

Raven Hill

DISCOVERY CENTER

WHERE SCIENCE HISTORY AND ART CONNECT

04737 Fuller Rd | East Jordan, MI 49727 | 231-536-3369 | info@miravenhill.org | www.MiRavenHill.org

We are open 10-4pm weekdays, 12-4pm Saturdays & 2-4pm 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: Raven Hill Friends
From: Cheri and Raven Hill
Date: June 3, 2023
Re: Raven Hill Happenings

Field trips continued this week with Harbor Light Christian 2nd grade, Harbor Springs 4th grade, Gaylord 5th grade and Bishop Baraga 1st grade classrooms visiting. The weather cooperated for 162 students and 39 adults. Everyone enjoyed exploring the hands-on museum, holding the exotic animals and discovering the outdoor exhibits.



Paul Cusack of West Michigan Solar continues to problem-solve and make progress on the **Solar SMART** kiosks, which will demonstrate the effect of direction and slope on the energy input from the sun.



Nobody got lost with these great t-shirts!



Bishop Baraga "1st Grade Crew" showed off their beautiful tie-dyed t-shirts during their visit to Raven Hill this week! They witnessed the release of "Ralph", the snapping turtle, into its new home at Raven Hill Pond. Ralph promptly buried itself in the mud and disappeared from sight!

Staff split their week between helping with field trips, preparing for summer classes and helping with the newest learning station along the

Connections Trail: the **Solar SMART** station being constructed by Paul Cusack of West Michigan Solar.

Put the following on your calendar and plan to visit, when Raven Hill hosts its second Smithsonian Museum on Main Street exhibit, **Spark! Places of Innovation in Rural America**.

Smithsonian

SPARK!
PLACES of
INNOVATION

MI Humanities

Raven Hill Discovery Center | August 26 to October 7, 2023

The Smithsonian **Youth Innovation in Rural America (YIRA)** continues to support local teachers and students with 3D printers donated and cooking classes funded.

Spanish teacher Angela Berra, also shared the following, "East Jordan students started a chapter of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica (Spanish Honor Society) last year and there is a Spanish language student publication called 'Las Albricias.' The theme for the next round of publications is Design and Fashion/Diseno y la moda, so we just couldn't resist submitting something on our Design experience through **YIRA**! It was a last minute decision to try and submit something, but we pulled it together super quickly and very last minute, with the help of Nick Bascom, a senior who should be enjoying his freedom and instead was wrapped into helping us! (Gracias Nick!) Nick, along with six juniors and sophomores, did a fabulous job on the video with very little time to prepare, and I am super proud of them all! Here it is for your viewing pleasure!"

[Spanish Class Raven Hill Video V1.mp4](#)



YIRA remains active, even though the project has officially ended!

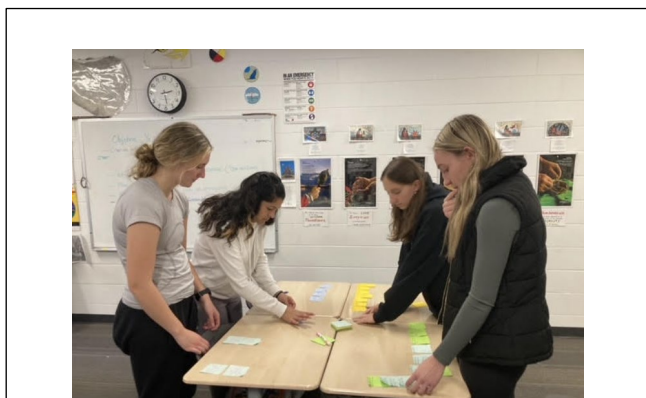


Dear Cheri,
 Thank you so much for all of your support during the Youth Innovation in Rural America Project. My students and I really enjoyed learning the design process! I was so impressed with their innovative ideas—especially at such a young age! You really helped my students level up our project when you connected us to John and his 3D Printers! Because of this experience, we will continue to explore 3D printing in our elementary STEM classes!
 Thanks Again!
 Sarah & Students

The learning will endure for years to come with the two 3D printers donated by the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum to East Jordan Elementary STEM classes.

Summer hours are now in effect. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, the Center is open weekdays from 10am to 4pm daily, noon to 4pm on Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm on Sundays. Call 231.536.3369 or email info@miravenhill.org to make appointments for other times, including major holidays.

Come visit soon, *Cheri*



As part of the **YIRA** project, Spanish students were tasked to organize the questions into at least four different categories and give each category a title:

Organizando las preguntas en categorías.

The Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum has graciously offered to fund the cooking classes that students chose as their design solution to the challenge of integrating the Hispanic community and school Spanish classes.



"The Smithsonian Institution strives to tell the stories of America—the stories of innovation I saw displayed by local youth were inspiring. Making connections with others was a throughline. These creative and thoughtful youth are seeking ways to unite their community and raise everyone up. I expect that this work is a first step of many. I encourage the community to continue to amplify the voices of their youth."

Kim Robledo-Diga, Director of Learning and Audience Engagement

Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum