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LMC ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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



**LAKESHORE
MUSEUM CENTER**





MUSEUMS MAKE YOU CONNECT.

03 **WHAT DRIVES US**
ANNUAL REPORT

10 **NEW**
REPAIRS

06 **PROGRAMS**
BY THE
NUMBERS

11 **2024**
UPCOMING
EXHIBITS

08 **FINANCIALS**

09 **EXHIBITS**
2023

WHAT DRIVES US:

2023 Annual Report

03

FROM THE TEAM

The staff here at the Lakeshore Museum Center (LMC) is driven by our mission, which is to tell the story of Muskegon County by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of its people and natural environment. When looking at our impact, we compare everything that we do back to three words from our mission: collecting, preserving, and interpreting.

COLLECTING PRESERVING INTERPRETING



Collecting for the Community and Preserving for the Future

LMC is offered a variety of items from various donors each year. Our Acquisitions Committee meets to determine what items will be added to the permanent collection. There are many factors that determine if an item will be accepted, including the items history, if it fills a need in our collection, and our ability to care for the item properly. In 2023, 1,606 items were offered for donation. After review, 741 of those items were accepted into our collection.

At times, items need to be removed from the collection, due to deterioration or the object becomes unstable, duplication, etc. In 2023, 339 items were deaccessioned and removed from our collection.

Once an item is accepted into the collection, it needs to be cared for. We are legally obligated to care for the objects in the collections for the rest of their lifetime. In 2023, we did extensive restoration on our WPA Lumbering Dioramas. Thanks to our generous 2022 annual appeal donors, we were able to send our dioramas to Detroit for conservation. I hope everyone reading this will make a point to stop in and see them. They look amazing.

1,606

Donations Offered

741

Donations Accepted

Some of the newly accepted donations:



Barrel-making tools from Muskegon Barrel Company, donated by John K. Noor



Materials from Achterhoff Mortuary & Ambulance Service and Rolland Achterhoff, donated by Daniel Achterhoff



Golf Bag Caddy manufactured by Noren Products Company in 1955, donated by Andrew Noren

WHAT DRIVES US:

2023 Annual Report

4

RESTORING for the Future

Another part of caring for our collection includes caring for the buildings they are in. The LMC owns and operates nine buildings, seven of which we run as museums plus the Collections Center and Archives building.

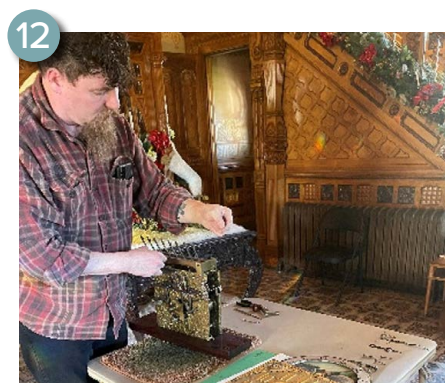
Historic Diorama Restoration

Thanks to our generous donors we raised funds to restore six lumbering dioramas that were funded through the Works Progress Administration in 1941.



Here is a list of Restoration and Maintenance projects we completed in 2023:

1. Hume Dining Room Window – in progress
2. Heritage Museum of Business & Industry Windows on Second Floor
3. Hackley Porch Work – ongoing
4. Depression Era House Roof Replaced
5. New Furnaces at Heritage Museum of Business & Industry
6. New Water Shut-Off Valve at Muskegon Museum of History & Science
7. Mold Remediation at Muskegon Museum of History & Science
8. New A/C unit for Archives Building
9. Hazardous Waste Removal at Muskegon Museum of History & Science
10. Backflow Preventers Installed at Fire Barn Museum and Depression Era House Museum
11. Collection Center Roof Resealed
12. Hackley Grandfather Clock cleaned and restored



INTERPRETING for Fun

Interpreting the history of Muskegon County takes on many different forms. While our exhibits are a big part of that, we also have many programs that help us connect with the community. Once a quarter we offer our Sensory Saturday program which caters to kids with sensory disorders in our community. Quarterly, we also offer Time Well Served, which gives female inmates from Muskegon County a chance to visit with their children at the museum as opposed to subjecting small children to a jail visit. Twice a month, we have Play and Learn for birth to age three, and we recently received funding to take our Play and Learn on outreaches, including to the Muskegon Rescue Mission and Every Women's Place. At the History and Science Museum, we have Friday Family Fun Nights once per month in Fall and Spring, and our Heritage Museum of Business and Industry offers free Community Days once a month May-October. We also offer our auditorium space to local nonprofits, including Dads on Deck and QPro+.



