



FY24 Annual Report

Dennos Museum Center at Northwestern Michigan College



Table of Contents

From the Director	... page 2
About Us	... page 3
Accreditation	... page 4
Assessment	... page 6
Exhibitions	... page 8
Programs	... page 23
Collections	... page 55
Administration	... page 57

The Dennos Museum Center is a proud member of the following organizations:



**American
Alliance of
Museums**



MUSEUMS *for ALL*®

AAMG
Association of Academic Museums & Galleries



Smithsonian
Affiliate



Cover Image: DMC hosted its first dance party in September for Pride Week, and collaborated with Audio Tech instructor Brady Corcoran and student Lily to DJ for the event.

From the Director



Dear friends and colleagues:

One of the true joys of working in a college museum is having the opportunity to create an enjoyable experience for visitors of all ages and all abilities.

Thanks to the leadership of our curator, Liz Celeste, the Dennos Museum Center's staff, volunteers, and docents recently received training to earn us a Certified Autism Center designation. Our team is proud to help lead the way in creating friendly, accessible arts experiences for all visitors, and we are thrilled to help Traverse City work toward attaining recognition as Michigan's first Certified Autism Destination. Read more online by clicking [here](#).

In addition to autism certification training, our staff also invested in a number of additional accessibility upgrades to bring the facility into the 21st century. These included:

- A brand-new hearing loop system for the Milliken Auditorium. This system provides an enhanced listening experience for those who visit us with hearing aid devices.
- Milliken also received a full LED conversion, replacing the original stage and house light fixtures from 1991. The house lights are brighter and make entry/exit into the space much safer for our visitors.
- New audio and video equipment in the Dutmers Theater. Thanks to the generous support we received during our most recent annual fund campaign, the mini-theater is now clearer and louder than ever.

I would also be remiss if I didn't mention journalist Alina Tugend's April 27, 2024 *New York Times* article entitled [Upgraded Museums Add New Value to College Campuses](#). The article provides an excellent overview of campus museums and the teaching and learning value they bring to their communities. We are incredibly proud that the Dennos Museum Center at Northwestern Michigan College is the only community college museum featured in the article, among other prestigious museum programs hosted by Penn and Yale.

Thank you again for supporting your community museum. We look forward to providing another terrific year of arts and culture for northwest lower Michigan!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Craig Hadley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Craig Hadley
Executive Director and Chief Curator

About Us

Mission

The Dennen Museum Center builds community, sparks conversation, and inspires change for audiences of all ages through its exhibitions, programs, and the collection and preservation of art.

Approved by the NMC Board of Trustees
July 26, 2021

Vision

We will build one of the finest community college museum programs in the nation, providing access to high quality teaching and learning opportunities for our campus and community audiences.



Above: Over 1,323 K-12 students visited the museum this year on school field trips, with an additional 62 “Tour Tuesdays” offered for the general public.



Overview

Since fall of 2019, the Dennen Museum Center has pursued a path that will eventually lead to first-time accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). “As the museum field’s mark of distinction since 1971, accreditation offers high profile, peer-based validation of your museum’s operations and impact. Accreditation increases your museum’s credibility and value to funders, policy makers, insurers, community and peers. Accreditation is a powerful tool to leverage change and helps facilitate loans between institutions.”

Dennen Museum Center Accreditation Timeline

The following table provides an overview of the process outlined by DMC staff to competitively position the museum for accreditation. Given the rigorous nature of the review process, fewer than 4% of the nation’s 33,000 museums are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

2019	--	AAM Membership
2019	Fall	AAM Pledge of Excellence
2020	Spring	NMC Board approval: collections management policy and code of ethics
2020	Summer	AAM Museum Assessment Program (MAP) Peer Review #1
2021	Spring	Smithsonian Affiliate status awarded to DMC
2021	Summer	NMC Board approval: mission, statement of permanence, strategic plan
2021	Fall	AAM Core Documents Verification
2022	Summer	IMLS FAIC Conservation Assessment Program (CAP)
2023-24		Implement CAP and MAP #1 recommendations Grant support as needed Continue facility improvement plans (security, auditorium, electrical, lighting)
2024	Summer	MACC outdoor sculpture conservation survey AAM Museum Assessment Program (MAP) Peer Review #2
2026		Submit application for AAM Accreditation
2026-27		AAM Accreditation 2-Day Site Review
2026-27		AAM Commission Review Accreditation Award / Table / Denial

As outlined in the table above, FY22 saw the successful completion of AAM’s Core Documents Verification program. AAM staff, in particular, noted that DMC’s documents “...are very comprehensive and thoughtfully written (and definitely destined for the AAM Sample Document Library!)” We are proud that the Dennen Museum Center continues to serve as a role model for other museums across the United States.

Accreditation: How Do We Get There?

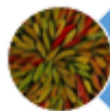
The Continuum of Excellence

Supporting and celebrating your museum's commitment to standards



Who is Accredited?

Of the nation's
33,000
museums
nationwide,
only **5%** are
accredited:



41% are art museums/centers



18% are in the Midwest



21% have approx. 6 FTE



16% operate within a college



30% have a budget of \$1-2.9M



**American
Alliance of
Museums**

Museum Assessment Program

About MAP

Since its inception in 1981, the Museum Assessment Program (MAP) has helped more than 5,000 small and mid-sized museums of all types strengthen operations, plan for the future, and meet standards.

Through a one-year process of self-assessment, institutional activities, and consultative peer review with a site visit and recommendations, your museum emerges with:

- Greater alignment of activities, mission, and resources
- Analysis of its strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities
- Prioritized roadmap for improving operations and meeting standards
- Practices benchmarked to standards
- Enhanced credibility with potential funders and donors
- Improved communications between staff, board, and other constituents
- Expert advice, recommendations, and resources
- Increased capacity for strategic planning
- Preparation for core document verification, accreditation or reaccreditation

Highlights from Our MAP Reviewer:

I found the Dennos to be a **multi-faceted, strong** institution; yet ... the attainment of **accreditation**, this institution will be *truly great!*

I witnessed strong **alliances** between [DMC and NMC]; these individuals share a common trust, understanding, and desire to advance the DMC.

A larger **endowment** will mean **improved sustainability** and amplified capacity for creative exhibitions, instruction, programs, and partnerships.

In the Mission statement review, acknowledge your **collections stewardship** obligations

Linda Steigleder, former CEO
Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield, MA





Collections Assessment for Preservation

The Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP) program provides small and mid-sized museums with partial funding toward a general conservation assessment. The assessment is a study of all the institution's collections, buildings, and building systems, as well as its policies and procedures relating to collections care. Participants who complete the program receive an assessment report with prioritized recommendations to improve collections care. CAP is often a first step for small institutions that wish to improve the condition of their collections.

Highlights from the 2022 CAP Report:

“The Dennen Museum Center has an incredibly knowledgeable, experienced, and engaged staff who call upon their vast and varied skills to maintain the building and collections. Executive Director and Chief Curator Craig Hadley, with a hands-on and very proactive approach, is rapidly contributing to the ongoing improvements in collections stewardship. Registrar Kim Hanninen is a veritable jack-of-all trades whose resourcefulness and dedication to collections care is the reason that the collections are so well maintained.

“The majority of the tenure of Director Craig Hadley has taken place in a particularly challenging time; however, he and staff members have taken advantage of covid-related disruptions to make great strides in fundraising, policy development, and collections storage updates, quickly addressing many of the recommendations outlined in the previous 2010 CAP report.

“Due to the dedicated efforts of current staff and college facility partners, DMC is operating at a very high-level regarding collections storage, display, and general operations. The primary objective identified by the assessment team is to: provide recommendations to further improve storage and environmental conditions, to increase outside awareness of collections conservation concerns, and to help with the development of a long-range preservation plan—all in preparation for the upcoming application for accreditation.”

These and other recommendations are summarized in the full report.

Melissa Amundsen
Assistant Preventive Conservator
Midwest Art Conservation Center, Minneapolis

Exhibitions

Temporary



LUSTER: REALISM AND HYPERREALISM IN CONTEMPORARY AUTOMOBILE AND MOTORCYCLE PAINTING

June 16 — September 3, 2023

LUSTER: Realism and Hyperrealism in Contemporary Automobile and Motorcycle Painting is a traveling exhibition comprised of over 55 paintings by nearly 15 leading photorealists and hyperrealists who specialize in automobiles and motorcycles as their primary subject of choice. Their work exemplifies the very best of automotive painting being done today and builds on that of the first wave of photorealists in the '60s and '70s, which included the likes of Harold Cleworth, Don Eddy, Richard Estes, and Ralph Goings.

Featuring dazzling paintings that encompass a broad range of vintage vehicles, recent classics, off-road vehicles, exotics, and more, *LUSTER* is a celebration of mechanical and artist design and style, the combination of which will have great allure with audiences. Like the shiny automobiles and motorcycles portrayed by the artists, its paintings can be characterized by the luster that permeates their imagery.

For more information visit the [LUSTER website](#).

LUSTER Realism and Hyperrealism in Contemporary Automobile and Motorcycle Painting is produced by Curator and Tour Director David J. Wagner, L.L.C.

Image: Lory Lockwood, *Cool Pipes*. 2017, Acrylic on canvas. Detail.



A NEW PERSPECTIVE: LANDSCAPES FROM THE DENNOS MUSEUM CENTER

June 16 — September 3, 2023

Landscapes can be many things to many people.

A landscape might evoke memories from our own past or transport us to a world from centuries ago. They can also help us make sense of geography and topography—as in the case of Jerry Gretzinger's map project—or they can be deeply connected to new outlooks and new possibilities. Landscapes can also be representations of the artist's reality, artificial constructs, or something in between.

Just as the past continually informs the present, our individual perspectives shape our interaction with the landscape around us today.

