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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: June 26, 2021
Re: Weekly Update

Greetings Everyone!

Despite being rainy most of the week, Raven Hill was a happening place with camp for kids, a watercolor workshop for adults and visitors wanting to explore the Center. The final health inspection was successfully completed for Raven Hill Discovery Camp at 8:30am on Monday morning. Then, Camp began its first session in 2D art at 10 am. Camp Director, Haley Kozek, along with assistant instructors, Cameron Knight and Michael Deming, encouraged the campers to explore both new and old, from art to yoga to hiking the Center's campus and, of course, visiting the animals. Campers created marbled paper, Shibori handkerchiefs, mosaics and paper weaving, among other two-dimensional art projects as a focal point of each day's session.



Every child has the spirit of creation. —Peter Paul Rubens



Combining two colors—one as the warp and the other as the weft, campers did a paper weaving with favorite colors. What colors would you use?



Sheldon was a happy camper this week. He was gifted with leftover fruit salad from staffer, Michael Deming's graduation open house. Sheldon loves most any fruits and veggies, in case you want to bring him a treat, when you visit. Favorites are broccoli, corn on the cob, strawberries and watermelon!



As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "every artist was first an amateur." That applies to Discovery Camp AND the Watercolor Workshop!



Pablo Picasso said, "every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up." These workshop participants are proof positive that one can capture that childlike wonder within.



Cydney Steeb is a picture of total concentration as she works on her barn painting. You could hear a pin drop in the Great Room. Everyone was intent on their artistic endeavors!



This week's watercolor artists ranged from beginner to intermediate and advanced. Luke does a great job at encouraging everyone and giving them new techniques they can apply to their own style of painting. We look forward to hosting Luke again next summer.

By Wednesday, things were really going strong. Not only was Discovery Camp still in session, but the Luke Buck Watercolor workshop filled the Great Room with artists of all ability levels. This was Luke's 12th year instructing a two-day watercolor workshop here at Raven Hill. This session's subject was old barns, which was of particular interest to many of the participants.

Barns are also a great segue into the upcoming ***Labor Days: History of Work*** exhibit that opens August 14th here at Raven Hill. Raven Hill Discovery Center is collaborating with the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program in a pilot project about the history of who, where, why and how we work. Chosen in 2019 as one of only ten organizations in the entire United States to work with Smithsonian staff to create the exhibit: ***Labor Days***, the exhibit will chronicle the diversity of work in northern Lower Michigan over the past 150 years and will parallel that with the variety of work done in the rest of Michigan, the nation and around the world during that same time period.

The museum itself was active with visitors much of the week! Visitors explored indoors, held the animals and then moved outdoors, dodging rain storms to enjoy the Music Garden, Jurassic Park Walk, Schoolhouse, new Tipi, Treehouse and Ancient World. Predictably, the Schoolhouse, Treehouse and Pyramid remain everyone's favorites.

If you know someone who might like to receive weekly updates, please send their email addresses to info@miravenhill.org. I will add their names to our list. Check out our website, www.MiRavenHill.org for all previous updates.

Raven Hill is now open daily! Reservations are not necessary. Regular hours are noon to 4pm on Saturdays, 2pm to 4pm on Sundays, 10am to 4pm weekdays and other times by appointment. Email info@miravenhill.org or call 231.536.3369 for questions or more information. For the sake of the children, we ask everyone to wear masks inside, socially distance & wash their hands.

Come visit soon. Cheri