From the Director

Storytelling at the Museum is certainly a daily activity through exhibits, programs, special events, our website, and via this very publication.

And Still We Rise: Race, Culture and Visual Conversations is a special exhibit on story quilts that opens January 21. This exhibit, produced by the Cincinnati Museum Center, blends African American history, art, and storytelling, and will remain open through June 4. Also be sure to check out our annual Storytelling Festival being held on February 3-4.

A more familiar form of storytelling will be presented in the new exhibit Wizards of Pop: Sabuda and Reinhart, featuring the pop-up book artistry of celebrated children's book creators Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhart. This “page-turning” exhibit runs from January 28 through April 9. For more information, see related article on pages 10-11.

Remembering Marvin Hamlisch: The People’s Composer opens April 15 through May 14. The exhibit, on loan from the Columbus Museum of Art, is being made available through a special collaboration with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. The KSO will be honoring Hamlisch at a lecture program at the Museum on April 23 and at a concert at Miller Auditorium on April 28. See page 14 for more information.

The Fretboard Festival returns for its 12th year. The Play-In Contest on January 6 gives performers and bands a chance to win an honorarium, a time slot to play in the festival, and an opportunity to perform at the Museum during the 2017-2018 season. The Festival will be held March 3-4, and will feature performers, vendors, and a host of other programs. For more details, please see http://fretboard.kvcc.edu/.

Foodways Symposium, a new collaborative program with the Bronson Healthy Living Campus, will be held April 8-9 at the KVM and at KVCC’s new Culinary Arts and Food Innovation Center buildings. For more information, see page 3.

There is still time to visit the Sustainable Shelters: Dwelling Within the Forces of Nature and Let’s Dance! exhibits before they close by the middle of January.

For the full calendar of programs, please check out the Museum’s website at kalamazoomuseum.org. Consider this your open invitation to come and explore your Museum of history, science, and technology. museON, everyone!

Bill McElhone
This year, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, together with the Food Innovation Center and Culinary Arts program at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, will launch the first Foodways Symposium in Kalamazoo. Simply put, the term “foodways” is used by historians and sociologists to describe the practices related to food culture and history. It takes into account societal attitudes toward food, including related material culture (i.e. formal dining accoutrements vs. those of a picnic), the economies of food production from farm to table, and contemporary or historical economic stratification of a society.

Archaeologists and historians use evidence of foodways such as bones, seeds, and other remnants found in an archaeological site, as well as written accounts of producing and consuming foods, to better understand our past. For example, the diets of 18th-century European fur traders and Native Americans show how each group adapted to the environment and cultural exchange. The diets of enslaved people and their enslavers were often starkly different, but varied from region to region, from rural to urban environments and the ability of the enslaved to forage in the wild. Nutrition could also depend upon the wealth and attitude of the enslaver.

Sociologists, economists, and many others in the food industry look at contemporary issues of food security, such as food availability world-wide, the effects of climate change on crops, production and distribution issues, and access to healthy foods by indigent populations even in wealthy countries.

At the April 7 and 8 Kalamazoo Foodways Symposium, which is free to the public, participants will be able to attend lectures, demonstrations, discussion groups, and workshops that address contemporary and historical issues. Keynote speaker Toni Tipton-Martin is an award-winning food and nutrition journalist, author, and community activist. She has been invited twice by First Lady Michelle Obama to the White House for her outreach to help families live healthier lives. Tipton-Martin will discuss the rich culinary and cultural heritage of African Americans and the need to combat childhood hunger, obesity, and disease by teaching cultural heritage, cooking skills, and nutrition to vulnerable young people and their families.

The symposium will include activities for children and their adults, cooking demonstrations, tours of the growing, distributing, and cooking facilities, and an opportunity to participate in the direction of the newly-formed Good Food Kalamazoo initiative. Details of the symposium lineup will be available on the KVM website.
Curated by artist, historian, and national lecturer Dr. Carolyn L. Mazloomi, the exhibit And Still We Rise: Race, Culture and Visual Conversations features works of superb artistry that draw on the enduring American tradition of narrative storytelling through the textile art of quilting. The exhibition will be displayed at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum January 21 to June 4, 2017.

The beautifully handcrafted quilts featured in this traveling exhibit were created by a group of international artists from the Women of Color Quilters Network. They narrate the history of the African American experience, capturing the stories of freedom’s heroes, including Frederick Douglass, Mae Jemison, and the first African American President. Through the accessibility of their colors, patterns, and symbols, these quilts relate stories that enable conversations about sensitive topics from our history, furthering the conversation of racial reconciliation in America.