Image: Armand Merizon, *Untitled*. 1992, Acrylic on canvas, 18" x 24" (detail). From the collection of the Dennos Museum Center, Gift of Dave and Muriel Sandstra. 2020.12.2



JERRY'S MAP

MAY 30 — SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Jerry's Map is comprised of over 4,000 individual eight by ten inch panels. Its execution—in acrylic, marker, colored pencil, ink, collage, and inkjet print on heavy paper—is dictated by the interplay between an elaborate set of rules and randomly generated instructions.

ABOUT THE MAP

Jerry Gretzinger began making the map of an imaginary city in the summer of 1963. The work started as a doodle that was done in his spare time while working a tedious job. He continued to add to that map throughout the years until he set it aside in 1983 to put his free time to other use.

The Map was stored in the attic of his home in Cold Spring, New York, and gathered dust. His son, Henry, found it one day while rummaging around, and brought it down to Jerry to ask what it was. Seeing it prompted Gretzinger to dust it off and continue the project. He continues to work on it to this day. Learn more about The Map here: <https://vimeo.com/6745866>

ABOUT JERRY GRETZINGER

Jerry Gretzinger was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1942. He studied architecture and liberal arts at the University of Michigan and the University of California. He joined the Peace Corps in 1966 and spent two years in Tunisia. He returned in 1968 as an architect with an archeological team cataloging the Roman mosaics there.

In 1973 Gretzinger returned to the United States and started a handbag design company in New York. His wife, Meg Staley, joined the company in the early 1980s in the design and manufacture of women's clothing. Gretzinger retired to Maple City, Michigan in 2004.

Image: Jerry Gretzinger with *Jerry's Map* at Mass MOCA in 2012.



MICHIGAN MUD PRESENTERS EXHIBITION

JUNE 16 — SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

The Dennos Museum Center is pleased to host the 2023 Michigan Mud Presenters Exhibition this year in partnership with Northwestern Michigan College and the Michigan Ceramic Art Association. Highlights from this year's presenters will be on view at the Dennos Museum Center from June 16 – September 30, 2023.

About the Michigan Ceramic Art Association (MCAA)

Established in 1958 in southeastern Michigan as the Michigan Potters' Association and in 2003 renamed Michigan Ceramic Art Association. Our membership includes studio artists, art educators, galleries, art organizations, potters guilds, students and collectors. The Michigan Ceramic Art Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

To fund our programs, we rely heavily on donations from individuals and businesses to augment dues collected from our members. Even more important, we rely on the generosity of artists who donate their time for workshops, on institutions who contribute space, materials and funds, and on a small group of dedicated volunteers who spend countless hours planning and implementing MCAA activities.

Learn more online at michclay.com



A SEPARATE SHINING: SELECTIONS FROM THE TUSEN TAKK FOUNDATION COLLECTION

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 — JANUARY 7, 2024

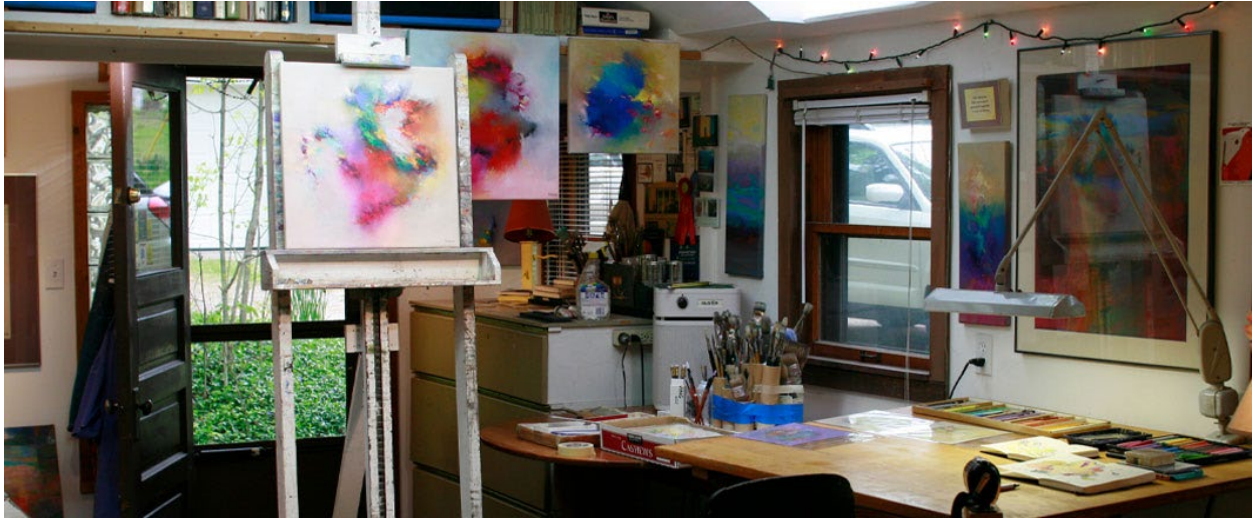
The Tusen Takk Foundation and the Dennon Museum are pleased to present A Separate Shining, an exhibition of selected works from the Tusen Takk Foundation's collection representing artists who have participated in its artist-in-residence program to date. Taking its title from the poem "Joy" by Hilda Conkling, the exhibition surveys the artists' exploration of the intangible—the unseen qualities of joy, beauty, and hope.

Nestled in the forested dunes of Lake Michigan on the Leelanau peninsula, the Tusen Takk residence and studios were conceived by Geoffrey and Thomas Peckham, and designed by world-renowned architect Peter Bohlin. At Tusen Takk, both the natural and man-made landscape are sources of inspiration for the artists who come to use its studios to bring into existence what they once only imagined.

In her poem, Conkling likens joy to "a separate shining," a thing not seeable but nevertheless felt. Working across a variety of disciplines from photogravure to painting, to sculpture and music composition, the artists in this exhibition provide us with glimpses of joy and, in doing so, remind us that light overcomes darkness.

Learn more about the Tusen Takk Foundation at tusentakk.org

Image: Vaune Trachtman, *Reverie*, 2021. Direct to Plate photopolymer gravures with a surface roll, Akua ink on Shiramine washi paper, 21 x 28 in. image on a 28 x 34 in. sheet. From the collection of the Tusen Takk Foundation. Detail.



PASSAGES: THE ART OF RON GIANOLA

September 15, 2023 — January 7, 2024

Gianola's paintings are the result of a fifty-plus year long experience with the *Art Spirit*, pursuing the possibilities of a personal transformative vision, engaging emotion, expression, and the poetry of visual music.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Ron Gianola was born in Detroit in 1950, studied Industrial Design and Fine Arts at Detroit's premier magnet Cass Technical High School and the Art School of the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts, later known as Center for Creative Studies, and worked throughout Michigan as an artist and designer.

From the Detroit culture of rock, soul, and jazz music, hot rods, and custom concept cars Gianola found a way into the rich culture of the time and place to explore the creative, personal, humanist side of life, mind, and spirit. Painting called as a mythic vocation embodying the essential mystery and spiritual beauty of nature and the human psyche.

Rather than depict the specific, he works in a more personal manner using a harmony of forms from observed, created, and remembered sources. Gianola paints with enough content that the mind and imagination are pleased and with enough literal image that the eye is also satisfied.

Trying to attain something you can't just "paint" on, exploring the structural qualities of oil paint, higher in concept, using a patient, considered, quality execution, attaining a flickering oil surface, every square inch breathing, potent with the energy of life, Gianola's technique embodies the freedom of abstraction with the care and considered execution of classical realism.



STEPHEN DUREN: A LIFE OF PAINTING

September 15, 2023 — January 7, 2024

This exhibit brings together works by artist Stephen Duren that cover his sixty-year career and bring greater definition to his artistic contributions. Drawing on public and private collections across the United States, the exhibition is organized by the [Grand Valley State University Art Gallery](#) (GVSU) and hosted concurrently at regional institutions in West Michigan, where Duren has spent the majority of his career.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Stephen Duren was born in 1948 in Fairfield, a community set amidst the Coastal Ranges of California and located halfway between San Francisco and Sacramento. Growing up in a broken home, he would spend time on his grandfather's ranch in nearby Vacaville, slowly being wooed by the light and landscape of the foothills. His time alone with the land would prove to be both formative and foundational in his approach to art and life. It drove him to paint outdoors, to seek solace from loneliness in nature, and to filter much of his painting through the land and amber light of Northern California.

Sixty years have passed since Duren first took up a paintbrush. In this time, his work has experienced a push and pull between realism and abstraction, resulting in an evolving stylistic approach. Some work evokes the soft and poetic landscapes of George Innes, others reflect inspiration from the geometric reductions of Richard Diebenkorn's lyrical abstractions. Much of Duren's work bridges this gap. He has also painted allegorical works dealing with personal trauma, and continues his practice of creating plein-air (outdoor painting) suites of paintings at specific locations. Binding all of this together is a deep understanding of color and an emphasis on line and perspective, nurtured by his connection to the land.

Image: Stephen Duren, *Eucalyptus Grove*. 2006, Oil on board, 12 x 18 in. Collection of Stephen Duren. Detail.



NORTHLAND WEAVERS & FIBER ARTISTS GUILD

October 20, 2023 — March 3, 2024

In September of 1973, Terry Tarnow and Martha Fox, sharing a mutual interest in weaving, decided to organize a weaver's guild. The purpose of the guild was to gather together those working in fiber arts such as weaving, spinning, macramé, and dyeing.

The mission of the guild was to meet monthly and share skills, teach fiber techniques and sponsor workshops. In the 90's the guild changed its name to Northland Weavers and Fiber Arts Guild. This allows anyone working with fiber such as knitting, basketry and quilting to feel welcome in the guild. Each year the guild tries to bring in instructors from around the country to teach workshops. The guild is a member of the Michigan League of Handweavers and the Handweavers Guild of America.

