



BESSER MUSEUM

for Northeast Michigan

ART • HISTORY • SCIENCE

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 RECEIVED 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
	4 th Quarter 2020	23,202
	1 st 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 HIGHLIGHT OF LAST YEAR'S HAPPENINGS



Happy Earth Week!

Follow the Besser Museum for NE MI all week for Earth Day (April 22) info & activities!

in coordination with Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library and Great Lakes Great Responsibility

Volunteer with conservation organizations

Choose alternatives to plastics and pesticides

Support initiatives for sanctuaries and clean-ups

Report Harmful illegal activities and invasive species

Learn More About Supporting Your Local Ecosystem:



**MARS ROVER LANDING
PLANETARIUM LIVESTREAM**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18
12:00PM - 4:00PM**

AT THE BESSER MUSEUM

Q&A WITH PLANETARIUM COORDINATOR
JOHNATHAN WINCKOWSKI

EDUCATIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS
FOCUSED ON MARS AND SPACE TRAVEL

ATTENDEES WILL RECEIVE A
TAKE & MAKE KIT AND A GOODY BAG



**new Beginnings
non-juried art exhibit
2021 Calendar**

Delivery of Work & Fee
Tuesday, February 2 - Monday, February 8

Exhibit Opens
Saturday, February 13

Exhibit Ends
Saturday, April 3

SEASON OF LIGHT

On Exhibit December 9 — January 31



Sponsored by Alpena
Power Company

Opening festivities will take place **Sat. Dec. 12th & Sun. Dec. 13th.**
Tickets are available for purchase by calling 989-356-2202.

BESSER MUSEUM HISTORIC VILLAGE



GIVING TUESDAY

DECEMBER 1ST

Now is the time to give!

WWW.CFNEM.ORG/GIVINGTUESDAY

Besser Museum Juried Art Exhibit

Entries accepted Oct. 12 - Oct. 19th

For more information and entry forms, visit www.BesserMuseum.org/Juried-Art-2020

THE ALPENA NEWS

Proudly Salutes

JESSE BESSER MUSEUM

Voted as the Sunrise Side's Best for 2020

ART GALLERY



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.

POETRY

WALK

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.



Robert Indiana, ART, 1973

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



NORTHEAST MICHIGAN

artists
G U I L D

Presents

Divergence

**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: Eric Hemenway, Cultural Preservation Department, Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians; William

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

	\$ 40,000.00	Total Donation for Project	
	DATE	INCOME	EXPENSES
Donation October 26, 2016	10/26/2016	\$25,000	
Donation November 20, 2017	11/20/2017	\$15,000	
		\$40,000	
Matt McCormack Geneaology Research	7/13/2017		\$3,325.00
	9/20/2017		\$1,490.00
	11/16/2017		\$1,185.00
	10/27/2018		\$1,200.00
	1/21/2019		\$ 600.00
	3/10/2019		\$ 600.00
	9/12/2019		\$1,200.00
	11/27/2019		\$2,832.00
	1/31/2020		\$ 900.00
			\$ 13,332.00 total
Good Design Group (exhibit concept)	2/8/2018		\$2,550.00
	9/7/2018		\$ 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		\$ 1,000.00
	5/6/2020		\$ 850.00
	8/18/2020		\$ 1,144.95
	10/22/2020		\$ 89.71
	11/12/2020		\$ 850.00
	1/28/2021		\$ 850.00
	4/14/2021		\$ 850.00
			\$ 5,784.66
Kalvin Halwig	2/13/2020		\$ 1,000.00
	5/6/2020		\$ 850.00
			\$ (1,850.00) total
PHASE 2			
Charlee Brissettee	2/25/2021		\$ 150.00
	4/13/2021		\$ 150.00
	4/28/2021		\$ 150.00
			Advisory Committee Stipends
			Advisory Committee Stipends
			Advisory Committee Stipends
Colleen Medicine	2/25/2021		\$ 150.00
	4/13/2021		\$ 150.00
	4/28/2021		\$ 150.00
			Advisory Committee Stipends
			Advisory Committee Stipends
			Advisory Committee Stipends
Eric Hemenway	2/25/2021		\$ 150.00
	4/13/2021		\$ 150.00
	4/28/2021		\$ 150.00
			Advisory Committee Stipends
			Advisory Committee Stipends
			Advisory Committee Stipends
			\$34,123.32