As the founder of the 1,700-member nonprofit Women of Color Quilters Network, Mazloomi is in a unique position to bring together quilts from more than 50 contemporary artists that reflect on moments in history that have contributed to transformations of social justice in America and across the globe.

“The exhibition gives voices to personal, authentic, and unique histories of African American men and women – from relating painful stories of enslaved ancestors to highlighting contemporary political leaders and drawing attention to social challenges our nation continues to face today,” Mazloomi said.

Comprising 67 unique story quilts, this is a one-of-a-kind exhibition that makes a spectacular collective visual impact and showcases the diversity, creativity, and power of a texture-rich, color-saturated folk art form.

The quilts represent their artists’ mastery of a diverse range of fiber art techniques, among them free-motion quilting, embroidery, needlepoint, appliqué, fiber collage, fusing, and hand beading. Reflecting each artist’s unique story, training, and style, the materials incorporated into the textile narratives include cotton, batik, organdy, metal, newsprint, beads, found objects, photo transfers, buttons, shell, wood, and vintage fabrics.

The works of And Still We Rise engage visitors to reflect on and respond to significant national events from the 17th century into the 21st century. The exhibition’s resonant theme is the triumph of the human spirit within African American culture.

Story quilting is an art form that has derived in part from a long, rich history and goes beyond simple quilting patterns. This art form expands on traditional textile-arts techniques to record, in fabric, events of personal or historical significance. Kalamazoo Valley Museum Director Bill McElhone said the Museum has hosted other quilt exhibits in the past, and they are always well received. He expects this exhibit to be popular for several reasons.

“The And Still We Rise exhibit is an amazing collection of African American contemporary quilt designs that tell stories and inspire conversations,” said McElhone. “Museums are all about storytelling, and this exhibit does this effectively. History from written sources is important, but history from the observers and participants provides a much more personal perspective. Each quilt presents these deeply personal stories and reflections on the past, present, and future.”
Lest We Forget: Tribute to James Cameron (Homage to a Great Teacher) (2010) Dorothy I. Burge

Far Into the Night: The Weary Blues (2012) Sherise Marie Wright

In Memory of Jesse (2012) Julius J. Breme

'Buked, Scorned, and Resilient (2012) Marlene O’Bryant-Seabrook

A new exhibit aimed at getting kids and adults excited about science is now on permanent display on the first floor at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum.

The Science On a Sphere exhibit by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is a global display system that uses computers and video projectors to display environmental data onto a 60-inch-diameter sphere, similar to a giant animated globe. Animated images of atmospheric storms, climate change, and ocean temperature can be shown on the sphere, which is used to explain complex environmental processes in a way that is fun and educational.

With the installation of this new exhibit at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, there are now 141 Science On a Sphere sites in 26 countries. Other locations in Michigan are the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center in Alpena and the Detroit Zoo. Science On a Sphere comes with a digital data catalog that is comprised of over 700 datasets from NOAA, NASA, universities, science centers, and other organizations. The datasets are divided into the categories of Atmosphere, Ocean, Land, Astronomy, Models and Simulations, and Extras. The exhibit will enhance knowledge about our Earth and solar system while making science interesting to visitors.
As the centennial of the first modern planetarium draws near, advances in technology have transformed these star theaters that help connect viewers with their place in the universe.

Since 1959, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum has been able to share the wonders of the universe through myriad technologies, from optical-mechanical systems, slide projectors, the first digital projection systems, and finally to full-dome immersive video. With each iteration of new technology, our patrons have been able to both visualize the night sky overhead and make connections to their natural world.

In the spirit of updating the KVM planetarium to maintain a quality experience for our audiences, we have recently replaced its sound system, added new LED lights, and upgraded the “star projection” system to the latest version of Digistar. These tools combined will not only allow our presenters to share the night sky, but will also immerse audiences in a variety of full-dome experiences.
Kalamazoo Signs That Surely Shined:

THE MULHOLLAND SIGN COMPANY

Before becoming part of our Time Pieces collection, our One Hour Valet neon sign sizzled on East Michigan Avenue just east of Burdick Street. More than an example of neon sign durability and artistry, this animated sign represents the work of Kalamazoo’s own Mulholland Sign Company—a plant that produced many commercial signs attached to our Kalamazoo memories.