The exhibition at the Dennos Museum Center will feature work of past and current members.

The guild meets the third Thursday of the month usually at the Traverse City Senior Center. Anyone interested in the guild can sign up for our newsletter at northlandweaversguild.com.



YOUNG AT ART: A SELECTION OF CALDECOTT BOOK ILLUSTRATIONS

February 3 — April 28, 2024

Through picture books, readers embark on visual journeys that engage all of the senses and encourage curious, imaginative, and thoughtful interactions with the world around them. Since 1938, the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, has recognized the significant impact of art on early reading experiences, awarding the Caldecott Medal for excellence in this area. Named in honor of nineteenth-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott, the prestigious and highly coveted medal is awarded annually to the illustrator of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

This exhibition includes original illustrations from Caldecott Medal recipients and from “runnerup” Honor books, as well as other illustrations by award-winning artists. This exhibition of works from Wichita Falls Museum of Art’s permanent collection celebrates the vision and talent of twenty-eight award-winning artists, including the first Caldecott Award recipient Dorothy P. Lathrop (1938), two-time winner Chris Van Allsburg (1982, 1986), and Maurice Sendak (1964), whose work *Where the Wild Things Are*, like Van Allsburg’s *Jumanji* and *The Polar Express*, was adapted for the big screen. These illustrations are widely recognized not only as artistic classics in children’s literature but also as the source of countless beloved memories for the young and young at heart.

The Caldecott Collection of Children’s Book Illustrations is part of the permanent collection of the Wichita Falls Museum of Art at Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas. The museum has collected children’s book illustrations for more than fifty years.

Learn more at: www.eusa.org/exhibition/Caldecott

Image: Leonard Weisgard, *Mother Hen*. c 1947; Acrylic, 15 1/2 x 15 1/2 inches; Courtesy of Wichita Falls Museum of Art at Midwestern State University. Detail.



HEMINGWAY IN COMICS

FEBRUARY 3 — MAY 26, 2024

The exhibition *Hemingway in Comics* provides a unique and entertaining lens for considering one of America's most influential authors through themes that explore his origin story as well as his legendary iconic personas, both fact and fiction. In several appearances across multiple languages, Hemingway is often portrayed as the hypermasculine legend: bearded, boozed up, and ready to throw a punch. But just as often, comic book writers see past the bravado to the person, grappling with his own demons. Hemingway's role in these comics ranges from the divine to the ridiculous, as his image is recorded, distorted, lampooned, and whittled down to its core.

Exhibition curator Robert K. Elder notes that comic book creators and Hemingway share a natural kinship. The comic book page demands an economy of words, much like Hemingway's less-is-more "iceberg theory," only in graphic form. In addition, he turned out to be the perfect avatar for comic book artists wanting to tell history-rich stories, as he experienced beautiful places during the most chaotic times: Paris in the 1920s, Spain during the Spanish Civil War, Cuba on the brink of revolution, France during World War II just after liberation. Elder's research into Hemingway's comic presence demonstrates the truly international reach of Hemingway as a pop culture icon.

Hemingway in Comics presents a new, more complicated way to look at Hemingway: a man, an artist, and a character that has taken on a life of its own and allows visitors to consider why Hemingway's image, in particular, is so enduring. However, this exhibition is not only for the dedicated Hemingway fan, it will appeal to all those with an appreciation for comics, pop culture, and the absurd. Learn more at www.eusa.org/exhibition/hemingway-in-comics

Image: Luca Pozza, *Production art for Laguna Hemingway pages 58 – 59*, 2020; Felt tip pen, watercolor, and ecoline on patinated 350-grain ivory cardboard, 13 x 19 inches (image); Courtesy of Robert K. Elder. Detail.



SOLO E TUTTI: A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

MARCH 12 — SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

This exhibit is put on by Interlochen Arts Academy Visual Arts students.

Inspired by the musical phrases "Solo e Tutti," which translates to "alone" and "everyone," this collection of works offers a new take on the concept of community, reflecting the diversity of backgrounds that make up the students at the Interlochen Arts Academy.

Each piece explores the distinct ways in which these young artists understand and contribute to the concept of community.

As separate instruments contribute to an orchestra, each student's artwork emphasizes the value of individuality and collaboration in establishing and molding their sense of community. It provides an intimate look at how young artists from all over the world interpret community.

While geographical distances often separate us, Interlochen students have discovered a new feeling of belonging in our community. The pieces on display demonstrate the powerful impact of belonging that transcends cultural and geographical barriers.

The emphasis on personal and creative growth, embodied in the concept of *Solo e Tutti*, highlights the transformative power of the arts in forming individual identities and fostering a stronger connection to the world around us. This exhibition invites you to engage with the myriad perspectives on what it means to belong, connect, and thrive in a community that spans continents and cultures.



PAUL WELCH: 90 WORKS, 90 YEARS

APRIL 30 — MAY 26, 2024

2024 marks the 90th birthday of celebrated artist and beloved retired NMC faculty member Paul Welch. This retrospective of his work, including several newer pieces created during the isolation of the pandemic, will be on view in the museum's sculpture court. Many items will be available for sale, with proceeds designated for the Paul Welch Art Fund, supporting NMC students and the Dennos Museum.

ABOUT THE RECEPTION

Friday, May 17th — 5:00 PM

Tickets will open to the general public on April 26th.

Paul is legendary as an artist and also for his love of engaging with others—teaching, sharing, and always learning. Paul is never one to turn down a party, and this event will be an opportunity to engage with others who appreciate all he has accomplished for our region. Guests of members and the general public are welcome to attend the event, but will pay a \$5 cover fee per ticket. Limit of 350 people.

Go online to reserve a ticket, or **call the museum at 231-995-1055**.



NMC STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

MAY 10 — JUNE 1, 2024

The NMC Art Department is pleased to announce an expanded student show this year, with juried work from both Northwestern Michigan College students along with selected artwork from regional high school students.

ABOUT THE JURORS

Jess Nagel | Charlevoix, MI

Jess Nagel is a 2009 graduate of the NMC Visual Communications Program. She started her career shortly after graduation at Britten Studios working in sales and design before transplanting to Chicago for almost eight years. While in Chicago she worked as a Marketing Manager and an in-house Creative Director for various food ingredient companies. During the 2020 shutdown while working from her childhood home in Northern Michigan, she rediscovered her love for the area and moved back to start her grab n' go food and specialty grocery and gift market, J.bird Provisions in Charlevoix MI.

Liz Celeste | Traverse City, MI

Liz is the Curator of Education and Exhibitions at the Denno's Museum, and has an extensive background in academic museums and galleries. She previously held positions at Stanford University as their Assistant Curator and Programming Director for the Department of Art, and served as Deputy Director of Exhibitions and Programs for the Ohio State University's Urban Arts Space. Liz thoroughly enjoys mentoring students, forging academic connections on campus and developing interdisciplinary programs. She is inspired by the remarkable ability of campus museums to stimulate conversations within the broader community and encourage positive action towards deeper learning. When she is not at the museum, you can find Liz out hiking with her family, throwing dirt around in the garden or experimenting with new methods for creating work with Polaroid negatives.

Exhibitions

Semi-Permanent



The Dennos Museum Center houses a collection of over 3,000 works of art. More than 2,000 works are prints and sculptures made by the Inuit people of the Canadian Arctic, Greenland, and Alaska. Other holdings include a diverse collection of painting, sculpture, prints, and photography. Significant collections include contemporary works by Michigan artists, 19th and 20th century American and European graphic art, and 20th century Great Lakes Indian and Canadian Indian art.



Art Bridges

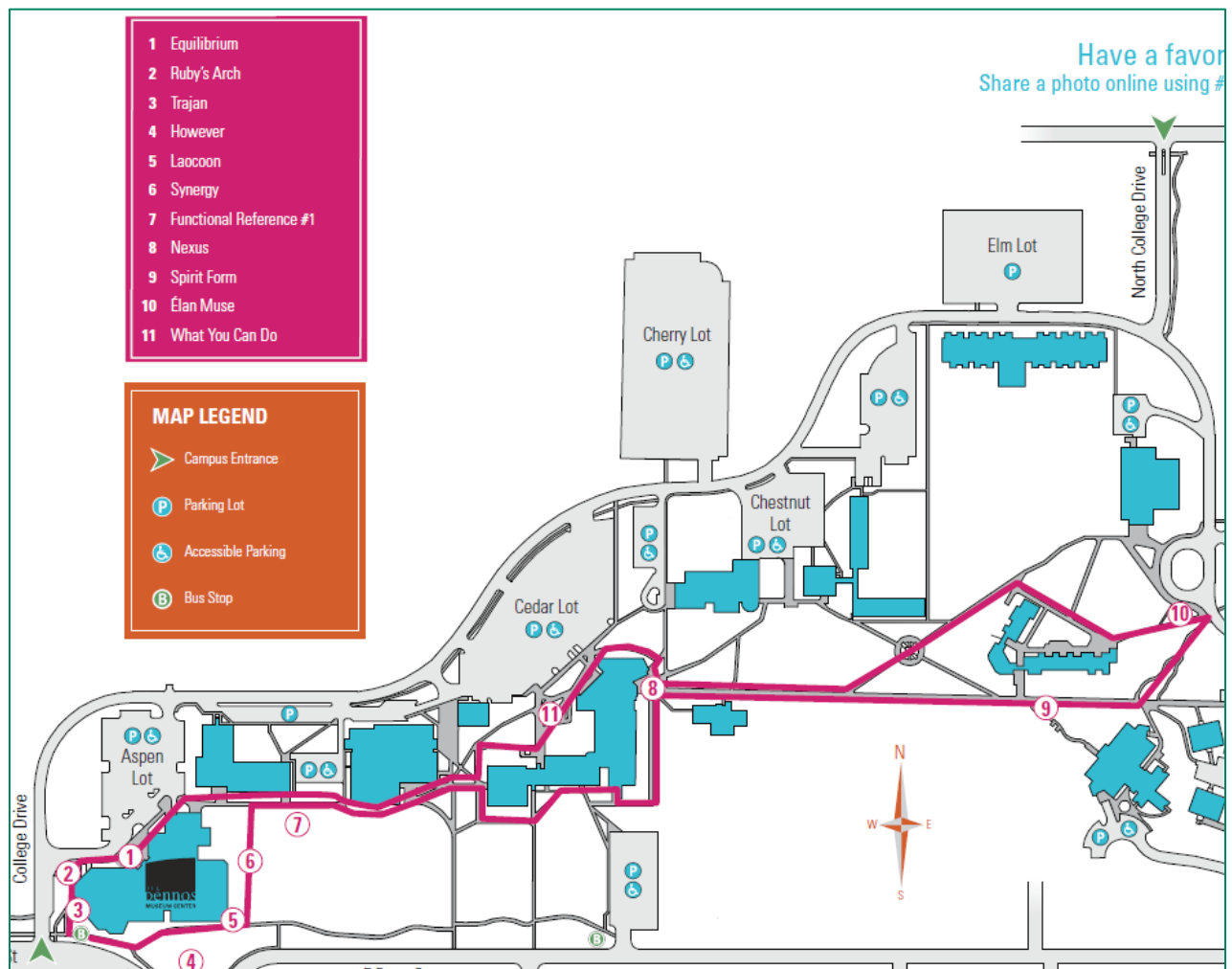
Thanks to the generous support of the Art Bridges Foundation, this searchable database system provides online access to the Dennos Museum Center's permanent collection. Nearly 60% of the entire collection is available online, with access to the entire collection slated for 2026-27. [ACCESS THE ONLINE COLLECTIONS DATABASE.](#)

