VMNH Board of Trustees Education and Public Programs Committee

August 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m. VMNH

Board members present: Dr. Makunda Abdul-Mbacke, Emma Ito, and Joan Montgomery (VMNH-F)

Board members absent: Nathan Sanford (chair)

Staff Present: Christy Deatherage

Guests: Students from Tunstall High School AP Government Class

Agenda

* Welcome and introductions
* The Committee was briefed on Education Updates-
  + Quarterly updates- (see table below) Program numbers and numbers served were discussed for January – March 2022. As well as a visual presentation of fiscal year numbers. The committee discussed seeing an increase in numbers but are still not at pre-pandemic numbers yet.
    - At-the Museum highlights: Educational activities were popular at the first-time Wildlife Festival (June). Quarterly numbers saw a wrap up of school/public programs and a switch to the start of Summer Adventure Camps.
    - Outreach highlights –Partnered with Piedmont Arts Association for Earth Day (April) public event providing pollinator themed activities. We also presented at the Danville City Schools STEAM event (May) providing fossil related activities for families.
    - Distance Learning – We presented Virtual Programming with AARP (116 adults throughout U.S.) that focused on the history of the museum as well as the fossils on display in the Hall of Ancient Life.
* Upcoming:
  + We have contracts with Martinsville City (4 programs per grade level) and Franklin County schools for 2022-2023 school year programs.
  + We are excited to partner with JMU’s Center for the Advancement of Sustainable Energy as a host site. The museum will house a KidWind Wind Tunnel for loan or access to any school participating in the KidWind wind challenge (4th -12th grade students create wind turbines and test their energy output). We are planning a Challenge for statewide participants to be held at VMNH in the spring.
* Grant Updates: The Education Department will have scholarship options available for programming through the 2022/2023 school year. Scholarships will cover outreach, at-the-museum or virtual program costs.
  + Boxley Grant (Continuation of partnership) for 2022-2023 Programming (all formats) ($10,000 total - $7,000 towards scholarships)
  + Edgar Thurman Charitable Foundation grant for 2022-2023 programming (all formats)- $10,000 total - $8,500 towards scholarships)
* Exhibit Subcommittee –
  + Jessica Davenport, Exhibit Manager, left the museum in July. The museum will advertise the *Museum Experience Manager* position in

September for re-hire.

* Report/Recommendation to BOT: Dr. Makunda Abdul-Mbacke will provide the Committee Chair report in Nathan Sanford’s absence. Focus will include: review of quarterly numbers served, scholarship opportunities for teachers, and the KidWind JMU partnership.

No public comments will be taken at this meeting

**DEPP Quarterly Numbers (next page)**

Total Programs for Quarter: 102

Total Number Served for Quarter: 2,817

**Notes:** June 2022 At-the-Museum numbers served includes Wildlife Festival: 751; May 2021 Outreach was the Waynesboro drive-thru festival; June 2019 At-the-Museum includes Bug Festival: 702

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Outreach  (Martinsville, Central, South Central, Eastern) | | At-the-Museum | | Distance Learning | |
| MONTH | PROGRAMS | SERVED | PROGRAMS | SERVED | PROGRAMS | SERVED |
| April 2019 | 67 | 1,380 | 25 | 508 | 4 | 82 |
| May 2019 | 14 | 279 | 43 | 914 | 0 | 0 |
| June  2019 | 13 | 307 | 28 | 1075 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | **94** | **1,966** | **95** | **2,497** | **4** | **82** |

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|  | Outreach  (Martinsville, Central, South Central, Eastern) | | At-the-Museum | | Distance Learning | |
| MONTH | PROGRAMS | SERVED | PROGRAMS | SERVED | PROGRAMS | SERVED |
| April 2022 | 26 | 456 | 21 | 381 | 1 | 116 |
| May 2022 | 1 | 175 | 23 | 347 | 0 | 0 |
| June 2022 | 14 | 336 | 16 | 1006 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | **41** | **967** | **60** | **1,734** | **1** | **116** |

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|  | 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 |
| Totals | **8** | **251** | **12** | **117** | **43** | **1,117** |