

LMC ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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**



WHAT DRIVES US:

2025 Annual Report

2

The Lakeshore Museum Center experienced an eventful and transformative year in 2025.

We celebrated significant progress in facilities maintenance, completing major projects that have been years in the making. The Hume House and City Barn roofs were replaced, painting on the City Barn continued, and our team addressed 17 critical windows between the three buildings. We were also able to tuckpoint the bricks at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry. Each improvement helps safeguard our history for future generations.

We also faced setbacks. Voters did not approve our request for a construction millage. While disappointing, this outcome strengthened the resolve of our staff and board. We revisited our plans and reaffirmed that accessibility cannot be delayed. As a result, we are moving forward with a revised strategy—a “Plan B”—featuring a reduced footprint that still prioritizes a new home for our collections and archives along with an accessible front entrance. This approach will not include renovating the current museum building and exhibits, allowing us to focus our resources where they are needed most.

Despite challenges, our commitment to stewardship, accessibility, and community service remains unwavering. Together, we are charting a path forward that honors both our mission and the needs of our visitors.



Muskegon Museum of History & Science 38,536 total visits

Number of Visitors to the Museum **14,645**

Number of School Participants **15,124**

Number of Program Participants (non-school) **8,767**



Muskegon Historic Sites 13,034 total visits

Number of Visitors to the Museums **8,994**

Number of School Participants **1,908**

Number of Program Participants (non-school) **2,132**



Heritage Museum of Business & Industry 4,462 total visits

Number of Visitors to the Museum **2,160**

Number of School Participants **1,577**

Number of Program Participants (non-school) **725**

Combined Museum Visitation
57,404

2025 Volunteer Hours
**5,300 hours given
by 230 volunteers**

Guests for Events and
Rentals at All Sites
1,372

2025 COLLECTIONS IN REVIEW

3

Collecting, Preserving, and Inspiring

The Lakeshore Museum Center (LMC) actively collects objects and archival material relevant to Muskegon County's natural and cultural history. In 2025, 806 objects were offered to the museum as donations.

These items are reviewed by the Acquisitions Committee and the Board of Trustees for their relevance to Muskegon County, condition, and the ability for

Brenda Nemetz, Collections Manager and Registrar

the LMC to care for the objects. Through that process, 458 objects were selected to join the collection in 2025.

Once an object becomes part of the collection, it does not always stay in storage. Objects and archival materials are used in exhibits and programs, researched by community members, and available digitally on the public portal.

61,564

Total Objects
in Collection

102

Research
Requests

8,731

Objects Exhibited
in 7 Museums

13,475

Objects Viewable
on the Public Portal



Photograph of a fire at Brunswick in 1923.



Explore Muskegon County's natural and cultural history through archives, objects, and photographs of the Lakeshore Museum Center collection.



A signature quilt gifted to Tom Powers for his years of service at Muskegon Catholic Schools.



Menu sign from the concession stand at Pere Marquette Park owned by Jim Coscarelli donated by his family.

2025 VISITOR REVIEW

2025 Visitor Reviews



**MUSKEGON MUSEUM
OF HISTORY & SCIENCE**
of the Lakeshore Museum Center

Great exhibits about Muskegon's history and a good STEM room. Love the ancient history of Michigan's environment on the basement level. Free for Muskegon residents.

- Google Review by Amanda R.



**MUSKEGON HERITAGE MUSEUM
OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY**
of the Lakeshore Museum Center

We had a fantastic visit to this museum. Jim gave a wonderful tour and went above and beyond to make it a great experience! You would never guess by looking at the outside of the building how much is in there: a working steam engine, working bowling pin setter, player piano, and much, much more!

-Google Review by Alison S.



**HACKLEY & HUME
HISTORIC SITE**
of the Lakeshore Museum Center

All the homes and experiences at this stop were top notch. I've toured a lot of historic homes, all over the country, and these homes were in my top 5. The staff was amazing and they have done a fantastic job preserving these homes. We truly got to tour the entire home and the attention to detail is outstanding.

-Google Review by Katey G.