Outdoor Sculpture



You can continue exploring the arts through the campus at Northwestern Michigan College, thanks to the development of a major collection of outdoor sculptures. These unique, thought-provoking sculptures are located in the immediate Dennis Museum Center area as well as throughout the college's campuses.

Primarily focused on works by noted Michigan sculptors, the collection also includes works by artists of international stature. Learn more about these gifted artists and their outdoor works by clicking on the links below. [View or download a PDF version of the map here.](#)



Programs **Engagement**

Liz Celeste **Curator of Education and Exhibitions**

Thank you for helping to make this year of programming at Dennos such a success by showing up for our diverse slate of events and sharing ideas on what more you would like to see. The education team welcomed over 128 tours, which included visits from over 1,300 K-12 students from across the region!

We have been trying some new things, like our silent disco dance parties, which have been met with excitement from both NMC students and the greater TC community. And we have revisited some old favorites like Second Sunday Art projects, to continue to spark creativity in the inspiring sculpture court. A whooping 9,500 of you showed up for our 76 public programs this year, and for that we are extremely grateful.

This coming year is sure to bring more excitement as we continue to hone in on what it means to serve the Traverse City community and beyond as your community museum!



Local author and illustrator Brianne Farley leads children in a drawing exercise in the galleries.

Programs

Community Programs



SUMMER 2024 EXHIBIT OPENING

Friday, June 21st | 7:00 PM

Enjoy an evening with light refreshments, a bar (2 drink max), and music. Members get free admission and double discounts in the Museum Store the night of the event. Guests of members and the public are welcome to attend for a small fee. Limit of 300.



JUNETEENTH FREE DAY

Wednesday, June 19th

Free Day | 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Film Screening | 3:00 PM

Enjoy a free day at the museum in recognition of Juneteenth, America's second Independence Day. You might even get to see Detroit-based artist Louise Jones working on her solo exhibition in the museum's Sculpture Court.

At 3:00 PM catch a film screening of *One Person, One Vote?*. The film tells the untold story of the electoral college, its slavery origins, and its impact on American politics and society then and now.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: GIVE YOUR OLD CLOTHES A SECOND LIFE

Sunday, June 9th

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Breathe new life into your used shirts or cotton sweaters with the help of relief printmaking! In this workshop, artist Jamie John will demonstrate how they print their designs on second-hand garments using soft rubber blocks and fabric ink. You'll be guided through the process of designing and carving your own print(s), offered tips and tricks for printing with fabric ink, and by the end of the workshop, you'll be able to walk away with your own personal customized clothing!

Jamie John will be giving a demonstration from start to finish for this process, and be discussing printmaking, the fast fashion industry, and how to use our creativity to resist mass consumption.

*Please bring along a garment to print. Cotton, linen, or cotton polyester blend garments are recommended for first-time printers.

Presented by Jamie John, a multi-disciplinary Anishinaabe and Korean-American artist from Traverse City, MI. Learn more about Jamie John.



RAINBOW STORY TIME

Saturday, June 8th

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Join us before the NMC Pride Carnival for a family-friendly story time focused on love for oneself and others. Held in partnership with Wild & Wonder TC. Then, enjoy the carnival on NMC's main campus and visit the Dennos table for an outdoor activity. This event is free, but regular admission rates will apply during the museum's regular open hours from 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM.



HEMINGWAY IN COMICS LECTURE WITH ROBERT K. ELDER

Sunday, May 19th

12:00 PM

Ernest Hemingway casts a long shadow in literature—reaching beyond his status as a giant of 20th-century fiction and a Nobel Prize winner—extending even into comic books. Appearing alongside Superman, Captain Marvel, and Cerebus, Hemingway has even battled fascists alongside Wolverine in Spain and teamed up with Mickey Mouse in Italian comics.

Robert K. Elder's research into Hemingway's comic presence demonstrates the truly international reach of Hemingway as a pop culture icon. In more than 120 appearances across multiple languages, Hemingway is often portrayed as the hypermasculine legend: bearded, boozed up, and ready to throw a punch. But just as often, comic book writers see past the bravado to the sensitive artist looking for validation. Hemingway's role in these comics ranges from the divine to the ridiculous, as his image is recorded, distorted, lampooned, and whittled down to its essential parts.



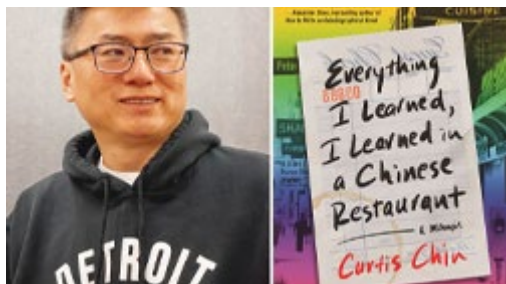
PAUL WELCH: 90 WORKS, 90 YEARS RECEPTION

Friday, May 17th

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Join us for an evening reception of *Paul Welch: 90 Works, 90 Years* on **Friday, May 17th at 5:00 PM. Tickets will open to the general public on April 26th.**

Paul is legendary as an artist and also for his love of engaging with others—teaching, sharing, and always learning. Paul is never one to turn down a party, and this event will be an opportunity to engage with others who appreciate all he has accomplished for our region. Guests of members and the general public are welcome to attend the event, but will pay a \$5 cover fee per ticket. Limit of 350 people.



CELEBRATE AAPI MONTH WITH AUTHOR CURTIS CHIN

Thursday, May 16th

5:00 - 9:00 PM

Join Traverse City's AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) Committee for a free event with the goal to build greater understanding and empathy for people of different cultural backgrounds through positive engagement and welcoming learning events. Local AAPI restaurants and chefs will provide the food. Afterwards, head to Milliken Auditorium for a screening of *The Blessing* and a Q+A with the director Liann Kaye. Then, head back to the museum for a reading from *Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant* by Michigan-born author Curtis Chin. Among many accolades, his book is included on the Most Anticipated LGBTQ+ Books of Fall 2023 and Michigan Notable Book of 2024. The evening will wrap up with a Q+A with Curtis Chin, and a book signing and sale.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, May 12th

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Celebrate Mother's Day with a family-friendly art project by making your own paper flowers. Join the fun for free with the price of admission!

SPRING ART MARKET

Saturday, May 11th

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Engage with 25 talented artists selling work in a range of media from painting, printmaking, illustration, mixed media and ceramics to glass, wood, fiber, and jewelry. Take a museum stroll with Mom and enjoy a pianist playing in the galleries. Create a Mother's Day card with our docents. There is fun for all with Free admission to the museum & free parking!

HEMINGWAY THE LEGEND AND *THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA*

Thursday, May 2nd
5:00 - 6:30 PM

Ernest Hemingway's life and his writings are intricately intertwined. His life sheds important insights on his novels and short stories, and they, in turn, reveal important aspects about his life. Consciously autobiographical and confessional, his writings construct code principles for life. We will explore these principles in terms of both his personal life, which was tempestuous, and his works. We will also discuss in some detail one of his greatest novels, *The Old Man and the Sea*, which was his last work to be published while he was still alive. There will be time for questions, discussion, and book signing. Come join us for an engaging afternoon with Robert Van Dellen, an author and retired college professor and president.



DMC DANCE PARTY: SPRING FLING SILENT DISCO

Thursday, April 25th
7:00 - 9:00 PM

Dive into the energy of the season at our Spring Fling Silent Disco, where the dance floor is charged with the promise of warmer days and the beats are delivered straight to your headphones. This event is suitable for all ages. Please reserve your ticket in advance.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: EARTH DAY

Sunday, April 14th

12:30 - 1:00 PM | TADL Caldecott Storytime

Before the art project, join a librarian from the Traverse Area District Library for a story time featuring Caldecott books.

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Create a nature inspired collage from recycled materials and share why Earth matters to you in the form of a haiku. Join the fun for free with the price of admission!



