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Raven Hill Discovery Center, incorporated in 1991, is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

To: Friends and Family everywhere
 From: Cheri and Raven Hill
 Date: April 30, 2022
 Re: Reflections!

In January of 2022, our update featured the reflective exhibits in Raven Hill’s Hands-on Room, including the infinity display, levitator, periscopes, concave and convex mirrors and both the horizontal and vertical kaleidoscopes. Our kaleidoscopes are really teleidoscopes, a type of kaleidoscope that uses objects outside the instrument as the design elements forming the repetitive patterns. This week, we are focused on the changes in the kaleidoscopes themselves!



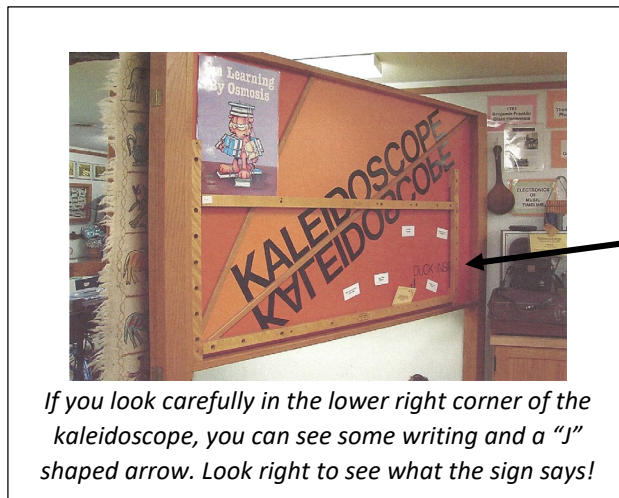
In 1996, this photo was taken inside our first kaleidoscope and was featured in Traverse Magazine! How many visitors can you count?

The Center’s first teleidoscope was smaller than our current one, but just as much fun inside with the mirrors. In fact, it was fun inside and out! Each of the three outsides of the kaleidoscope had a map displayed—Michigan, United States and the World. Visitors could find their home city and stick a pin to show how far they had traveled to visit Raven Hill. The maps were really popular with visitors, until there were so many pins in the maps that they kept falling down and we had to “retire” the maps permanently!

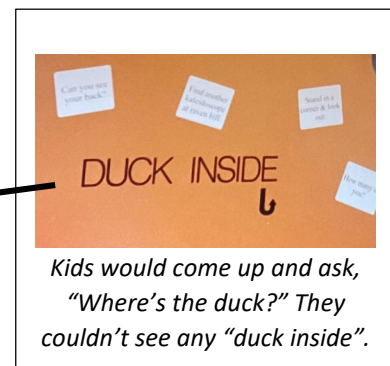


This was our first teleidoscope! Displayed on the outside were maps, which allowed visitors to pinpoint their hometowns.

Around 2002, our current kaleidoscope was donated by Midland Center for the Arts. Midland retired both the teleidoscope and the simple machines exhibits, when they renovated and redecorated with chrome and pastel plastic. The heavy oak of the donated kaleidoscope and the simple machines fit in perfectly at Raven Hill and were a wonderful in-kind donation to the Center.



If you look carefully in the lower right corner of the kaleidoscope, you can see some writing and a “J” shaped arrow. Look right to see what the sign says!



Kids would come up and ask, “Where’s the duck?” They couldn’t see any “duck inside”.

In 2010-11, we repainted the teleidoscope to match our freshly painted walls. Today's kaleidoscope has the same infinite reflections inside, but NO arrow or words outside! Thanks again, Midland Center for the Arts, for helping Raven Hill create such great memories for visitors with the kaleidoscope and the simple machines displays.



On your next visit, be sure to check out the six simple machines. You can see them in action as you press the lever and turn the screw.



*On the outside of the current kaleidoscope, you'll find the backstory of the **Magnetic Can Mover**, which was built by eighth graders working with a couple of engineers in 1988. The can mover illustrates the industrial uses of magnets.*



When you are inside the teleidoscope, YOU are the object that creates the kaleidoscopic design! Try it, you'll like it!

Just a reminder that **FREE (Families Reaching for Educational Excellence) Second Saturdays** are back for the warmer months of 2022. From May through October, Raven Hill will offer free admission for families each second Saturday from noon to 4pm. NO groups, please, as we need all parents to be watching their own children. We are also limiting the indoor time, as we want our visitors to socially-distance and stay safe in

these times of continuing pandemic concerns. Families will be given a group number and a time to visit indoors. With all of the outdoor exhibits, like the Music Garden, Jurassic Park Walk, Schoolhouse, Treehouse, Ancient World and the new Connections Trail, families will have plenty of things to explore outside! The 2022 **FREE Second Saturdays** are in honor of Diane Strzelinski, Raven Hill volunteer and supporter, for more than 25 years.

If you don't have the following on your calendars, save these dates soon!

1. The Smithsonian **Labor Days: History of Work** exhibit is on display during regular hours or by appointment through all of 2022.
2. Remember also to save Sunday, July 10th from noon to 4pm and help us celebrate 30 years of connecting science, history and art at Raven Hill.
3. While we are at it, for all of you who like to ride bikes, August 7th is the Center's fourth annual **Pedal Pig & Pint Bike Tour** event. Go to www.bikereg.org to register.
4. Finally, be sure to put Thursday, August 11th at 7pm on your calendar and come enjoy an outdoor concert by the Great Lake Chamber Orchestra right here at Raven Hill.

Raven Hill is open year round to the public from noon to 4pm on Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm on Sundays, plus other times by appointment. You can call 231.536.3369 or email info@miravenhill.org for reservations. Summer hours are in effect between Memorial Day and Labor Day, when the Center is open weekdays from 10am to 4pm daily, plus regular weekend hours. Be sure to schedule classes, summer day camps, field trips, birthday parties and scout groups soon.

Happy May Day! Enjoy the warmth and sunshine!

Cheri