



A DIFFERENT APPROACH

Raven Hill Discovery Center 2020-21 Annual Report

Mission: provide a place that enhances hands-on & lifelong learning for people of all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.
Vision: providing opportunities for everyone to learn, create, grow, and play together, as they make connections that expand their awareness of the world as it was, is and might be.

Board

Holly Sasso, Co-president
 Darrell Jacob, Co-president
 Andrea Seese, Secretary
 Debbie Bishop, Treasurer
 Cheryl Hofweber, Director
 Ruth Milks, Director



Discovery Campers practice teamwork to keep the water balloon in the air!

2020-21 Numbers
(open only 2½ months)

Attendance

Admissions—1321
 Classes/Camp—100
 Field trips—108
 Outreach—334

Members and donors

133

Volunteers

298



Linda Michaels is totally focused on her painting.

Irish author, Benny Lewis said, “the difference between a stumbling block and a stepping stone is how high you raise your foot.” Raven Hill Discovery Center’s stepping stone was **COVID-19**. The Center was closed for **9½ months** & reopened to visitors for the final **2½ months** during the 2020-21 fiscal year, which affected attendance numbers significantly. However, the board, staff and volunteers rose to the challenge and worked hard behind the scenes to enable the Center to restart **safely** and continue its **mission** of connecting science, history and the arts with a “**different approach**” to learning. Our new strategy for positive growth is to encourage additional open-air interactive opportunities for visitors. Raven Hill continues to invite guests to explore and learn safely. New discoveries await visitors in the Smithsonian **Labor Days History of Work** exhibit and along the new **Connections Trail** with more exciting experiences being planned!



Smithsonian **Labor Days** exhibit

Profit & loss	
July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021	
Revenues	
Donations	\$ 62,828
Grants	\$ 74,125
Fees	\$ 34,140
Total	\$ 171,093
Expenses	
Operations	\$ 88,019
Exhibits	\$ 17,536
Facilities	\$ 27,970
Total	\$ 133,525
Net income	\$ 37,568

Balance sheet as of June 30, 2021

ASSETS	
Current assets	\$ 62,778.47
Fixed assets	\$ 905,188.28
Total assets	\$ 967,966.75
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities	\$ 83,402.42
Long term liabilities	\$ 217,843.00
Total liabilities	\$ 301,245.42
EQUITY	
Retained earnings	\$ 616,802.30
Net income	\$ 49,919.00
Total equity	\$ 666,721.33
Total liabilities & equity	\$ 967,966.75



On the **Connections Trail**, two Dinosaur Stations allow visitors to compare their height to dinosaurs in feet & inches, as well as in cubits—an ancient way of measuring.

Highlights from Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Closed to the public from March 13, 2020 to April 16, 2021, due to COVID-19

Exhibits

The **Labor Days History of Work** exhibit is a pilot project in collaboration with the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street (MoMS). Raven Hill is one of only ten organizations in the entire United States chosen to participate in 2019. The **Labor Days** exhibit opened on August 14, 2021. It is still on display and will feature an expanded exhibit & community events during the summer of 2022, if the pandemic allows. The exhibit concludes December 31, 2022.

The **Connections Trail** is a half-mile walking pathway that parallels the existing **Taxonomic (Taxi) Trail** and features more than 33 outdoor learning stations for visitors of all ages, including a Garden Kaleidoscope, Sketching Station, Weather Station and still expanding.



The Sketching Station invites visitors to sit a spell; play Tic Tac Toe, draw a picture or leave a note for others that follow.

Facilities

A new **Observation Wall** in the Print Shop allows visitors to see a display of antique printing equipment, including a linotype and a letter press. The Print Shop is also now ready for printmaking classes.

Upgrading indoors & outdoors continues.

- Roof repairs were made on the Main Museum and the Fiber Studio.
- Drywall damaged by the roof leaks was replaced and painted.
- Landscaping at the entrance to Raven Hill included removing the large rocks along the driveway and returning both the front and back areas surrounding the Main Museum to lawn for easier upkeep.
- The Fiber Studio was made ready to serve as Discovery Camp headquarters.
- Steps were added to the Schoolhouse and the Alternative Energy House to allow for a one-way flow of visitors, when necessary.

Programs

Discovery Camps became state-licensed and were limited to 10 campers per week. There were 2 art camps, 2 science camps, 2 nature camps & 1 history camp.

Field trips were sparse this year, due to COVID restrictions instituted by many schools. Two schools and three summer groups did visit, following masking and social distancing guidelines.

The 12th annual Luke Buck **Watercolor Workshop** was at capacity with 10 participants. Students spent two days painting barns with Luke's guidance.

Outreach: Raven Hill reached 334 children and adults through its outreach, traveling to schools and libraries to present programs.



Campers got creative with Sculpy clay.

NOTE: For several years, Raven Hill **Annual Reports** have been computer-generated as part of the Cultural Data Project. This is an attempt at a more personal and **"different approach"**! Hope you enjoy reading it.

Call 231.536.3369 or email info@miravenhill.org for more information, with any questions or for details on giving.

You can also check us out at <http://www.miravenhill.org> Cheri Leach, CEO