Arthur J. Mulholland, Sr., a former member of the Kalamazoo City Commission, founded the Mulholland Sign Company and Mulholland Outdoor Advertising Company in 1923, when he purchased the Bush Poster Advertising Company. This acquisition coincided with the 1920s birth of neon use nationwide. As more Americans took to the open road, businesses required a new signage style equipped to capture the customer’s attention night and day. Skilled with neon, the Mulholland Sign Company met that need for Kalamazoo and beyond. Their Gull Road plant staff included artists and electricians, as well as sheet metal and construction workers. The company’s outdoor advertising branch produced and erected billboards, while the sign unit manufactured commercial signs that not only electrified Southwest Michigan, but also blazed coast to coast at Ford, Mercury, and Lincoln dealers. One nationally-distributed catalog listing from 1938 read, “Mulholland Sign Co., Kalamazoo, Mich. Ford Neon signs at factory to you prices!”

In 1955, Mulholland erected the Douglas Auto Theatre sign, which serves today as a constant fixture in the Henry Ford’s Driving America exhibition. Kalamazoo College donated the sign to the Henry Ford in 1987. Mulholland also designed the shades-sporting Southland Mall sunshine sign featured prominently in the Mall’s 1961 grand opening promotional materials. Mulholland’s son, Arthur J. Mulholland, Jr., later led the company, as did Arthur Sr.’s wife, Mary. In 1972, not long after neon’s commercial use dimmed—a decline apparent by the 1960s—the Central Advertising Company, which became Adams Outdoor Advertising, bought the Mulhollands’ sign enterprise.

Business comings and goings as well as shifts in trends, available materials, and local sign ordinances can reshape the commercial signage landscape. But Mulholland Sign Company classics can still be seen in Kalamazoo. Existing signs include those still mounted at Howard’s Liquor Store and Paris Dry Cleaners. And, certainly, in the One Hour Valet sign that counts down the hours daily, one blinking beam at a time, here at Kalamazoo Valley Museum.

This animated sign features a sequenced light pattern. Photo courtesy of April Bryan

Mulholland’s Southland Mall sign towers over the 1961 opening day festivities. This photo is from a 1961 Kalamazoo Gazette for the mall’s grand opening.
Telling the KALAMAZOO AFRICAN AMERICAN STORY

There is much debate currently in the history field, as well as in literature and news reporting, about who gets to tell the story of one ethnic group or another, or of one gender. History has been written primarily by white males, and many of us have participated in conversations – even arguments – over the last 30 years about who has been left out of the history books. The same conversation is happening among literary authors and news reporters struggling to have their writing viewed as authentic.

Museums and historians are grappling with those same issues, and in Kalamazoo, one person stepped forward to remedy the issue of authenticity in the telling of African American history. In 2003, Donna Odom, then an educator at the KVM, founded the Southwest Michigan Black Heritage Society to help fill the void of authentic and comprehensive history of African Americans in our region. A year ago, the organization rebranded itself as the Society for History and Racial Equity (S.H.A.R.E.). While the organization has evolved, its underlying motivation has been to take control of the narrative, which it has done by collecting first-person accounts – oral interviews – of African Americans.

Ms. Odom believes that “Young people, especially, need to know how we got to where we are as far as race goes.” In pursuing the lived history told by area African Americans, S.H.A.R.E. engages multiple generations in the effort. Young people have been trained to interview elders, and in the process have had life-changing experiences when they hear stories of their lives before, during, and after the Civil Rights movement.

S.H.A.R.E. aims both to collect and publish local black history that often includes the difficult realities of racism, and to promote community discussion and involvement in transforming the historical harms of racism. Their motto, Acknowledging the Past, Healing the Present, speaks to the unique dual focus of the organization. Collecting and publishing black history as it was lived in our region creates a more complete, more interesting, and more complex history of southwest Michigan.

Donna Odom will speak to one aspect of regional black history in support of the KVM’s special exhibit, “And Still We Rise: Race, Culture and Visual Conversations,” in the Mary Jane Stryker Theater at 1:30 p.m. on February 26. She will explore the world of Michigan African American quilting style and techniques. Interestingly, the expression of culture and history in the visual form of quilmaking is not unlike gathering oral histories. It’s the telling of the story by the people who lived it or who hold the collective memory of events, people, and conditions that gives the “conversation” the power of authenticity.
Movable books and pop-up books are intriguing, fanciful, and educational works of paper engineering and art that have entertained and educated people of all ages for hundreds of years. This exhibition was organized by the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature, Abilene, Texas.

