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We are currently open noon to 4pm Saturdays & 2pm to 4pm Sundays | Open holidays & other times by appointment.  
*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 of Raven Hill  
From: Cheri  
Date: December 10, 2022  
Re: *How do I love thee?*

While the words **paraphrase** and **parody** can be synonyms, they do differ. A “parody” is more a reinterpretation that changes the original meaning. The term “paraphrase” means to reproduce without changing the original idea. Be it a parody of or paraphrase of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, I say this:

How do I love thee, Raven Hill? Let me count the ways.

I love thee for the boundless opportunities you provide for my family to learn, create, grow and play.

I love thee for the chance to express the artist, historian or scientist within myself and my children through the diverse range of classes you offer for all ages.

I love thee as a venue for reunions, retreats, birthday parties, weddings and receptions for anyone in my community to access.

I love thee enough to volunteer here and do jobs I avoid at home, like washing windows, trimming pathways and generally helping wherever and however that help is needed.

I love thee with a passion to ensure that you live on beyond me. I do so by supporting you financially now through a membership or donation and into the future through planned giving.



*Raven Hill is a great place for families to spend quality time together.*

Plan to treat yourself and your family to fun learning opportunities at Raven Hill Discovery Center at least once during this coming holiday season. Whether you come during regular weekend hours or reserve a special time for just your family, this is a great place to spend time indoors or outside.

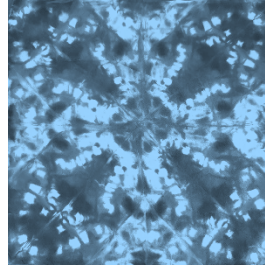
Schedule a class and make some special gifts to give or keep. Delight your loved ones with an unusual present this year. Polish a Petoskey coral fossil paperweight. Hammer a copper pendant. Create a French Serti or Japanese Shibori scarf. Make your own paper for a notecard or marble paper for stationery. Use colored wool to needle felt a winter scene. Craft fused glass refrigerator magnets, ornaments or pendants with special initials, college colors or a holiday theme. Fashion earrings, necklace or a metal bookmark using flame-worked glass beads produced right here at Raven Hill. Design a class to fit your interests here at the Center.



*The Nutcracker soldier originates from late-17th century Germany. They were given as gifts to bring luck to the family and protect the home.*



*Marbled paper is fun and easy for all ages! The beautiful paper can be used to decorate notecards. The unique paper can also be cut into shapes like Christmas trees and stars for special bookmarks and ornaments.*



*If you're interested in working with fiber, Japanese Shibori is one method used to apply a design to a silk scarf.*



*Think summer and create a fused glass ornament to gift to your favorite sailor.*

Think about Raven Hill as a venue for the coming holidays and for 2023. Book the Great Room for a holiday party. Consider the Center for your next company retreat. Arrange a birthday party - adult or child. Book a wedding, a wedding shower or reception. Plan your next family reunion. Raven Hill Discovery Center is a great location for families, staff or friends.



*If you are looking for a unique wedding venue, Raven Hill is the place. **Credit:** Center of Attention Photography*



*Alanson's Agri-Science class donates their time every spring to spruce up Raven Hill for summer visitors. They work hard weeding and pruning. Afterwards, the Center treats them to a lunch of pizza and pop!*

Alternatively, keep Raven Hill in mind. Volunteer your time: pull weeds; clean a building; wash windows or use your computer and organizational skills to help.

Consider giving the Center a gift. Plant a tree. Buy a bench with a plaque in honor or memory of someone special. Help financially with a big project, like a new roof for the main building. Sponsor a class visit to the Center for your favorite school—public or private. Send Cheri off to visit a school or library or business. Be a day sponsor or an animal sponsor. Donate to WCMU public radio—

make the check out to WCMU, but send it to Raven Hill and the Center gets free airtime, when they send your check on to WCMU. Throw a paper party – help Raven Hill stock up on bathroom tissues and paper towels. Adopt an exhibit or animal for a year or pay the power bill for a month.

Another thing to think about is a planned gift. This is a major contribution, made during a donor's lifetime or at death. It can come in several forms and include gifts of equity, life insurance, retirement funds or cash. Planned giving provides several advantages for donors. For example, planned gifts made during a donor's lifetime can present specific tax benefits. Further, gifts established as part of an estate plan can allow a donor



to make a larger donation than he or she would have been able to during their lifetime. Planned giving also allows a donor to contribute to the current and future health of Raven Hill, while creating a lasting legacy. Finally, planned giving helps a donor ensure that families, children and teachers all enjoy the unique programs and experiences of Raven Hill for many years to come. Donors interested in making a planned gift should utilize the services of a professional such as a financial planner, a certified public accountant, and/or an estate-planning attorney.

Opportunities abound at Raven Hill. Please take advantage of the classes listed in this update. Give a free Raven Hill pass—it costs less than a membership, but a great gift for a staff member or can be a visit for a family. Support us with a membership, donation or even a planned gift, if you are able. Checks can be sent to Raven Hill, 4737 Fuller Rd, East Jordan, MI 49727. Alternatively, you can make a donation on the website ([www.MiRavenHill.org](http://www.MiRavenHill.org)) or call 231.536.3369 to make a credit card contribution. Thank you in advance for supporting Raven Hill.

Enjoy this holiday season with family and friends,

Cheri



*Winter, summer, spring or fall—there's always something to do at Raven Hill!*

**PS** See more art classes below! Celebrate Raven Hill **and** create some special art of your own! Call 231.536.3369 soon to schedule a class for you or your entire family!



*(Left) If there is a bird lover, in your midst, fused glass is a great way to honor that interest, as evidenced by this funky chicken! (Middle) French Serti uses a resist to draw a design, before the dyes are added to the silk. (Right) Copper discs can be polished or pounded into simple shapes and used as an ornament or a pendant. Add a handmade Raven Hill glass bead at the top of the pendant to make it a special gift for someone.*