

A Year in Review July 2020 - June 2021

This past fiscal year, the museum operated at limited capacity, fewer hours, and was totally closed from March 25 through April 4 due to COVID.

The loss of revenue was relieved by COVID relief funds. We qualified for \$169,711 and have received \$142,620. We are waiting on \$27,091 from the IRS employee retention credits.

THE FOLLOWING IS A BREAKDOWN OF REVENUE RECEIEVED FOR COVID RELIEF SINCE MARCH 2020 THROUR CURRENT:

Date	Name of Fund	Amount Received
4.15.2020	PPP Loan/Grant	42,700
5.1.2020	Michigan Humanities Hope Grant	5,000
6.12.2020	MCACA Emergency Relief Grant	2,500
1.28.2021	Small Business Relief Grant	15,000
3.12.2021	PPP Loan/Grant Second Draw	46,500
	Employee Retention Credits	
	2 nd Quarter 2020	2,405
	3 rd Quarter 2020	1,484
	4th Quarter 2020	23,202
	1st Quarter 2021	30,920
	Total to date	169,711

The Besser Museum shifted most of the outreach programming to a digital format. Both Education Coordinator, Amanda Kucharek, and Planetarium Coordinator, Johnathan Winckowski, created educational posts for the museum's Facebook page, YouTube channel and website. Administrative Assistant, Katrina Brooks, also kept the museum's website active and up to date.

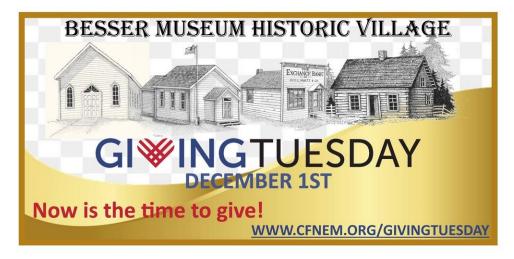
A HIGHLIGT OF LAST YEAR'S HAPPENINGS



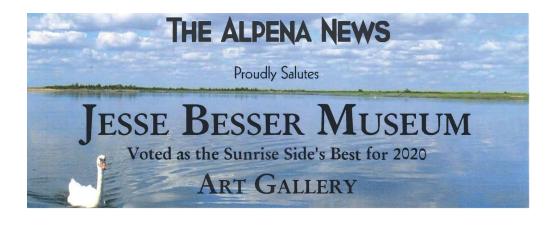














Linda Drean: Solo Exhibit 2019 Juried Art Winner

Exhibit Open
September 5th—October 31st

September 2020:

The Chinook Research vessel was moved into its permanent resting place



Fall Harvest Fossil Fest Cancelled for 2020

In accordance with the Governor Whitmer's orders on limited gatherings, Besser Museum has made the unfortunate decision to cancel our very successful annual Fall Harvest Fossil Fest in efforts to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus.

We want to thank our friends, family, neighbors, visitors, volunteers, and business sponsors for their support, and look forward to October 2021, when we can hopefully enjoy the festival with everyone.



Enjoy 10 poems - from classic poets to Michigan natives - while taking a leisurely stroll around the Besser Museum's front lawn.

Available August 13 - September 7

Made possible through the collaborative efforts of Alpena County Library, the Susan Lane Foundation, Mr, and Mrs. Garant, and the Besser Museum of Northeast Michigan.





Modern Art at The Besser

Artists in the Exhibition

Yaacov Agam Karel Appel Leonard Baskin Romare Bearden Ilya Bolotansky Dale Chihuly Guillaume Corneille Salvador Dali Jim Dine Helen Gerardia Friedensreich Hundertwasser

Robert Indiana Roy Lichtenstein Richard Lindner Roberto Matta Peter Max Robert Motherwell Louise Nevelson Pablo Picasso

Robert Rauschenberg Rina Rotholz Kiyoshi Saito Victor Vasarely

June 5-Dec. 30, 2021



491 Johnson St, Alpena, MI | 989 356-2202





Besser Museum Online Log Cabin Day will launch on Saturday, June 26th





Anishinaabe Exhibit Revitalization Project

Jesse Besser and the Besser Museum purchased the Gerald and Robert Haltiner collection for \$20,000 in 1970. At that time, the Haltiners had their collection on display in their own private museum called *Haltiner's Hall of Ancient Man*. The collection was transferred to the Besser Museum and installed by Robert Haltiner. It was renamed as the *Peoples of Lakes and Forest*. The exhibit has looked pretty much the same for the last 51 years. There had been talk and some conceptual plans by previous directors to updating the exhibit. During the 1970s through 1990s, the Besser Museum purchased approximately 30 pieces of Native American art. The Besser Museum has also acquired a large collection of native baskets through the years.

The following timeline outlines more recent activity to renovate the Native American exhibit.