SPRING BREAK AT THE MUSEUM

March 23rd - 30th | Closed Monday, March 25th & Thursday, March 28th

Visit the museum for a Spring Break adventure for the whole family. **Kids are free with accompanying adults. All children under 18 must be accompanied by at least one adult.**

Explore the worlds of award-winning children's books with **Young at Art: A Selection of Caldecott Book Illustrations**, and dive into comics, pop culture, and myth with **Hemingway In Comics**. A new scavenger hunt will be available at the front desk all week. Turn it in to receive a prize.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: ART OF A SUPERHERO

Sunday, March 10th

12:30 - 1:00 PM | TADL Caldecott Storytime

Before the art project, join a librarian from the Traverse Area District Library for a story time featuring Caldecott books. This portion of the event is free to attend.

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Join us for a hands-on workshop with Marvel Comic illustrator Jerry DeCaire (artist for *Thor*, *DeadPool*, *X-Men*, etc.), and dive into the art of drawing superheroes. **Limit of 40, please register online in advance. Cost reflects the price of admission to the museum.**



STORYPALOOZA FOR READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY - FREE DAY

Saturday, March 2nd
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

An all-ages celebration of stories! From graphic novels to zines, classic literature to poetry, let's read, share, and listen to stories from around the community.



HEARTS FOR ART

February 1st - 14th

Show some love to your favorite artwork at the museum and celebrate Hearts for Art with us! Pick up a heart at the front desk, leave it on the floor in front of the artwork (please don't place hearts in the frames or on pedestals), and share your favorites with us online. You can find us on [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: EMBRACE THE DREAM

Sunday, February 11th
12:30 - 1:00 PM | TADL Caldecott Storytime

Before the art project, join a librarian from the Traverse Area District Library for a story time featuring Caldecott books.

Get inspired by the watercolor work of Caldecott honor recipient E.B. Lewis who thoughtfully illustrates narratives of the African American experience for children's books, and create your own watercolor work. Join the fun for free with the price of admission!



WINTER 2024 OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday, February 3rd
3:00 - 5:00 PM

Join us for the opening of *Hemingway in Comics* and *Young at Art: A Selection of Caldecott Book Illustrations*.

Enjoy a family-friendly opening reception during the winter daylight! Free admission and double discounts in the store for museum members. Guests of members and the public are welcome to attend for a small fee. Limit of 350 people.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: MUSEUM SNOW DAY

RESCHEDULED Sunday, January 21st
1:00 - 3:00 PM

A celebration of snow in honor of *Snowflake Bentley* where we will observe and classify shapes of snow crystals, make paper snowflakes, and build snow sculptures in front of the museum, weather permitting. Join the fun for free with the price of admission!



EMBRACE THE DREAM FREE DAY

Monday, January 15th
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day with us and kick-off the Embrace the Dream programming with free admission to the museum.



WILD WINTER SCAVENGER HUNT

Wednesday - Saturday
December 27th - 30th

From December 27th - 30th explore the museum using our wild winter scavenger hunt. Complete all the tasks and earn a special reward!



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT

Sunday, December 10th
1:00 - 3:00 PM

Drop in and get creative with a family-friendly art activity led by our docents in our sculpture court. Free with the price of admission to join in the fun!



MUSEUM STORE SUNDAY

Sunday, November 26th

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Join us for the annual **Museum Store Sunday** event and enjoy **special discounts** all day! Explore our curated collection of one-of-a-kind merchandise while supporting arts and culture at your local art museum. Our museum store is more than just a place to buy souvenirs; it's a treasure trove of unique finds inspired by the captivating exhibits and artworks showcased in the Dennos Museum Center. From exquisite art prints and handcrafted jewelry to beautifully designed home décor and educational books, you're sure to discover something that sparks joy and ignites your passion for creativity.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: WEAVING

Sunday, November 12th

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Drop in and get creative with a family-friendly art activity led by our docents in our sculpture court. This month's project will be inspired by the *Northland Weavers and Fiber Artist's Guild exhibition*. Free with the price of admission to join in the fun!



HOLIDAY ARTIST MARKET

Friday & Saturday
November 3rd & 4th
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The Dennos welcomes visitors to the 24th annual Holiday Artist Market kicking off the 2023 holiday gift shopping season. Visitors will discover a unique variety of artful gifts in a lively and festive marketplace. **Admission is free to all.** Special programming will be offered to enhance the experience for visitors of all ages, and the raffle will return this year to support K-12 tours to the museum! Participating artists and details at shop.dennosmuseum.org.



HALLOWEEN FOR ALL

Saturday, October 28th
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
FREE

Join the Dennos Museum and Arts for All for a sensory-friendly Halloween event! We will have a variety of fun activities with an emphasis on sensory sensitivity and accommodations to create an inclusive environment where all are welcome! **Registration for this free event is not required, but recommended.**

SPOOKY SILENT DISCO

Thursday, October 26th

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Tickets: \$0 - \$10

Get in the Halloween spirit, put on your best costume, and dance until you're dead tired at this all ages hang before Halloween weekend. Parental Guidance recommended.



HOW DO THEY DO THAT? BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE DENNOS

Wednesday, October 18th
10:00 - 11:00 AM

What does it take for a museum to create polished museum exhibitions? How does a museum install large structures, take care of taxidermied polar bears, light exhibitions, and position artwork for the best visitor experience? Join Craig Hadley, Executive Director at the Dennos Museum Center, for a guided tour that is guaranteed to leave you thinking about museums in an entirely new way! Bring your questions and some comfortable walking shoes.



AN EVENING WITH STEPHEN DUREN

Wednesday, October 11th
5:00 - 6:30 PM
Tickets \$0-\$5

Join renowned artist Stephen Duren as he takes you on an immersive journey through six decades of his remarkable career. Through a captivating slide presentation, Duren will share insights into his artistic evolution, from the luminous landscapes of Northern California that ignited his passion to dynamic interplay between realism and abstraction in his works. Discover how his deep connection to nature has shaped his artistic approach. A reception and meet and greet with the artist will follow his lecture.



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY - FREE DAY

Monday, October 9th

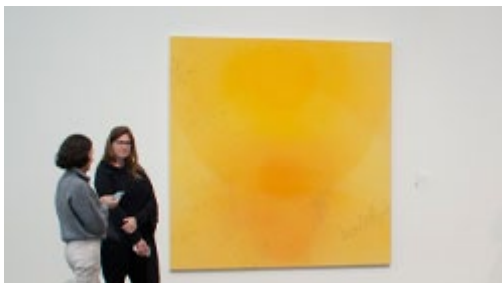
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Film Screening | 4:00 PM

Celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day with the Denno's Museum, Traverse Area District Library, and WCMU with stories, dancing, a film screening and indigenous foods. The Denno's will be hosting storytime, picture book giveaways, and crafts followed by a preview of the brand new PBS series, The American Buffalo, a biography of an improbable, shaggy beast that has found itself at the center of many of the country's most mythic and heartbreaking tales.

The series takes viewers on a journey through more than 10,000 years of North American history and across some of the continent's most iconic landscapes, tracing its evolution, significance to the Great Plains and, most importantly, its relationship to the Indigenous People of North America.

In partnership with WCMU, we are thrilled to welcome Chef Sam Anglin, a Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Member, to the Denno's for the event. Following the screening, Chef Sam will provide remarks and an introduction to the indigenous food he is preparing for the reception.



A SEPARATE SHINING TOUR

Sunday, October 8th

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Tickets: \$0 - \$10

Maggie Pavao, Assistant Director of the Tusen Takk Foundation will lead an in-depth tour of A Separate Shining: Selections from the Tusen Takk Foundation Collection.

Due to the size of the gallery, this event is limited to 20 people. Please limit groups to 4 people.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: ZINE-MAKING WORKSHOP WITH JAMIE JOHN

Sunday, October 8th

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Regular Admission

Zines (pronounced like ZEEN) are small circulation self-published works of texts and images made to be distributed via copy machine. Creating zines is a fun and easy way to express oneself, share skills or opinions, and share one's art. Whether it's your first time making a zine or you're a seasoned zinester, come spend the day at the Dennon Museum to create and trade your very own zine works. Presented by Jamie John, a multi-disciplinary Anishinaabe and Korean-American artist from Traverse City, MI. Learn more about [Jamie John](#). **Recommended for grade 3 and up.** Please register in advance. Cost reflects the price of admission to the museum.



RAINBOW STORYTIME

Saturday, September 30th

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

This free community event is rooted in celebrating love for self, others and being who you are. The event features music, a read aloud, and an art project. Held in partnership with Up North Pride.



THE ART OF: RON GIANOLA

Thursday, September 28th

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Tickets: \$0 - \$10

Join exhibiting artist Ron Gianola for a lively and inspiring conversation about the evolution of his art. Limit of 40 people, please limit groups to 4 people.



IPR'S KIDS COMMUTE LIVE!

WITH SPECIAL GUEST SIX MILE STRINGS

Saturday, September 23rd

Pre-concert Activities | 10:00 - 10:45 AM

Six Mile Strings Performance | 11:00 - 11:50 AM

FREE

Join [Interlochen Public Radio](#) for [Kids Commute Live!](#) in the Denno's Sculpture Court. Classical IPR host Kate Botello will lead this rhythm-themed matinee featuring [Six Mile Strings](#). Pre-concert activities will feature a Percussion Petting Zoo in the Dutmers Theatre, a rhythm-themed art activity in the Discovery Gallery, and a guided experience with the Sound Wall. A to-go snack will be available for attendees following the performance.



COLLIDER PHYSICS MULTIVERSE FROM THE TEVATRON TO THE LHC AND BEYOND

Sunday, September 24th

Planetarium Showings | 11:15 AM - 2:15 PM

Lecture with Professor Harrison Prosper, Florida State University | 3:00 PM

Explore the state of particle physics through a planetarium show about dark matter followed by a presentation by Professor Harrison Prosper on the knowledge we have gained at the particle energy frontier, from the successful program at the Tevatron at Fermilab near Chicago to the LHC at CERN in Geneva, Switzerland, and future colliders under consideration.