Exhibit open January 28 - April 9

Young Naturalist’s Pop-Up Handbook: Beetles

copyright 2001 by Robert Sabuda & Matthew Reinhart
There are many different elements that create both a movable book and a pop-up book. Movable "move" but stay flat on the page, incorporating the use of revolving discs called volvelles (from the Latin verb volvere, to turn) that rotate to reveal images and information. Movable books may also use flaps and pull tabs. Pop-up books incorporate three-dimensional elements that spring off from the page. This type of book uses various paper engineering techniques, such as floating layers, boxes, v-folds, and multiple layering, just to name a few. Other paper engineering techniques may include Leporello, an accordion book of folded paper; carousels, where the book is folded into a complete circle; and tunnel books, which are panels of cut paper made to look as if you are peering through a tunnel.

The history of the movable book dates back to the 1300s, and they have continued to develop and become more sophisticated. In the beginning, movable books were typically used in scholarly and scientific mediums. The volvelles were often used to calculate data in such areas as philosophy, natural science, mathematics, astrology, astronomy, and mysticism. Flap-lifting elements were often used in books involving anatomy. Layers of paper are hinged at the top and then laid upon each other. Each layer has different images so that when viewed together, it shows the whole illustration of the body, and when each layer is lifted, one can see the individual parts. During the 1500s, the pop-up began to emerge, and simple shapes such as cubes and triangles would help visualize what the author was trying to convey.

It wasn’t until the late 1700s that movable and pop-up books became more focused towards children, when books began to be seen as a way to educate as well as entertain them. Movable and pop-up books began to focus on the ABC’s, mathematics, and manners and religion, and were eventually used to amuse through fairy tale, fantasy, and adventure stories.

In the exhibit Wizards of Pop: Sabuda and Reinhardt, we see why renowned paper engineers Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhardt have created such successful careers in the world of movable and pop-up books. Moving to New York after college, Reinhardt met Sabuda and began working with him on a few early creations and has since begun to create his own paper engineered books. Sabuda began his career as a children’s book illustrator while attending Pratt Institute in New York City and has now illustrated and engineered more than 30 books. Today, they both work out of the same studio in New York and partner occasionally on moveable and pop-up projects. The Wizards of Pop exhibit lets us view the illustrations, tools, and prototypes that detail what it takes to create one of these incredible pieces of art and paper engineering.
When they were boys growing up in Kalamazoo, neither Jeff nor Greg Wilson was particularly interested in dinosaurs. Jeff notes, “Growing up together, we thought more about playing in the World Cup or World Series than about collecting fossil vertebrates.” While not every kid is gaga over dinosaurs, our experience at KVM is that many, many are. How, then, did the Wilson boys grow up to be accomplished paleontologists?

It wasn’t until they were in college that they became fascinated by things paleontological. Today, both are vertebrate paleontologists, but with different areas of specialty. Jeff, Associate Professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and Associate Curator at the Museum of Paleontology at the University of Michigan, studies the paleobiology of sauropod dinosaurs, where he analyzes both the bones and biological environments to document 160 million years of their evolution. Greg, who is Associate Professor in the Department of Biology, Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Earth and Space Sciences, and Adjunct Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology at the Burke Museum at the University of Washington, focuses on evolution and ecology of early mammals in the context of major events in earth history. Relatively speaking, Jeff has gone for the big guys – sauropods are the largest land animals ever to have existed on Earth, whereas the earliest mammals that co-existed with the dinosaurs were quite small. It was only after the dinosaurs had become extinct that some families of mammals became large millions of years later.

Aside from satisfying our curiosity and fascination with the huge – and not-so-huge – extinct creatures of Earth’s past, what is the point of their study? As with any discipline that delves into the near or distant past, what we learn tells us a lot about the forces that have affected our path to the present and could even hint at what may lie in our future. For instance, when scientists seek to find the causes of the extinction of ancient species of animals and plants, they are engaging in processes of thought and observation that reveal interrelated aspects of Earth’s history. Changes in the Earth’s environment over eons correlate to the existence, evolution, and disappearance of many species of plants and animals. By investigating these relationships, scientists can hypothesize about mass extinctions like that of dinosaurs and look for natural patterns or causes. We may find answers to other questions, too, such as: Which species of plants and animals adapted to dramatic or gradual environmental change, and which did not? How were adaptations accomplished? What caused those environmental changes? How did the extinction of some species allow others to flourish? How will contemporary and future changes in our environment affect species currently on Earth?