Owl Pellet Dissection Class

Our School Programs are a large part of what we offer at the Lakeshore Museum Center and a significant part of our community engagement. We work with the MAISD transition program, doing job training with the students ages 18-26. We visit schools on outreaches, reaching 124 classrooms in 2023! Our Homeschool program invites students from throughout the county to engage in learning with other homeschooled students. Our dinosaur program is part of Muskegon County preschool curriculum, and keeps us busy in March; last year

we saw 450 kids. One of the school programs we are most proud of here is our Big Lesson, which turned 20 this year! During the Big Lesson, students spend an entire week using all the museum sites as their classroom, doing various activities both with staff and their teachers.

BUT—we are NOT just a museum for children! The Lakeshore Museum Center has something for everyone of any age! Our adult programs include summer walking tours, the amazing race program, Library History topic presentations, True Crime, Clue Live, Escape Rooms, and Scandal. This year we also hosted Mall Madness in conjunction with our Urban Renewal exhibit.

In the summer, we run a teen program (Junior Museum Professionals) that provides an opportunity to learn more about working at the museum, connecting with our mission, and contributing to their communities. Our students range from 11-15 years old and come from various school districts throughout the county. When they are with us, they are learning skills such as public speaking and creating and presenting programs.



Time Well Served Program



Dad's on Deck



Play and Learn



Big Lesson at the Heritage Museum of Business & Industry



Pat Horn, Program Manager leading a walking tour



Mall Madness Live Program at the MMH&S



Clue Live at the Historic Sites

Junior Museum Professionals



PROGRAMS

BY THE NUMBERS

6

MUSKEGON MUSEUM of History & Science



School Programs: 9,101 participants

Outreach Programs: 124 classrooms;
3,165 participants

Community Programs Youth:
5,700 participants

Community Programs Adult:
748 participants

Big Lesson: 447 participants

Family Fun Night: 406 participants

Play and Learn: 471 participants

Saturday Programs: 1,145 participants

ASD Saturday: 47 participants

School Loan Kits: 2,252 participants



STEM Camp



Students in exhibit learning about Ticks



Big Lesson Presentations

HERITAGE MUSEUM of Business & Industry



School Tours: 793 participants

Big Lesson: 257 participants

Community days: 341 participants

Tiny Tots Trick or Treat: 119 participants

Homeschool Days: 29 participants

Corporate Events/Tours: 262 participants

40th Anniversary Event: 55 participants



PROGRAMS

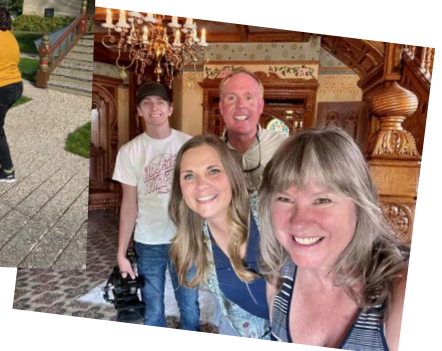
BY THE NUMBERS

HACKLEY & HUME Historic Site



School tours: 810 participants
 Big Lesson: 452 participants
 Cruise Ship Excursions: 219 participants
 After Dark Tours: 87 participants
 Mother's Day: 41 participants
 Father's Day: 7 participants
 Hackley Day: 74 participants
 Hackley Day Community Celebration: 166 participants

CLUE Live: 66 participants
 Scandal Tour: 36 participants
 Flashlight Tours: 35 participants
 Obituary Tours: 117 participants
 Holiday Tours: 951 participants
 Free Weekends in October: 285 participants



2023 By the Numbers

Grants:

MI Nonprofit Relief Fund
 \$25,000
 for general operations

Howmet
 \$30,000
 for STEM programs
 and exhibit upgrades

MI Arts & Culture Council
 \$26,000
 for general operations

MAISD Great Start Collaborative
 \$2,500 for Play and Learn

NUMBER OF VISITORS MUSKEGON MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE 16,165 13,220 2022	NUMBER OF VISITORS HISTORIC SITES 9,682 9,889 2022	NUMBER OF VISITORS HERITAGE MUSEUM OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY 2,443 3,814 2022	PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS NON-SCHOOL 8,517 MMHS 1,972 H&H 689 MHM	ARGUS ONLINE PORTAL 15,463 Site Visits 44,268 Records Viewed
WEBSITE PAGE VIEWS 143,966 Users (Visits): 54,367 New Users: 54,032	SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS HISTORIC SITES 1,408	SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS HERITAGE MUSEUM 981	SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS HISTORY & SCIENCE 14,965	MUSEUM GIFT STORE SALES FOR THE YEAR \$33,949.26 2023 \$30,157.98 2022
PODCAST DOWNLOADS: 8,617 YOUTUBE VIEWS: 19,924 TIK TOK VIEWS: 71,421	VOLUNTEER HOURS 6,978.74	DEVELOPMENT INCOME (DONATIONS) \$266,411.28 2023 \$251,919.91 2022	ADMISSION INCOME AT ALL SITES \$79,483.00 2023 \$81,622.00 2022	MEMBERSHIP INCOME \$40,150.40 2023 \$35,333.27 2022

