE COST OF BEING A COMMUNITY RESOURCE.

\$60,527

Raised for Stained
Glass Restoration

\$2,500

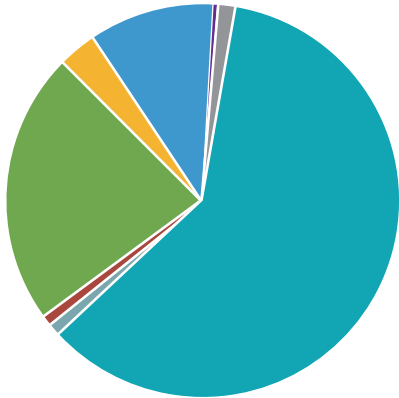
MI Museums
Rescue Grant

\$4,936

From WDCS Trinkets &
Treasures Fundraiser

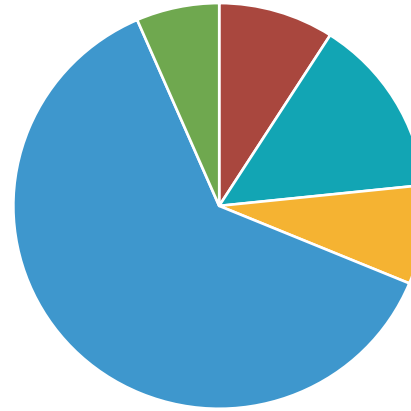
Our funding comes from a variety of sources that include a county-wide millage, memberships, foundation funds, program income, and corporate and individual donations. One of the biggest highlights of the year: we applied for and received the Employee Retention Credit (ERC). This was a huge help in overcoming the pandemic's lost revenue and helping to offset the losses we felt in the stock market. Our investments came in at a loss of \$71,000 in 2022.

2022 INCOME



- Admissions
- Donations
- Grant Income
- Memberships
- Millage Funds
- Program Income
- Retail Sales
- Misc. Income
- Rental Income

2022 EXPENSES



- Facilities
- Operating
- Marketing
- Program & Exhibit Support
- Other Expenses



WE PUT THE “FUN” IN FUNDRAISING.



An *Evening with the Hackleys* was such a fun event in 2021 that we brought it back again in 2022 as the annual fundraiser. The focus of the night was the giving boards, which featured a variety of needs put forth by museum staff. We also had corporate sponsorships for the *Dangerous Things* exhibit and our Holiday Tours. We received grants from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council and the Michigan Museums Rescue Grant.

2022 FUNDRAISING

\$36,459

Membership Income

\$251,387

Development Income
(donations for appeals,
fundraisers, grants, and
foundation funds)

For more information on making a financial contribution directly to the museum, or to one of our funds at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, contact our Executive Director at melissa@lakeshoremuseum.org or 231-724-5529.

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS!



Jackie Engel, CFP®



THE FUTURE OF HISTORY.



YOU are the future of history and we want you to be part of the museum. We have many different ways for you to become involved. Cultural, industrial, and natural history, as well as science, are the backbone of our community, and the Lakeshore Museum Center wants to share that with you through our programs, exhibits, volunteer opportunities, and membership benefits. Be part of a growing community resource and a cornerstone of downtown.

NEW EXHIBITS 2023

- **ATTACK OF BLOODSUCKERS**
Open now through May 13
Muskegon Museum of History & Science

COMING SOON

- **URBAN RENEWAL**
Muskegon Museum of History & Science
- **MUSKEGON OIL BOOM**
Muskegon Museum of History & Science
- **JOSEPH SADONY**
Muskegon Museum of History & Science
- **AMAZON KNITTING COMPANY**
Muskegon Heritage Museum of
Business & Industry

NEW IN 2024

- **YOU ARE HERE:
MUSKEGON MAPS**
Muskegon Museum of History & Science

Would you like to donate something? The museum collects objects that are connected to Muskegon County and its history. To inquire about donating to the collection, please contact our Collections Manager.

DONATION

231-724-5532

lakeshoremuseum.org

brenda@lakeshoremuseum.org

We offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities for youth and adults. Volunteers help out in many different capacities within the museum, including working with collections, doing programs and tours, and helping with maintenance. To find out more, contact our Volunteer Coordinator.

VOLUNTEERING

231-724-5544

lakeshoremuseum.org

marci@lakeshoremuseum.org

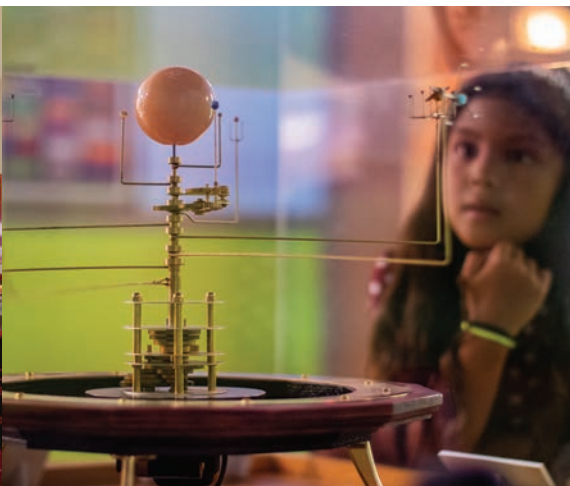
Membership is a great way to support the museum and stay connected to all of the new and upcoming events and exhibits. Membership at the museum also gets you into sneak peaks, behind the scenes tours, and reciprocal museum exchanges throughout West Michigan. To find out more, contact our Guest Relations Manager.

MEMBERSHIP

231-724-5522

lakeshoremuseum.org

graciela@lakeshoremuseum.org



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

County residents are our biggest supporters thanks to the millage. The millage keeps our doors open and admission to the Muskegon Museum of History & Science free to the residents of Muskegon County year-round.

The Muskegon Museum of History & Science and the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry are also proud to offer free admission to those who qualify through the *Museums for All* program. The Hackley & Hume Historic Site offers discounted admission through this program.



Admission to all museum sites is free for active military personnel and their immediate family as part of the Blue Star Program.

Free tours of the Hackley and Hume Historic Site, Fire Barn Museum, and Scolnik House of the Depression Era are offered to Muskegon County residents every weekend in October.

Operational support for October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023 was provided by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council and National Endowment of the Arts.



Funding for programming was provided by the Michigan Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP).



A large, detailed taxidermy of a mammoth with long, shaggy brown fur and two large, curved, yellowish-tan tusks. The mammoth is positioned behind a wooden railing. In the foreground, two children, a boy and a girl, are looking at the exhibit. The boy is on the left, wearing a light blue t-shirt, and the girl is on the right, wearing a grey tank top and black shorts. The background features a painted backdrop of a snowy forest with evergreen trees.

**THANK
YOU!**

MUSEUMS MAKE YOU.

Lakeshore Museum Center

430 W. Clay Ave., Muskegon MI, 49440

The Muskegon Museum of History & Science
is free to Muskegon County residents thanks
to your 40 years of millage support!

www.lakeshoremuseum.org

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MUSKEGON, MI
PERMIT NO. 758