While we long to know all the answers to those questions, among many others, part of the allure of paleontology is the process of “finding out.” It is the quest itself that is so compelling, and the surprises that come with new discoveries that prompt new thoughts. Like any mystery, the revelation of clues along the path to conclusions – or at least to strong hypotheses – is much of the fun of the often arduous and time-consuming work. The exhilaration of new discoveries giving insight to Earth’s history draws seasoned and would-be scientists to the task!
Jeff Wilson http://www-personal.umich.edu/~wilsonja/JAW/Home.html and Greg Wilson http://faculty.washington.edu/gpwilson/ will be among the speakers at the KVM’s 2017 summer of dinosaurs. They have both studied and worked with Paul Sereno http://paulsereno.uchicago.edu/, who will make a guest appearance at KVM’s AniMotion Festival on June 3, 2017, speaking about the intersections of art, history, and science in his chosen career of paleontology.

Don’t miss Dinosaurs: Land of Fire and Ice and KOKORO, coming June 17 through September 17!
Remembering Marvin Hamlisch: THE PEOPLE’S COMPOSER

In four years, the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra will mark its centennial, and there will be many celebrations leading up to this milestone. A history of the KSO can be found on its website. From its humble beginnings, with only 25 musicians and a budget of $600, it has emerged as a world-class symphony. In anticipation of this anniversary, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum and KSO are embarking on a unique collaboration that will bring an exhibit and lecture program on the life and amazing career of the renowned Marvin Hamlisch.

The exhibit, Remembering Marvin Hamlisch: The People’s Composer, opens April 15 through May 14, 2017. This multimedia presentation will feature the photography of Len Prince as well as video and sound recordings highlighting the many accomplishments of Hamlisch’s amazing career as a legendary composer, pianist, conductor, arranger, and orchestrator. The exhibit is on loan from the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio.

As a way to further the immersion into Hamlisch’s music, the KSO will be presenting a special concert at Miller auditorium on Friday, April 28, entitled “Play It Again Marvin! A Marvin Hamlisch Celebration,” with guest conductor J. Ernest Green, pianist/host Kevin Cole, Hamlisch’s closet musician friends, and his widow, Terre Blair-Hamlisch. Green will also be presenting a free lecture program for the Museum’s Sunday Series on April 23, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. Please take “note” of all of these wonderful music-focused programs!

For more about these programs, please visit kalamazoomuseum.org and KalamazooSymphony.com.
WHAT IS IT?

The Museum’s collection holds over 55,000 artifacts that have been collected over the past 135 years. While the KVM now focuses on artifacts that have a Kalamazoo or southwest Michigan connection, that was not always the case. In earlier years, collectors donated items that they had acquired from all over the world, even if little was known about the item. Take a look at these artifacts from earlier years of the Museum. They may not be the type of items that we collect today, but they represent an important part of the Museum’s collection.

1. This hard, porous ring used by Native Americans hundreds of years ago could have either a utilitarian or recreational purpose. What is it?

2. This fashioned ebony article could be used as a decorative accessory in addition to having a specific purpose as a toiletry tool. What is it?

3. This adornment would have been worn by native Inuit or Yupik tribe members to help them travel through ice and snow. What is it?
**SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS**

**AND STILL WE RISE: RACE, CULTURE AND VISUAL CONVERSATIONS**

**JANUARY 21 – JUNE 4, 2017**

The beautifully handcrafted quilts featured here narrate the history of the African American experience. Presented by the Women of Color Quilters Network in partnership with the Kalamazoo Museum Center and National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

**THE WIZARDS OF POP: SABUDA & REINHART**

**JANUARY 28 – APRIL 9, 2017**

The original artwork of renowned pop-up book artists Robert Sabuda and Matthew Reinhart will be on display. Come see examples of the illustrations, paper engineering, and tools that are used to create such fascinating pop-up books for children and adults of all ages.

**REMEMBERING MARVIN HAMLISCH: THE PEOPLE’S COMPOSER**

**APRIL 15 – MAY 14, 2017**

In partnership with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, a photographic journey of the life and work of composer Marvin Hamlisch will be on exhibit.