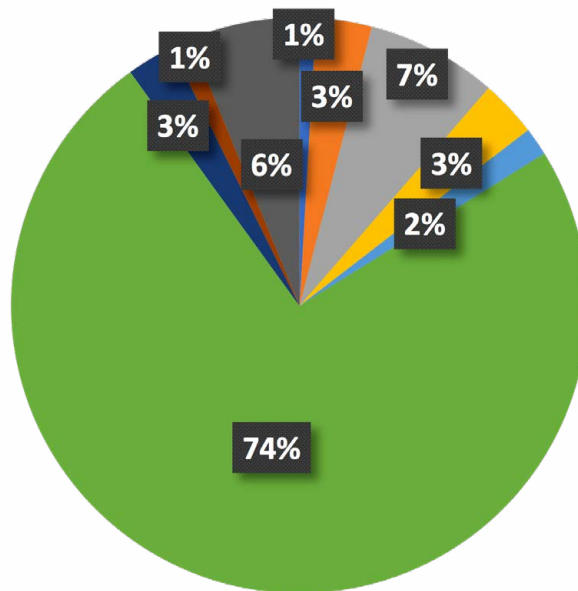
FINANCIALS AT A GLANCE

2023 INCOME & EXPENSES

INCOME

Total \$2,547,896.83

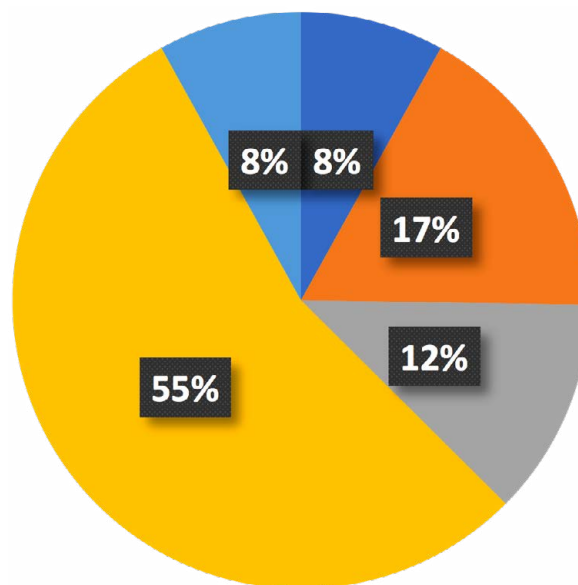
- Fundraising
- Admissions
- Donations
- Grant Income
- Memberships
- Millage
- Investment Income
- Program Income
- Misc Income



EXPENSES

Total \$2,101,362.53

- Facilities
- Operating
- Personnel/Admin
- Program Support
- Marketing



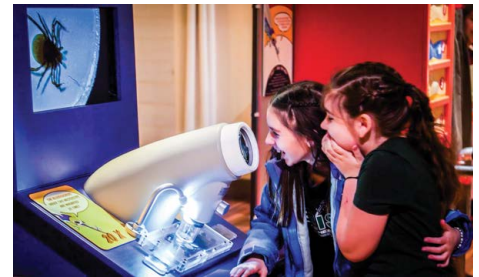
EXHIBITS

IN 2023



Attack of the Bloodsuckers January 2023 - May 2023

Attack of the Bloodsuckers debuted in January and delighted visitors through May of 2023. This exhibit was full of amazing facts on the creatures that feast on human blood. The highlight of the exhibit was the live leeches and mosquitoes (and yes, over the six months, we did have a few Houdinis who made their escape). This was a rental exhibit and very well received by the public.



Urban Renewal June 2023 - May 2024

Urban Renewal opened in June of 2023 and was designed and built in-house. This exhibit examined the changes that downtown Muskegon has gone through, beginning in the 1940s and ending with current plans. A few of the favorite parts of this exhibit were the recreated Kris Moose and mall fountain along with the historic walk down Western Avenue.



