

## VMNH Board of Trustees Education and Public Programs Committee

August 21, 2021, 9:00 a.m. Claude Moore Classroom

Board members present: Cord Cothren (chair), Nathan Sanford, Joan Montgomery (foundation), Faye Cooper (via Zoom due to COVID)

Board members absent: Siri Russell, and Makunda Abdul-Mbacke

Staff Present: Christy Deatherage and Mary Zell Galen

- Welcome and introductions- new staff member, Mary Zell Galen, VMNH administrative coordinator
- The committee reviewed the May meeting minutes (sent prior to meeting)
- The committee was briefed on Education Updates-
  - Quarterly numbers updates- (see table below) Program numbers and numbers served were discussed for April – June 2021. The committee discussed these numbers are not included in the Advancement Report. Christy will inquire with Ryan Barber (Development Director) if appropriate to include education numbers.
  - At-the Museum highlights: Education provided 4 Summer Camps (34 total campers), educational craft activities were provided at the Bug Day event (July 24)
  - Outreach highlights – The museum hosted a drive thru event in Waynesboro(May).Education provided pre-packaged crafts bags. The education department offered in person programming (masks required) for MHC After 3 (local program for middle/high school), library programs, and Boys and Girls Club programs. Our Charlottesville outreach educator conducted 4 in person programs in Waynesboro at the YMCA for their summer campers (57 total children).
  - Distance Learning – Education wrapped up the 2020/2021 school year virtually with 104 programs serving 1,975 students.
  - Social Media/Website – We continue to provide “Museum Minute” videos in which certain on-display specimens are highlighted.
  - The [VMNH Education Guide](#) and [Distance Learning Program](#) documents have been updated and are available online.
  - Education hosted a Homeschool Open House (August 11<sup>th</sup>). Around 70 people attended to learn about the upcoming programs for the school year. Programming will be in person (twice a month, Sept-May) and participants are required to wear a mask.
  - New hire teachers in Henry County School District received packets with various museum information and program opportunities available to their classrooms.
- Upcoming: In person programming will resume- Sleepovers, Birthday party programs, Homeschool Science and Engineering Academy, Doodle Bugs toddler program

- The committee was briefed on current Education related grants:
  - Boxley Grant for Virtual Programming (\$10,000 total - \$4,000 towards scholarships March 2021 through December 2021)
  - Hooker Furnishings (\$2,500 total - \$1,500 towards scholarships March 2021 through April 2022)
  - The committee discussed sharing Education Committee information with the Foundation Board for cross-board awareness and promotion opportunities.
- Exhibit Subcommittee –
  - The Science of Flight exhibit will open to the public January 22, 2022) replacing the *Wild about Cats* in the temporary exhibit hall. A grant has been secured to develop bilingual exhibit text.
  - Education staff are working with exhibits manager to create instructional videos for the AR (Augmented Reality) Topography Table (with visitor activities)
- Report/Recommendation to BOT: Committee Chair Cord Cothren will report on:
  - Homeschool Open House and progress of the Homeschool Science and Engineering academy for the upcoming school year

	Outreach (Martinsville, Central, South Central, Eastern)		At-the-Museum		Distance Learning	
MONTH	PROGRAMS	SERVED	PROGRAMS	SERVED	PROGRAMS	SERVED
April 2021	0	0	2	50	29	761
May 2021	1	163	1	3	14	356
June 2021	7	88	9	64	0	0
	<b>8</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>1,117</b>

	Outreach (Martinsville, Central, South Central, Eastern)		At-the-Museum		Distance Learning	
MONTH	PROGRAMS	SERVED	PROGRAMS	SERVED	PROGRAMS	SERVED
April 2020	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 2020	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 2020	0	0	1	101	0	0
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Notes: June 2020- Reptile Drive Thru event at VMNH