*All exhibits are FREE!*

**HANDS-ON HAPPENINGS**

**January 21:** Festival of Health
12-4 p.m. FREE
Learn about healthy eating habits, exercise, preventative medicine, and relaxation. Join community experts and advocates to discover how you can be a healthier you!

**February 3 – 4:** 5th Annual Storytelling Festival
**Stories for Peace**
Fri: 5:30 – 8 p.m. FREE
Sat: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. FREE
This all-ages festival will feature professional storytellers every hour. See back page for details.

**February 18:** Story Quilts
1– 4 p.m. FREE
Throughout time, textiles have been used around the world to tell stories. Discover different textile stories as you create your own.

**March 3 – 4:** 12th Annual Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival
Fri: 6 – 8:30 p.m. FREE
Sat: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. FREE
Instrument designers, workshops, and performances from area musicians are featured both days! See back page for details.

**March 18:** Family Portraits
1 – 4 p.m. FREE
Create a variety of family portraits and picture frames using collage, drawings, and sculpture. Discover what makes your family unique.

**SPRING BREAK HANDS-ON**

**HAPPENINGS 1 – 4 p.m. daily**

Heroes and Villains
Create, assemble, and design images and objects from classic heroes and villains.

**APR 3:** Wild West
**APR 4:** Space
**APR 5:** Legendary Heroes
**APR 6:** Heroes of History
**APR 7:** Superheroes

**Daily Planetarium Shows**
$3/person

*The Little Star That Could* 11 a.m.
*Lamps of Atlantis* 1 p.m.
*Space Park 360* 2 p.m.

**Daily in the Challenger Learning Center**
$3/person

*The Challenger Experience* – 1:45 p.m.
*Mars Mini-Missions* – 3 p.m.

**June 2 – 3:** AniMotion Festival
Dinosaurs and animation — what could be more fun! Art Hop Friday night features workshops and a presentation. Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m., visitors can produce a short claymation video of their very own design!

**PLANETARIUM**

**FEATURE SHOWS**

*Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun at 3 p.m.*

**Ice Worlds**
Jan 7 – Mar 17
Ice is found in the Rings of Saturn, comets, the moons of the outer solar system, and the polar regions of the Earth. Learn about this frozen material to better understand our world.

**Journey to Space**
Mar 18 – Jun 16
Humans have put 12 men on the Moon and have even lived in orbit for nearly 16 years. This program highlights our space program by showcasing NASA’s plans for daring future missions.

**FAMILY SHOWS**

*Mon – Fri at 11 a.m. (through March 17), Sat at 1 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m.*

**In My Backyard**
Jan 7 – Mar 17
Through story and song, children’s entertainer Fred Penner invites you to his backyard to explore the sky and the world around us.

**The Little Star That Could**
Mar 18 – Jun 16 (no 11 a.m. showing)
A sweet animated story about a Little Star who searches for a place in space to call home, as well as a name and some planets to keep him company along the way.

**SEASONAL STARGAZING SHOWS**

**Tue, Thu at 3 p.m.; Sat at 2 p.m.**

**Eclipse 2017**
Jan 7 – Mar 16
Learn how to safely view the total solar eclipse of August 21, 2017, and discover how the motions of the Earth and Moon around the Sun make eclipses happen.

**MI Spring Skies**
Mar 18–Jun 16
Learn to use a star map to locate constellations right here in Southwest Michigan.

**MUSIC LIGHT SHOWS**

*NEW TIMES!*

Saturdays at 4 p.m.

**Pink Floyd: The Wall** (Jan 7 - Mar 12)
**Pink Floyd: Wish You Were Here** (Mar 18 - Jun 11)
Out-of-this-world visuals set to the classic rock albums by Pink Floyd.

**Sundays at 4 p.m.**

**U2** (Jan 7 - Jun 11)
You’ve heard the band — now see the music. State-of-the-art animation graphics set to the music of U2. It’s out of this world!

*All shows are $3 per person*
SUNDAY SERIES
Mary Jane Stryker Theater

Second and Fourth Sundays feature speakers on topics of science, history, and culture. Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. and are FREE. Seating is limited. See detailed information online or pick up fliers at the KVM

Jan 22:
Surveying Michigan
(Mark Reed, KVM staff)

Feb 12:
Photographing the Night Sky
(Eric Schreur, photographer/astronomer)
Retired Planetarium Coordinator Eric Schreur returns to present a program on how to use a digital cameras and accessories to record images of celestial wonders and create time-lapse sequences of astronomical events.

