

04737 Fuller Road, East Jordan, MI 49727 (231) 536-3369 |www.miravenhill.org info@miravenhill.org

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: August 13, 2022 Re: Work or Play?!

Greetings to Everyone!

Peter Otis Gray is an American psychology researcher and scholar. He is known for his work on the interaction between education and play. He says, "One of the first and most often reinforced lessons that children learn in school is that work and play are opposites. Work is what one has to do; play is what one wants to do. Work is burdensome; play is fun. Work is essential; play is trivial. But when we leave school and go on to the "real world," at least some of us, the lucky ones, discover that work is not the opposite of play. In fact, work can be play, or at

least it can be imbued with a high degree of playfulness." This week at Raven Hill, every day was a play day.

First, the 4th annual **Pedal Pig and Pint Bike Tour** event took place on Sunday, August 7th. Despite uncertain weather, a cadre of hearty bikers took to the roads and trails around Boyne to ride in support of Raven Hill Discovery Center and Top Of Michigan Mountain Bike Association. Everyone met at Stiggs Brewery afterwards for a celebratory lunch.

Second, this week was the last **Discovery Camp** for 2022. Campers enjoyed hiking the trails, froggin around at the pond and exploring science, history & art. Friday was full of folding—starting with folding paper cups and fans and culminating in folding & clipping silk for a Shibori design project.



Since bikes don't fare well on or in water, the **Pedal Pig & Pint Road Bike Tour** included a ride across Lake Charlevoix on the Ironton Ferry!



Campers enjoyed walking the boardwalk to the Ancient World.



This salamander larva was a surprise catch, as campers were froggin' around!

Discovery Camp 2022



The directions were all the same, but the results were **SO** individual. Everyone folded, clipped, designed & colored their silk handkerchief, as they wanted for Shibori! What beautiful results!



Ann and Lynn probably had as much fun as the audience did, during their musical tribute to work AND play!

Third, over two dozen guests enjoyed a **Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra concert** on Thursday night. The weather could not have been more perfect, as Lynn Hansen on the Oboe and English horn and Ann Schoelles on the Viola entertained the audience with a variety of viola and oboe duets. The pair also shared fun stories of performing with their special instruments and lighthearted banter about music as work and play.

Finally, today, Saturday, August 13th, was FREE (Families Reaching for Educational Excellence) Second Saturday AND a third Community Mural Painting with artist Kelly Boyle.

Well over seventy guests played in the Discovery Room, held Checkers the corn snake and Spike the bearded dragon and explored the outdoor exhibits. Most of the families also took time out at the pavilion and used their own artistic talents to help paint two community mural paintings, which will soon grace the grounds here at Raven Hill.

Every single one of these events is a perfect example of what Alan Watts suggests is the real secret of life - to be completely engaged with what you are doing in the here and now. And instead of calling it work, realize it is play.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at, participated in and/or sponsored the array of events that made this past week so very special for Raven Hill.



Thea was a natural at holding Checkers the snake!



Mural painting participants will be able to view their handiwork soon at Raven Hill!

Summer hours are in effect until Labor Day weekend. Raven Hill is open weekdays from 10am to 4pm through Friday, September 2nd. Starting Saturday, September 3rd, Raven Hill will be open weekends—noon to 4pm on Saturdays; 2pm to 4pm on Sundays and other times by appointment. Call 231.536.3369 or email <u>info@miravenhill.org</u> to make reservations for any time you would like to visit, including special occasions and major holidays.

Hope to see you yet this summer to play at Raven Hill,

Cherí