



Celebrating 30 years



Raven Hill Discovery Center 2022 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
 Aaron Nemece, Director
 Bryon Ries, Director
 Nick Cluley, Director



Summer staffer, Haley Tasiemski, upgrades the **Medicinal Gardens!**

2022 Numbers

October to September 2022

Attendance

Admissions—3132
 Classes/Camp—397
 Field trips—1467
 Outreach—253
 Events—649

Members and donors

133

Volunteer hours

506

Artists involved

34



East Jordan third graders enjoy a break at Skara Brae in Raven Hill's Ancient World.

Helen Keller said, “Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all.” Thirty years ago, Raven Hill Discovery Center was the beginning of one such adventure. Since then, the Center’s main building has grown from 2400 to 5,300 square feet and from that one original building to six. Raven Hill has hosted three national exhibits--one NASA exhibit and two Smithsonian with a third Smithsonian Museum on Main Street traveling exhibit scheduled for 2023. Over 218,000 visitors have experienced the science, history and art connections here on our campus and another 138,000 have enjoyed the Center’s outreach programs. Raven Hill extends a hearty thank you to everyone, who helped to make this adventure possible. Let us look forward to the next 30 years, working together to build an even better tomorrow at Raven Hill.



A third **Community Mural Painting** was facilitated by artist Kelly Boyle working with Raven Hill visitors.

Profit & loss	
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022	
Revenues	
Donations	\$ 56,931
Grants	\$ 64,567
Fees	\$ 79,459
Total	\$ 200,957
Expenses	
Operations	\$ 129,428
Exhibits	\$ 15,664
Facilities	\$ 17,982
Total	\$ 163,074
Net income	\$ 37,883

Balance sheet July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

ASSETS	
Current assets	\$ 99,357.85
Fixed assets	\$ 905,188.28
Total assets	\$ 1,004,546.13
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities	\$ 95,825.59
Long term liabilities	\$ 191, 213.04
Total liabilities	\$ 286,038.63
EQUITY	
Retained earnings	\$ 666,724.01
Net income	\$ 51,783.49
Total equity	\$ 718,507.50
Total liabilities & equity	\$ 1,004,546.13



FREE Second Saturdays returned for the warmer months of 2022, beginning in May and concluding in October. Families enjoyed informal learning opportunities and free admission.

Highlights from 2022

Exhibits

The **Labor Days History of Work** exhibit is a pilot project in collaboration with the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street (MoMS). Raven Hill was one of only ten organizations in the entire United States chosen to participate in 2019. The **Labor Days** exhibit opened on August 14, 2021 and 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. New learning stations added in 2022 include a footbridge, an old-fashioned stile for climbing over fences and a stone sitting circle.

History Heritage & STEAM of Work is a traveling exhibit featuring over 80 careers with northern Michigan connections. The Michigan Career Pathways provides the organizational overview with Arts & Communications; Business & Marketing; Engineering; Health Services; Human Services and Environmental careers.

The **Evolving Technology Addition** will officially open in the spring of 2023 and complete the indoor Evolving Technology (ET) exhibit featuring daily life, toys, tools and communication. Located behind the ET Building, sixteen outdoor panels will illustrate clothing, shelter, energy, transportation and roadways from Stone Age to the Information Age.

The **Solar SMART** exhibit will also open in 2023 and help visitors understand solar energy in terms of direction and slope, as well as providing other information on solar power.

Save the date and watch for more information! Raven Hill Discovery Center has been invited to host another Smithsonian Museum on Main Street (MoMS) exhibit. **Spark! Places of Innovation in Rural America** will be open from August 26 to October 7 of 2023.



*The Stone Circle on the **Connections Trail** is a great place for visitors to pause and relax.*

Facilities

Upgrading indoors & outdoors continued:

- Damage to the **Treehouse** ramp & rails was repaired by volunteer Dave Clapp.
- Signs were erected in both the **Music Garden & Medicinal Gardens**, as well as two new **Welcoming Murals**.
- Wayfinding signage was added to help visitors find their way around the main campus.
- Shelving for backpacks was added to the **Fiber Studio** making it even more ready to serve as **Discovery Camp** headquarters for the summer of 2022.

Thanks to volunteer Jean VanDam, the **Book Nook** was relocated into the **Print Shop** allowing Raven Hill visitors better access to the large collection of arts and crafts books.

Fundraising continues by the **Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA)** to replace the culvert across Deer Creek with a **Timber Bridge** on Fuller Road leading to Raven Hill. The project will bring back aquatic species at their various life stages, restore needed floodplain and halt input of excess sediment from roadways during snowmelt and rain events.



*The **Treehouse** ramp looks as good as new, after several trees fell on it during a winter windstorm.*

Programs

Each week of **Discovery Camp** included five special focus days—art, history, science, nature and STEM—making for a lively mix of experiences for 287 campers.

Field trips were almost up to pre-COVID levels with 1032 students and 264 teachers enjoying indoor and outdoor exhibits. The Center is also perfect for scout excursions and birthday parties.

The 13th annual Luke Buck **Watercolor Workshop** focused on painting rowboats. Seven participants spent two days painting with Luke's expert guidance. Another 61 children and 31 adults were involved in science, history or art **classes**.

Outreach: Raven Hill reached 166 children and 87 adults through its outreach programs, traveling to schools and libraries for presentations.



*Scout groups love playing school at Raven Hill's one room **Schoolhouse**.*

Call 231.536.3369 or email info@miravenhill.org for more information and for details on how you can support Raven Hill. You can also check us out at <http://www.miravenhill.org> –Cheri, CEO