Mar 12:
Science Theater
(Michigan State University)

Mar 26:
Signs in Michigan
(April Bryan, Vicksburg Historical Society Curator)

Apr 9:
Exploring Kalamazoo’s Foodways
(Elspeth Inglis, KVM staff)

This mystery image will be revealed during the “Exploring Kalamazoo’s Foodways” talk by Elspeth Inglis

Apr 23:
A Conversation with Earnest Green, Music Director of Play It Again, Marvin!
A Marvin Hamlish Celebration
(KSO guest conductor)

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER
In memory of Alvin H. and Emily T. Little

The CLC is a space-flight simulation experience for all ages. Go to our website for details on public program dates and times and to make reservations for groups.

THE CHALLENGER EXPERIENCE
Young children and their grown-ups lift off from Earth, dock with a space station, and return to Earth – all in 20 minutes! Children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. $3 per person.

MINI-MISSIONS
This 45-minute session in the spacecraft simulator will fly you to Mars and back. For ages 8 and up. Just like real astronauts, the crew will read and follow directions to successfully complete their mission. Each child aged 8 to 15 must be accompanied by a partner aged 16 or older. $3 per person.

FULL CREW MISSIONS
This 3-hour program is designed to build teamwork and leadership skills for adults or students in grades 5 and up. $25 per person.

PROGRAMS FOR GROUPS:
Reservations required

JUNIOR MISSIONS
90-minute missions designed for small groups of up to 15 participants, ages 8 and up. $5 per person.

FULL CREW MISSIONS
This 3-hour program is designed to build teamwork and leadership skills for adults or students in grades 5 and up. $25 per person.

FRIDAY NIGHT HIGHLIGHTS
Mary Jane Stryker Theater

The Museum is open until 9 p.m. on Art Hop Fridays year-round. A variety of live entertainment, visual art, and 2 music light shows are available each month. See detailed information online or pick up fliers at the KVM.

Friday Art Hop Visual Experiences open at 5 p.m. – FREE

Friday Art Hop Live Music Experiences begin at 6 p.m. – FREE

TWO Music Light Shows every Art Hop! $3 each
Feb 3:
U2 at 6:30 p.m.
Pink Floyd: The Wall at 8 p.m.

May 5 - Jun 2:
U2 at 6:30 p.m.
Pink Floyd: Wish You Were Here at 8 p.m.

Jan 6:
Fretboard Festival Play-In Contest
5 – 8:30 p.m. (Variety of Genres)
Feb 3:
Storytelling Festival Kickoff with Terry Wooten at 6 p.m. and Joe Reilly at 7 p.m.

Martina Hahn, speed painter, will display her paintings and do a live painting with Joe Reilly.

March 3:
Fretboard Festival Kickoff Concert with Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys (Americana, Roots)

Apr 7:
Foodways Symposium
Food Not Food Art Exhibit by Kristina Lechner

Statewide Astronomy Night special planetarium shows:
Eclipse 2017 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.
MI Skies Live 7 p.m.

May 5:
Off the Ledge
(Alternative Rock, Blues, Grunge, Folk, Funk, Jam Band, Jazz Rock)

Brooke Beaverhausen’s Steadfast Stitching Art Exhibition

June 2:
AniMotion Festival Kickoff Event with Aubrey Rodgers’ The Art of Animation
After the first public roller skating rink opened in the converted dining room of a hotel in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1866, roller skating began to gain in popularity throughout the United States as a recreational sport. By 1911, roller skating reached Kalamazoo, and the roller rink at Oakwood Amusement Park occupied the entire first floor of the Park’s pavilion.

As more rinks began to pop up, one popular rink in Kalamazoo was the Silver Star Roller Skating Rink. Located at 141 Portage Street, many local residents have fond memories of the rink and the people they met there. Opening between 1936 and 1937 as the Silver Leaf Roller Skating Rink, by 1942 it was known as the Silver Star and was owned and operated by husband and wife duo Ray and Evelyn Holmes. The rink boasted 6,500 square feet of skating space and hosted many holiday and birthday parties.