Thank you to our 2025 Educational Program & Exhibit Sponsors:

LINDA POTTER



DARLENE COLLET

RENK



DR. RICK & NANCY PETERS



\$2,000
Furs to Fire

\$1,000
Walking Tours

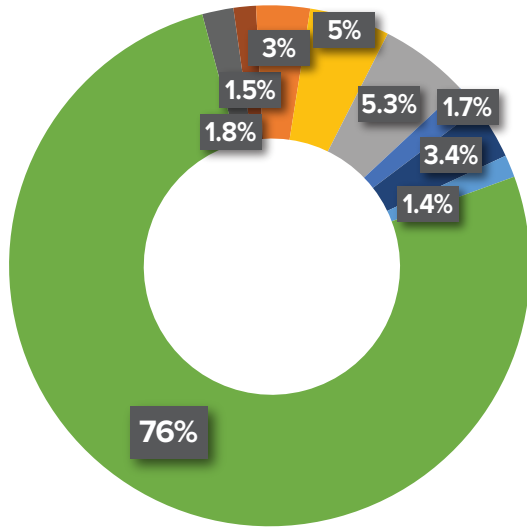
\$6,250
MHMB& Community Days

\$1,500
Hackley Day Celebration

FINANCIALS AT A GLANCE

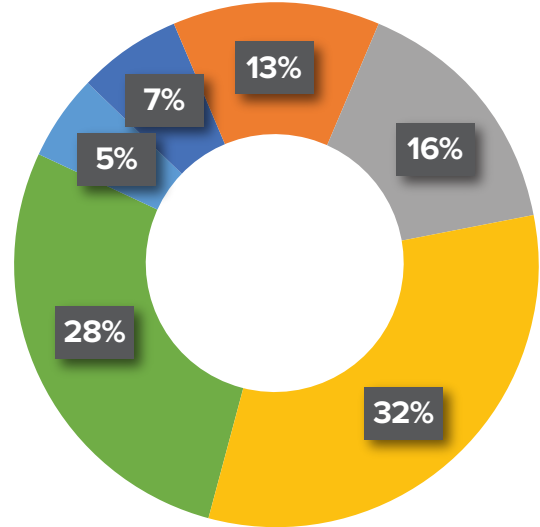
2025 INCOME & EXPENSES

INCOME Total \$2,608,022



- Individual Donation
- Program Income
- Foundation Funds
- Investment/Interests
- Membership
- Millage
- Fundraising
- Admissions
- Miscellaneous

EXPENSES Total \$2,179,700



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

Grants

- \$12,500.00 DDA Brickwork Grant
- \$50,000.00 MI250 Grant
- \$30,000.00 Howmet Grant
- \$6,000.00 Grant Matches

Campaigns

- \$30,477.31 Annual Appeal
- \$1,048.38 Giving Tuesday

Exhibits and Projects

2025 Exhibits

- Home Front Heroes
- Mosaic Muskegon
- Rosie Mural
- 100 Years of MCC

New for 2026

Projects:

- Historic Sites Porches-continued from the State Grant
- Hackley Chimney
- Fire Barn second floor update



Exhibits:

- What's the Station? Black-Owned Media in Greater Muskegon (Opening May 2026)
- Nature Cat Backyard & Beyond (Running May 30-September 12)
- Collection by Region (Opening June 2026)
- You Are Here: An Exhibition of Maps (Opening November 2026)



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




MMADE FOR YOU.



MUSKEGON MUSEUM OF ART



WEST MICHIGAN SYMPHONY

GUITAR ROMANCE

APR 17

Tickets start at \$19
WESTMICHIGANSYMPHONY.ORG



MUSKEGON CIVIC THEATRE 2025-2026 SEASON 41 presents

Book by Terrence McNally
Music by Stephen Flaherty
Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Inspired by the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Pictures by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical
From the play by Marcelle Maurette as adapted by Guy Bolton

April 30-May 3, 2026
Frauenthal Theater


TICKETS AVAILABLE AT

etix Box Office: Monday-Friday 11am-5pm
231-727-8001
www.frauenthal.org

Season Sponsors: PRO AUDIO, COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, Patrick O'Leary and Karen Yamasaki
Photography Print Sponsor: RADIUM PHOTO

muskegoncivictheatre.org

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