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

Open year-round on weekends – noon to 4pm Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm Sundays. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, hours expand to include weekdays from 10am to 4pm. The Center is also open other times, including holidays, by appointment.

**MISSION:** to provide a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history and the arts.

## WHERE SCIENCEHISTORYANDART CONNECT

To: Raven Hill friends From: Cheri Date: November 16, 2024 Re: Enhanced learning

Despite the current road closure and long detour with limited visibility, no one has complained, even during the four field trips we have hosted over the last two weeks! The bus and parent drivers understand that the detour is temporary and that this too shall pass.

Sometimes a field trip has a specific focus relating to their school studies. Students may engage with an exhibit such as **UNDER MICHIGAN & BEYOND**; create their own fused glass pendant or



Playing in the hands-on Discovery Room can be quite intense if you are trying to create a ramp system to slow the golf ball down so you can win a prize!

participate in a place-based learning session on exhibit design. They are actively involved in learning, which helps them understand concepts better and enhances their retention of knowledge.



Back at school, these older students are creating exhibits for the younger classrooms. They visited Raven Hill to get some pointers about exhibit layout and graphic design.

Ins and outs of Rocks



When you visit Raven Hill as part of a study of rocks and minerals, it's a pleasure to send everyone home with a sliced rock, so you can see the outside as well as the inside! Next time you visit, let us know what you are studying. We may have something special to share with you.

Raven Hill's approach of linking science, history, and art encourages students to think broadly and make meaningful

connections between disciplines, fostering a holistic view of the world. The Center's tactile, visual, and auditory experiences engage all the senses, creating a dynamic learning environment that appeals to diverse learning styles. Group activities at Raven Hill promote collaboration and communication, essential skills for success in school and beyond.

Dum Dum and friends



The Moai continues to be a favorite part of the Ancient World even for middle school students!

Raven Hill is more than a nature center, although its outdoor spaces, trails, and hands-on environmental exhibits help students develop an appreciation for the natural world, inspiring stewardship and curiosity about the environment. The interactive and exciting environment fosters a greater love of learning in general, encouraging students to explore topics they may not have encountered or fully understood in a traditional classroom. Field trips give students the maximum opportunity to experience the joy of discovery, deepen their understanding, and apply what they've learned in a memorable and meaningful way.

Visiting the Center

isn't just about playing in the museum, holding the animals and exploring outside. Field trips provide an immersive, hands-on experience that goes beyond the classroom. Students have the opportunity to explore the connections between science, history and art in ways that stimulate curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking. They experience new thought processes, enjoy the rigors of problem solving & explore the world from a fresh perspective.



It's always a full house, when you have almost as many drivers as students, but they all enjoy the animal session!







Sometimes a place like the pyramid is even more special when you catch an unforgettable photo like this one! Thank you, parents & teachers for sharing memories.

Field trips to Raven Hill are not just about getting here. There is a saying, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." While this is an informal motto associated with the United States Postal Service, it's not their official doctrine. "It originates from an inscription on the James Farley Post Office in New York City, inspired by a passage from Herodotus describing

the Persian postal system." One could say something similar about Raven Hill; "neither snow nor rain nor bridge construction can keep visitors from exploring Raven Hill Discovery Center."

We hear this over and over from teachers, students and parents, "Thank you so much for having us! The kids had SO much fun. It was a great day." We hope you visit soon, either as a family or school group. Raven Hill is always open during the week by appointment at this time of year. We can even be open by appointment the days before and after Thanksgiving Day, if you need to get the kids out of the house to let off some steam! Following this coming holiday, we'll also be open during our regular weekend hours: Saturday from noon to 4pm and Sunday from 2pm to 4pm. Bring your friends and family and start a new Thanksgiving holiday tradition that includes the hands-on fun and discovery at Raven Hill. To schedule a visit, you can call 231.536.3369 or email cheri@miravenhill.org or come during our regular weekend hours—no appointment needed. Hope to see you here soon!