After 30 years in operation, the rink closed by 1967. Later that same year, a group of teenagers from the Northside neighborhood, along with the Citizen’s Recreation Association, worked for many weeks to re-open the rink to provide recreation for Kalamazoo’s youth. Almost 300 youngsters attended the re-opening of the rink on October 2, 1967. Incidences of rock throwing and window breaking occurred when a few of the youths saw what was perceived as a familiar and often degrading presence of uniformed police officers waiting to escort them back to the Northside. In 1967, like many other cities across the U.S., Kalamazoo was in the midst of flaring racial tensions. Throughout the following years, various other businesses occupied 141 Portage Street, but the building was eventually torn down after it was damaged by the 1980 tornado.

Long before the building was torn down, local resident Waneta (Beadle) Dragicevich spent much of her youth at the Silver Star and carries many fond memories of the rink. Waneta grew up on the east side of Kalamazoo and would spend many of her Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights at the Silver Star. She began skating at the rink when she was in junior high school and continued to skate until she graduated from high school in 1947. While she also enjoyed ice skating and riding her bicycle, roller skating remained her favorite recreational pastime, even surpassing dances, as she preferred to “dance” across the wood rink floor wearing her roller skates.

Waneta saved up her earnings from babysitting (35 cents per hour and 50 cents per hour after midnight) to buy her white leather lace-up roller skates. A case was a must, as the rink was located on the third floor of the building, and often Waneta would ride the bus to get downtown to the rink.

In 2015, Waneta dusted off her skates and donated them to the Museum, along with their carrying case, a Silver Star Skating Rink decal, and a 1940s admission ticket to gain entry into the rink. These skates not only document the history of a recreational pastime, but also a local business in Kalamazoo.
DINOSAURS:
LAND OF FIRE AND ICE
AND KOKORO

JUNE 17 – SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

Experience the Land of Fire (warm dinosaur habitat), the Land of Ice (cold dinosaur habitat), and the Research Station. Touchable dinosaurs of all shapes and sizes will delight young children. Animatronic dinosaurs from KOKORO Exhibits will fascinate young and old alike.

BINDING WOUNDS,
PUSHING BOUNDARIES:
AFRICAN AMERICANS IN
CIVIL WAR MEDICINE

MAY 27 – SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

This exhibit examines the overlooked yet significant participation of African American men and women who served as surgeons and nurses during the American Civil War.

SUMMER EXHIBITS

EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPLORATIONS

in the Burton Henry Upjohn Children’s Landscape

Mondays–Fridays 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sundays 1–5 p.m.

A self-directed hands-on exhibit for preschool families and groups (ages 0-5) filled with educational materials to support young minds.

CIRCLE TIME PROGRAMS

Mondays–Fridays at 10 a.m., and Saturdays at 11 a.m.

Free literacy-based programs designed for children ages 3-5.

(No Circle Time during Spring break, April 3-7, but play hours extended until 5 p.m. each day)

December/January: Quilts and Clothes
February/March: Once Upon a Story
April/May: Transportation

ANIMOTION FESTIVAL

June 2-3 | FREE!

Dinosaurs and animation – what could be more fun! Art Hop Friday night features workshops and a presentation on doing animations; program begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Stryker Theater. On Saturday from 1 until 4 p.m., animation students will help visitors young and old create Playdoh figures (dinosaurs, anyone?), then produce a short claymation of their very own design!

ANIMOTION FESTIVAL
June 2-3 | FREE!

Sponsored in part by The Kalamazoo Valley Museum and the KVCC Foundation.

FESTIVAL OF HEALTH

JANUARY 21 | NOON TO 4 PM

Take charge of your health!
Learn about healthy eating habits, exercise, preventative medicine, and relaxation. Join community experts and advocates to discover how you can be a healthier you!
The festivals you love are back! Leave winter doldrums behind – come to the Museum for music, stories, and lots of cheer!

**Storytelling Festival: Stories for Peace**
Friday and Saturday, February 3–4
Authors, educators, and visual artists fill the vendor fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Storytellers perform at the top of every hour starting at 10 a.m., including, in order: Patricia Polacca, Adam Mellema, Mark Binder, Tim Cusack, Noa Baum, Sidney Ellis and son, and Judy Sima.

**Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival**
Friday and Saturday, March 3–4
The 12th Annual Kalamazoo Fretboard Festival invites visitors to meet instrument designers and learn about their trade, attend workshops for a variety of stringed instruments, and hear live performances from area musicians.

Details are on page 16 and on our website. Admission and all performances are FREE.