Looking Ahead Future Planning



One of the things the board and staff are working on is future planning. We are currently out of space at both of our storage facilities, and neither building is a good home for collections (they both are attached to restaurants which bring fire, pest, and insect dangers). We also need to address the fact that our current History & Science building is not very accessible. One of the things we have been exploring for the past six years is *could we expand?* We don't know, and so we are working with a consulting firm to do a feasibility study to find out. We are hoping to have results in the spring. The idea is to consolidate our collections and archives storage into the current museum and build new accessible exhibits and space next door.

NEW

Upcoming in 2024

10

REPAIRS Historic Preservation



FIRE BARN MUSEUM

of the Lakeshore Museum Center

One of the first projects we are undertaking in 2024 is the replacement of the Fire Barn Museum doors. The wood is original to the 1970s construction and is rotting and sagging to the point where we can no longer open the doors. Thanks to a private donor, we have been working with Grand River Builders to build new ones that were installed in late February.



SCOLNIK HOUSE OF THE DEPRESSION ERA

of the Lakeshore Museum Center

Another spring project is the turret on the Scolnik House of the Depression Era museum. Thanks to our 2023 annual appeal donors, we will be able to explore the extent of the damage and begin repairs. This work will also be done by Grand River Builders.



HACKLEY & HUME HISTORIC SITE

of the Lakeshore Museum Center

Finally, the biggest project we are undertaking in 2024 is the Hackley Roof. This is a costly project that will be funded through a grant from the Michigan Arts & Culture Council, our savings, private donors, and possibly a state appropriation.



PLANNING For the Community



Thanks to our Howmet grant, the STEM center is currently under construction. New interactives will be installed and others updated, along with a new STEM challenge and award.

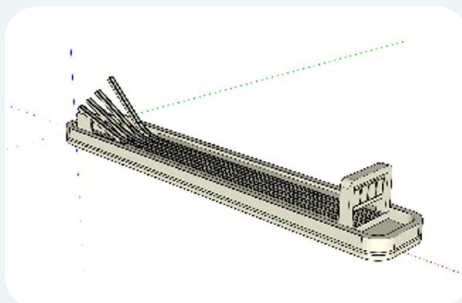
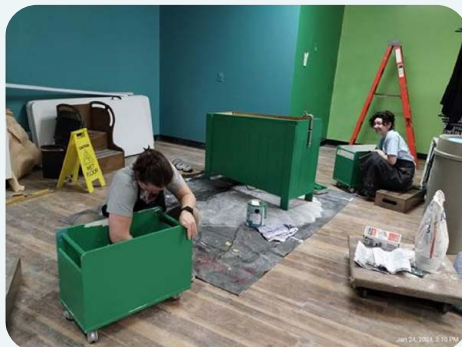
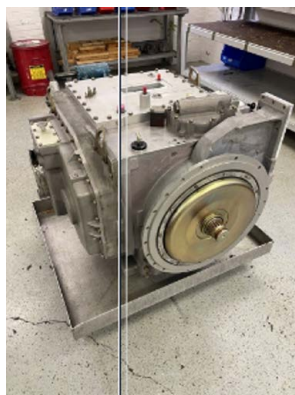


Image of the new race track with timer and new magnetic wall interactive



At the MHMB&I, we are looking forward to new RENK and Fisher Steel exhibits.



In June, we will welcome Paleo Joe and his *Dino Bones* into the temporary gallery at MMH&S. *Dino Bones* will be on display through December 30.



Muskegon Museum of History & Science

430 W. Clay Ave., Muskegon
231.722.0278

Hackley & Hume Historic Site

484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon
231.722.7578

Fire Barn Museum

484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon
231.722.7578

Scolnik House of the Depression Era

484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon
231.722.7578

Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry

561 W. Western Ave., Muskegon
231.722.1363

www.lakeshoremuseum.org



LAKESHORE MUSEUM CENTER



LMC RECIPROCAL MEMBERSHIP CALENDAR 2024

MAY 2024

Grand Rapids Children's Museum

Free Admission to the museum
www.grcm.org

JUNE 2024

Sandcastles Children's Museum

Free Admission to the museum
www.sandcastleschildrensmuseum.com

JUNE 2024

Blandford Nature Center

Free Admission to the nature center
www.blandfordnaturecenter.org

JULY 2024

Holland Museum

Free Admission to the museum and historic houses
www.hollandmuseum.org

AUGUST 2024

Grand Rapids Public Museum

Free Admission to the museum
www.grpm.org

Grand Rapids Art Museum

Free Admission to the museum
www.grpm.org

SEPTEMBER 2024

John Ball Zoo

Free admission to the zoo
www.jbzoo.org

SEPTEMBER 2024

Air Zoo

Free Admission to the Air Zoo Aerospace & Science Center
www.airzoo.org

OCTOBER 2024

USS Silversides Museum

Free admission to the museum
www.silversidesmuseum.org