In 2014, I met with Eric Hemenway, tribal repatriation specialist from the Cultural Preservation Department for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians in Northern Michigan. Started discussing the museum's goal to upgrade the Native American gallery and interpretation.

In 2016, I worked on the Lake Huron Discovery Tour: Exploring our Native American History project. Worked with staff to develop the Native American traveling exhibits for the Lake Huron Discovery Tour. Organized the lecture series in Oscoda, Harrisville, Mackinaw City and Alpena. Helped work on the video presentations that are showcased on our museum website. In 2016, a \$25,000 donation was made to establish the Cook Family Fund at CFNEM for the NA Exhibit project.

In 2017, the Native American Exhibit Ad-Hoc Committee was formed in June.

I also reached out to Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director, United Tribes of Michigan, Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians. Frank agreed to provide guidance and participated in some of our Ad-Hoc committees.

An additional \$15,000 donation was made to the Cook Family Fund at CFNEM for the NA Exhibit project. Matt McCormack (Newline Genealogy) was contracted to do family research on Edith Bondie and her family. (Matt was contracted and paid through the Cook Fund from 2017 – 2020)

In 2018, funds from the Cook Endowment are being used to work with Good Design Group to develop conceptual plans for the Native American exhibit gallery. The Ad-Hoc Committee continued to meet.

In 2020, Charlee Brissette was hired as the consultant to assist in developing the narrative for the Anishinaabe exhibit. Charlee took all of Matt McCormack's genealogical research and redesigned the exhibit design and outlined the themes. Charlee has shifted roles from project consultant to Anishinaabe Advisory Committee member.

In 2021, an Anishinaabe Advisory Committee was formed with the following members: <u>Eric Hemenway</u>, Cultural Preservation Department, Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians; <u>William</u>

Johnson, Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; Charlee Brissett, Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians: Colleen Medicine, Cultural Repatriation Specialist, Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Board member, Marie Fielder, member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Anne Belanger, past Board president, Mike Beaulac, and Chris Witulski, Executive Director. The Advisory Committee meets quarterly to review materials and collaboratively draft the exhibit narrative.

As the project moves forward, we will:

- 1. Seek to secure an exhibit designer/developer preferably with experience working with Michigan tribes.
- 2. Work with our Anishinaabe Advisory committee to incorporate the museum's artwork into the exhibit to help with the cultural interpretation.
- 3. Seek other funding sources for the fabrication and installation of the new exhibition.

*To date, this project has been funded by the Cook Family Fund designated to support the renovation of the Native American exhibit. See attached budget for breakdown of expenses.

Cook Fund BUDGET for NA exhibit		otal Donation for Project NCOME EXPENSES	
Donation October 26, 2016 Donation November 20, 2017	10/26/2016 11/20/2017	\$25,000 \$15,000 \$40,000	
Matt McCormack Geneaology Research	7/13/2017 9/20/2017 11/16/2017 10/27/2018 1/21/2019 3/10/2019 9/12/2019 11/27/2019 1/31/2020	\$3,325.00 \$1,490.00 \$1,185.00 \$1,200.00 \$ 600.00 \$ 600.00 \$1,200.00 \$2,832.00 \$ 900.00	\$ 13,332.00 total
Good Design Group (exhibit concept)	2/8/2018 9/7/2018	\$2,550.00 \$ 1,500.00	\$ (4,050.00) total
Brian Belanger (Video Pre-Production Research)		\$450.00	
Superior Photo and Design (Treaty Exhibit)	8/31/2019	\$1,672.00	
Phase 1 Charlee Brissette, Consultant Fee	2/13/2020 5/6/2020 8/18/2020 10/22/2020 11/12/2020 1/28/2021 4/14/2021	\$ 1,000.00 \$ 850.00 \$ 1,144.95 \$ 89.71 \$ 850.00 \$ 850.00 \$ 850.00	\$ (4,784.66) total contract payment contract payment contract payment
Kalvin Halwig PHASE 2 Charlee Brissettee	2/13/2020 5/6/2020 2/25/2021 4/13/2021 4/28/2021	\$ 1,000.00 \$ 850.00 \$ 150.00 \$ 150.00 \$ 150.00	\$ (1,850.00) total Advisory Committee Stipends Advisory Committee Stipends Advisory Committee Stipends
Colleen Medicine	2/25/2021 4/13/2021 4/28/2021	\$ 150.00 \$ 150.00 \$ 150.00	Advisory Committee Stipends Advisory Committee Stipends Advisory Committee Stipends
Eric Hemenway	2/25/2021 4/13/2021 4/28/2021	\$ 150.00 \$ 150.00 \$ 150.00 \$34,123.32	Advisory Committee Stipends Advisory Committee Stipends Advisory Committee Stipends