ABOUT HARRISON PROSPER

Harrison Prosper is the Kirby W. Kemper Endowed Professor from the Department of Physics, part of the College of Arts and Sciences. While Prosper teaches undergraduate- and graduate-level physics, much of his joy stems from his role in experimental particle physics discoveries. He earned his doctoral degree in experimental physics from the University of Manchester in 1980 and was elected as a Fellow of the American Physical Society in 2002 and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2014.

[Learn more about Harrison Prosper.](#)



DMC DANCE PARTY: PRIDE EDITION

Thursday, September 21st

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Tickets: \$0 - \$5

We are welcoming Hawk Owls back to campus with a joyful celebration of pride. Dance, enjoy snacks, and view art at this 18+ friendly event. Members, NMC Employees, and the public are welcome to attend. Enjoy 0 proof cocktails from Audacia Elixirs. One drink ticket provided with your reservation. Additional drink tickets available for \$10 per drink at the bar.



FALL 2023 OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday, September 14th

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Tickets: \$0 - \$5

Join us for the opening of *Stephen Duren: A Life of Painting*, *Passages: The Art of Ron Gianola*, and *A Separate Shining: Selections from the Tuesen Takk Foundation Collection* on **Thursday, September 14th at 7:00 PM.**

Enjoy an evening with light refreshments, open bar (two drink limit), and music. Members can enjoy double discounts in the Museum Store the night of the event. Guests of members and the public are welcome to attend the event, but will pay a \$5 cover fee per ticket. Limit of 350 people.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: MAP-MAKING WITH ARTIST JERRY GRETZINGER

Sunday, September 10th

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Join us for a collaborative mapping workshop with artist Jerry Gretzinger. Together we will explore lines, shapes, colors, land rivers, habitats and a plethora of art materials to create an imaginative map.



CAR TRIVIA AT THE MUSEUM

Thursday, August 31st

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Rev up your engines and join us for a thrilling evening of car-themed trivia at the Dennon Museum Center as part of the mesmerizing Luster exhibition, showcasing awe-inspiring hyper realistic paintings of cars and motorcycles. Calling all automotive aficionados and NMC students – test your knowledge, win prizes, and enjoy pizza and lemonade provided by DMC! The evening will consist of three rounds of car-related trivia questions followed by a scavenger hunt round through the museum. Teams can have 1-8 people. Limit of 50 people.



TOUR TUESDAYS

Tuesday, June 20th - Tuesday, August 29th

11:30 AM & 12:30 PM

Come to the museum and join an informal tour of our current exhibitions with one of our docents. Tours are free with museum admission and will begin at 11:30 AM & 12:30 PM. Please meet by the front desk a few minutes before the tour begins.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: LANDSCAPES

Sunday, August 13th
1:00 - 3:00 PM

Drop in and get creative with a family-friendly art activity led by our docents in our sculpture court. This month's activity will be inspired by the exhibition *A New Perspective: Landscapes from the Dennos Museum Center*. Free with the price of admission to join in the fun!



THE ART OF: JERRY GRETZINGER

Thursday, July 20th — 5:00 PM

Join our Director, Craig Hadley and featured artist Jerry Gretzinger in the sculpture court for a lively and inspiring conversation about Jerry's decades-long map project. Get the inside scoop on how the artwork started, evolved, and how it lives on today.



SECOND SUNDAY ART PROJECT: CARS

Sunday, July 9th
1:00 - 3:00 PM

Drop in and get creative with a family-friendly art activity led by our docents in our sculpture court. This month's activity will be inspired by the exhibition *Luster: Realism and Hyperrealism in Contemporary Automobile and Motorcycle Painting*. Free with the price of admission to join in the fun!

DMC Concert Series

Music That Will Move You

Welcome to the Dennon Museum Center and Milliken Auditorium! Your support of the arts in our community - through your ticket purchases, your attendance, and sharing your experience with others - remains as important as ever as we return to the blues, folk, jazz, and world music concerts we all love.



JORDAN HAMILTON

Saturday, October 21st — 7:00 PM

Tickets: \$20 - \$30

Cellist and vocalist Jordan Hamilton is a mix of mastery and maverick musicality; hip-hop influenced, rhythmically layered, melodically robust. Avant garde, folk-soul music, a key to navigate space, time, and change, gracefully, for those who use it. Driven by diversity, drawn to the cello's tone, cosmic strings calling souls home.

Learn more at <http://www.jordanhamiltonmusic.com/>.



MAY ERLEWINE

Saturday, November 11th — 7:00 PM

Tickets: \$25 - \$35

One of the Midwest's most prolific and passionate songwriters, Erlewine has a gift for writing songs of substance that feel both fresh and soulfully familiar. Her ability to emotionally engage with an audience has earned her a dedicated following far beyond her Michigan roots. She shows us her heartbreak, but she also shows us her empowered and emboldened spirit. In her quest to find her most authentic self, Erlewine gifts each listener with a powerful, emotional experience that immediately connects us.

Learn more at <https://www.mayerlewine.com/>.



STEPPIN' IN IT

Thursday, January 11th — 7:00 PM

Tickets: \$25 - \$35 | SOLD OUT

Formed out of love for traditional American Folk & Blues music, Steppin' In It has been playing shows and packing dance floors for over 20 years. No stranger to Northern Michigan, the band has played the Traverse Area countless times together yet they're making their Dennon debut January 11th!

[Learn more about Steppin' In It.](#)



STRAIGHT AHEAD CO-SPONSORED BY THE ALLUVION

Friday, February 23rd — 7:00 PM

Tickets: \$25 - \$35

Out of Detroit's lively jazz scene, which has produced some of the best musicians in the world, comes the groundbreaking jazz group Straight Ahead.

Widely recognized for their eclectic and soulful approach to creating music, the Straight Ahead sound ranges from mainstream jazz to Salsa and neo-soul. They received international exposure when they were invited to open for the legendary Nina Simone at the *Montreux Festival* in Switzerland. At that time- they were the first all-woman jazz ensemble signed to Atlantic Records. The band has shared the concert stage with a who's who of the music world including: Kem, Stanley Clark, Roy Ayers, the Yellowjackets and Tony Bennett. These Grammy-nominated recording artists have travelled extensively in the United States, the Caribbean and Europe with rave reviews.

[Learn more about Straight Ahead.](#)

About the Alluvion

The Alluvion is a 150-capacity venue and event space located on the second floor of The Commongrounds Cooperative building at the edge of The Boardman-Ottaway River near downtown Traverse City. This intimate, creative space is designed with optimal acoustics and world-class equipment. It is dedicated to producing high-quality, highly accessible performances, community events, visual arts, classes, workshops, and so much more. The Alluvion is co-owned by three partners: Commongrounds Cooperative, Jeff Haas, and Crosshatch Center for Art & Ecology.



ENTER THE HAGGIS

Saturday, March 2nd — 7:00 PM

Tickets: \$25 - \$35

For the better part of two decades, Toronto's Enter The Haggis has combined bagpipes and fiddles with a rock rhythm section to create a distinctively eclectic sound, praised by *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Post*, and Canada's *Globe and Mail*. Their songs offer singalong melodies and deep, meaningful lyrics which tell the stories of everyday hard-working people, often faced with seemingly insurmountable challenges.

[Learn more about Enter The Haggis.](#)



GRUPO FOLKLORICO XOCHIQUETZAL

Thursday, April 4th — 4:00 PM

Tickets: \$0 - \$10

Comprised of volunteers from the local area, the group came together in July 2022 to bring awareness of Latino culture and music to Northern Michigan. They perform various dance styles from parts of Mexico and Panama in traditional attire made in Mexico, and have been invited to perform at festivals, schools, and private events. Please register in advance.

DMC Film Series



ZERO GRAVITY SCREENING

Thursday, June 27th | 4:00 PM

Zero Gravity intimately follows a diverse group of middle-school students from San Jose, CA, who compete in a nationwide tournament to code satellites aboard the International Space Station.

Seen primarily through the wondrous eyes of three young innovators and their first-time coach, they each take an intimate and personal journey to space as their team grows from amateur coders to representing California in the ISS Finals Tournament -- the culmination of a summer-long adventure that sees their incredible accomplishment performed by astronauts in orbit.



ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE? FREE SCREENING

Wednesday, June 19th | 3:00 PM

An absolute must-see for anyone who can vote for president in the United States, this eye-opening exposé of the origins and contentious history of the Electoral College gives context to current events recalling the often forgotten role of slavery in its creation. Throughout American history, the Electoral College has dramatically impacted American politics and society, particularly with respect to vote erasure of the minority party vote. **This film is free to attend, but please register in advance. Limit of 34 tickets.**

Then, join NMC and Northern Michigan E3 for a block-party style celebration and educational programs at 5:00 PM on NMC's main campus.



THE TUBA THIEVES FREE SCREENING

Thursday, May 23rd — 4:00 PM

What is the role of sound and what does it mean to listen? Hard of hearing filmmaker Alison O'Daniel uses a series of tuba thefts in Los Angeles high schools as a jumping-off point to explore these questions. Through several d/Deaf people telling stories in a unique game of telephone, the central mystery of *The Tuba Thieves* isn't about theft of instruments; it's about the nature of sound itself.

Dennos will provide space and time for community dialogue after the film for those who wish to stay. **This free film screening is part of our Indie Lens Pop-Up Series, featuring documentaries seen on PBS's *Independent Lens*. Please register in advance. Limit of 34 people, please limit groups to four people.**

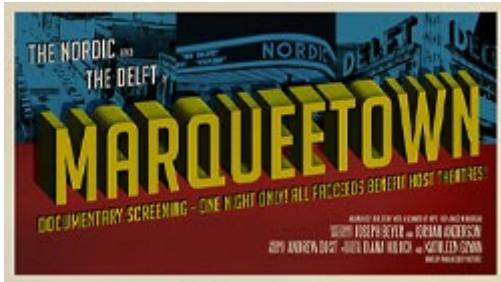


YOUNG HEMINGWAY: THE PATH TO PARIS SCREENING

Tuesday, May 21st — 4:00PM

The *Young Hemingway: The Path to Paris* project was launched to coincide with the 2012 biennial conference of the International Hemingway Society, meeting for the first time in Petoskey. The conference sessions held in the historic summer community of Bay View focused on young Hemingway's early observations and writings – as does the documentary.

The documentary was produced by Contemporary Learning Systems (CLS), a Michigan-based non-profit company. Its production partner, Starbright Media Corporation (SMC), based in Petoskey, Michigan, contributed all overhead costs to the project. Dr. George Colburn, a historian, and SMC's executive producer, wrote and directed the production of *Young Hemingway*. Dr. George Colburn passed in December of 2022. The film will be introduced by Christopher Struble -content producer for the film and President of the Michigan Hemingway Society. This film is the definitive summary of the influence Michigan had on young Ernest Hemingway during his 23 formative summers spent on Walloon Lake.



MARQUEETOWN SCREENING

Sunday, April 14th — 4:00PM | Doors — 3:30 PM

Followed by a Cast & Crew Q&A

No one fights to preserve a multiplex, but some people will risk everything to save a marquee. Through booms and busts, Delft Theatres Inc. - and its innovative gem, The Nordic - endured in Marquette Michigan for almost 100 years, even as the world changed endlessly around them. Local kid Bernie Rosendahl's modern crusade to restore the historic arthouse to its former glory leads filmmakers to discover a hidden cinema empire in the Upper Peninsula. Portraying the fascinating history of motion pictures through one iconic screen - and featuring dozens of Michigan locations and characters - *Marqueetown* is a true story of chasing your dreams, redefining failure and success, and reembracing the enduring magic of cinema.



MATTER OF MIND FREE SCREENING

Thursday, April 11th — 4:00 PM

Three people—a political cartoonist, a mother turned boxing coach, and an optician—navigate their lives with resourcefulness and determination in the face of a degenerative illness, Parkinson's disease.

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Torrey Davenport PT, DPT to the film screening where she will lead a community discussion following the film. Torrey is a lifelong Michigander and works for the Michigan Parkinson Foundation as Northern Michigan Program Manager. Additionally, she is a certified PWR! Moves physical therapist at Fyzical Therapy and Balance Centers and has a grandfather with Parkinson's Disease. **This free film screening is part of our Indie Lens Pop-Up Series, featuring documentaries seen on PBS's *Independent Lens*. Please register in advance. Limit of 60 people, please limit groups to four people.**



JUMANJI (1995) SCREENING

Friday, March 29th — 1:00PM

Rated PG | Run Time: 1h 44m

Join us in Milliken Auditorium for a spring break screening of *Jumanji* (1995).

Please register in advance. Tickets are pay what you wish, limit of 300. This event is general admission. Seats are available on a first come first serve basis. Should you need a wheelchair-accessible seat, please contact us in advance at dmc@nmc.edu or call 231-995-1055.

After the screening, visit the exhibition *Young at Art* and find a drawing from the Caldecott-winning book that inspired the film.

ABOUT THE FILM

When two kids find and play a magical board game, they release a man trapped in it for decades - and a host of dangers that can only be stopped by finishing the game.



BREAKING THE NEWS FREE SCREENING

Thursday, March 14th — 4:00 PM

Who decides which stories get told? A scrappy group of women and LGBTQ+ journalists buck the white male-dominated status quo, banding together to launch *The 19th**, a digital news startup aiming to combat misinformation. A story of an America in flux, and the voices often left out of the narrative, the documentary *Breaking the News* shows change doesn't come easy.

Dennos will provide space and time for community dialogue after the film for those who wish to stay. **This free film screening is part of our Indie Lens Pop-Up Series, featuring documentaries seen on PBS's *Independent Lens*. Please register in advance. Limit of 34 people, please limit groups to four people.**



RAZING LIBERTY SQUARE FREE SCREENING

Thursday, January 18th — 4:00 PM

Liberty City, Miami, is home to one of the oldest segregated public housing projects in the U.S. Now with rising sea levels, the neighborhood's higher ground has become something else: real estate gold. Wealthy property owners push inland to higher ground, creating a speculators' market in the historically Black neighborhood previously ignored by developers and policy-makers alike.

Dennos will provide space and time for community dialogue after the film for those who wish to stay. **This free film screening is part of our Indie Lens Pop-Up Series, featuring documentaries seen on PBS's *Independent Lens*. Please register in advance. Limit of 34 people, please limit groups to four people.**



A TOWN CALLED VICTORIA FREE SCREENING

Thursday, December 7th — 4:00 PM

When the local mosque is burned to the ground in an apparent hate crime, the town of Victoria must overcome its age-old political, racial, and economic divides to find a collective way forward. *A Town Called Victoria* is a *Reel South* and *Independent Lens* co-production.

Dennos will provide space and time for community dialogue after the film for those who wish to stay. **This film is free. Please register in advance. Limit of 34 people, please limit groups to four people.**



THERE ARE NO FAKES

Saturday, November 18th — 2:00 PM

Tickets: \$0 - \$5

A painting, thought to be the work of the iconic Indigenous artist, Norval Morriseau, leads the rock star who buys it into the tragic and brutal world of an art forgery ring in Canada's far north. A virtual Q&A with the director, Jamie Kastner will follow the screening.



THE AMERICAN BUFFALO FREE SCREENING

Monday, October 9th — 4:00PM

The American Buffalo is the biography of an improbable, shaggy beast that has found itself at the center of many of the country's most mythic and heartbreaking tales. This event is a 30-minute preview of the PBS series and will feature remarks from Indigenous chef Sam Anglin, followed by a reception with food.

ABOUT SAMUEL ANGLIN

Chef Sam Anglin, of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, artfully combines indigenous traditions with contemporary tastes. He has previously served as the Head Banquet Chef at the world-class Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, and led the kitchen at Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services on his reservation for over a decade. Sam has traveled across Turtle Island to exchange food knowledge at Intertribal Food Summits alongside other indigenous culinary visionaries. Whether hunting, fishing, foraging, or crafting a heartfelt meal, his commitment extends beyond the professional kitchen. He believes in nurturing connections through food and cooks for traditional ceremonies, pow-wows, and private cooking demonstrations, helping to spread the healing message of reconnecting with ancestral foods.



HOCKNEY: SEEING BEAUTY FREE SCREENING

Tuesday, September 26th — 6:00 PM

Kick off Up North Pride Week with a personal look inside the life and creative mind of one of the 20th century's greatest British artists: David Hockney. The film looks back at his formative years in the British pop art scene and his experiences as a gay man. **This film is free. Please register in advance. Limit of 34 people, please limit groups to four people.**



AERIAL AMERICA: MICHIGAN

Sunday, July 16th

1:00 & 4:00 PM

Register Online | Free Admission

Take flight over Michigan, a Midwestern powerhouse, where one man's assembly lines brought the automobile to America and another man's "Hit Factory" brought the Motown sound to the world. Named after the Native American term for "big lake," Michigan is defined not only by the Great Lakes that shape it, but how its residents shaped America. We examine its diverse history and its visionaries who built empires, started unions, and helped win a World War, while witnessing its diverse beauty from thousands of feet in the air.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our generous sponsors and supporters for making this year's concert series possible. Our 2023-24 season is supported by the Osterlin Performance Endowment, the Robert T. and Ruth Haidt Hughes Family Trust, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Arts Midwest, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Our partners include Cambria Hotels & Suites, WNMC Radio, and Northwestern Michigan College.

And of course, **thank you** to our world-class auditorium technicians, Maria Ulrich and Kevin Gills, who created this year's series for all of us to enjoy.



Grammy-nominated all female jazz group Straight Ahead performing a sold-out educational concert.

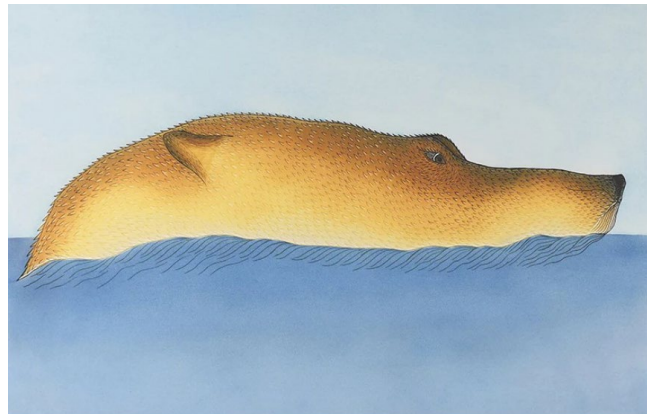


Collections

Highlighted Acquisitions



Zero Gravity № 2 2018
Encaustic, oil, and
aluminum on shaped
canvas
22 x 17 x 3"



Observant Bear 2023
By: Quivianaqtuk Pudlat
Etching and aquatint
80.4 x 112.2 cm



A Week in November 2022
By: Keiran Brennan Hinton
Oil on canvas
56" x 96"

Kinggait at Night 2023
By: Johnny Pootoogook
Stencil on paper
32 x 99.3 cm



Collections

Preservation



NMC art instructor Glenn Wolff brought his printmaking students to the Denno Museum Center to view works on paper as part of their spring semester coursework.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES



foundation
for advancement
in conservation
**Protecting Cultural
Heritage**

Collections at-a-Glance:

- **15** outdoor sculptures were professionally assessed by the Midwest Art Conservation Center thanks to grant funding from IMLS.
- **\$15,000** in light blocking window tint installed in the Inuit wing and promenade gallery to protect sensitive artworks from light damage.
- **60%** of the permanent art collection is now fully accessible online at dennosmuseum.catalogaccess.com
- **3** new federal and private grants submitted for additional collections and conservation funding initiatives

Administration Membership

There has never been a better time to join the Denno Museum Center as a paid member. Thanks to strong reciprocal partnerships, the Denno offers one of the best value-added membership packages in the country.



During FY21, the DMC was one of only four museum programs nationwide to be invited to join the Smithsonian Affiliates program. This optional \$25 membership add-on comes with the following benefits:

- A one-year subscription to *Smithsonian Magazine* or *Air & Space Magazine* (six issues)
- A 10% discount on all Smithsonian Folkways Recordings
- Free admission to the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum in New York, NY
- A personalized Smithsonian membership card
- A 10% discount on all IMAX tickets at the Smithsonian
- Online benefits from the Smithsonian with insider access to the Smithsonian and special opportunities
- Member Discount on *The Great Courses*
- Reciprocal Admission Benefits at *participating Smithsonian Affiliates**



Finally, FY20 saw the addition of a second reciprocal benefit for members through the Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM), complimenting existing reciprocal museum admission through the North American Reciprocal Museum Association (NARM).



NORTH AMERICAN
RECIPROCAL MUSEUM (NARM) ASSOCIATION®

Administration

Museum Store

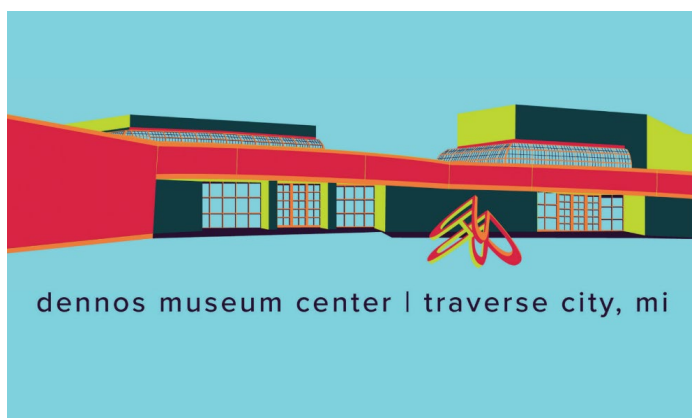
A Year in Review

Nicole Zeiler, Store Manager

The Museum Store offers a diverse selection of art-related items that align with the museum's mission, collections, temporary exhibits, and programs. Each item is curated similarly to the museum's displayed works. Many products are exclusively created for the store, including DMC-branded apparel, souvenirs, and customized artwork reproductions from exhibit artists and permanent collections, such as magnets, notecards, postcards, and more. The merchandise is available at various prices, catering to all ages, and emphasizing sustainability, diversity, equity, and inclusion. The store's offerings range from educational books, puzzles, and toys to handcrafted jewelry, cards, and gifts. Additionally, the store showcases the Annual Cape Dorset Print Collection every fall, and an extensive collection of Inuit carvings is available year-round.



Market events bring new visitors to the museum, and encourage community engagement and a celebration of local artists.



Above: Museum Store Sunday is celebrated by museum's across the country every November.

At left: The store created custom merchandise this past year by reworking an architectural drawing of the museum in fun colors for apparel, postcards, and magnets.

Administration

Endowments & Grants

The Dennos Museum Center relies on a variety of private support and donations, grant awards, earned income, and sponsorships each year to balance its budget. Our sincere thanks to our many supporters for making the programs and exhibitions at the Dennos possible each year.



Northwestern Michigan College:

- Dennos Museum Center Endowment
- Dennos Museum Center Osterlin Endowment for Performance
- Guyot Scholarship Endowment for Arts
- Linda O'Meara Fund for Arts Education
- Marion Talbot Fund for Inuit Art
- NMC Experiential Learning Institute
- The Robert T. and Ruth Haidt Hughes Memorial Endowment
- The Robert T. Hughes Family Trust for Performance
- Wayne and Geraldine Cowell Dennos Museum Center Endowment

Sponsors:

- Cambria Suites
- Oryana Community Coop

Grant Awards:

- Arts Midwest
- Institute of Museum & Library Services (IMLS)
- Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MACC)
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

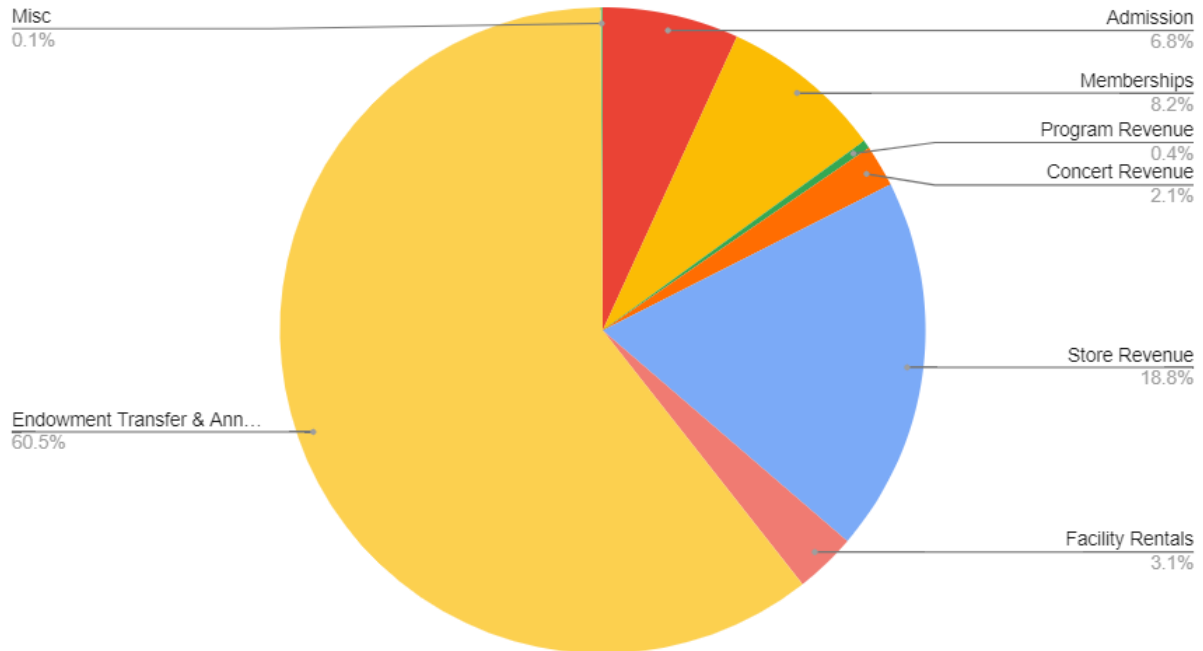
Did you know? Future endowments pay dividends for the Dennos. Contact the NMC Foundation or Executive Director Craig Hadley to learn more about creating a sustainable legacy for every museum visitor today *and* tomorrow.

foundation@nmc.edu | chadley@nmc.edu

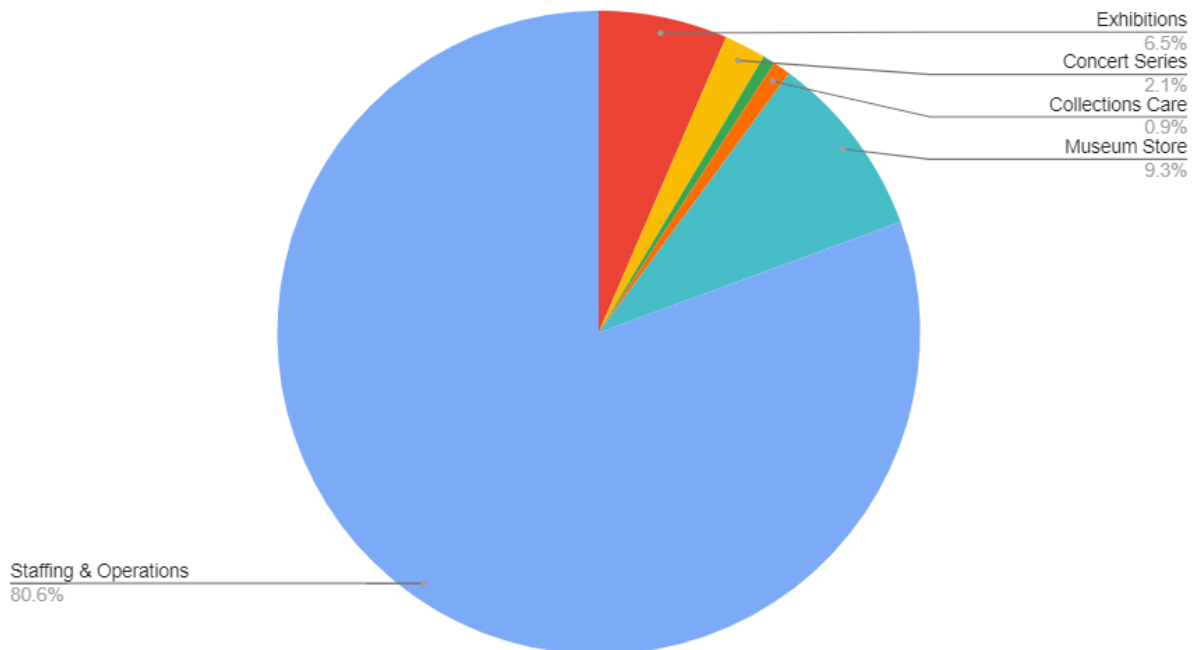
Administration

Financial Overview

DMC Revenue by Category FY 24



DMC Expenses by Category FY24





“The Dennos Museum Center builds community, sparks conversation, and inspires change for audiences of all ages through its exhibitions, programs, and the collection and preservation of art.”



Dennos Museum Center
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