



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2022–JUNE 30, 2023

YOUR COMMUNITY MUSEUM



News from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

The fiscal year 2022/2023 (July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023) was an inspiring and productive time, a

moment for the Museum to continue our work of preserving our past and imagining our future. We welcomed the community and its visitors to updates in our galleries, increased our visitation, strengthened staffing, reached out to broader audiences, and offered a robust schedule of new and exciting exhibitions and programs.

One of the exhibits we opened this year was *Storied Objects: Folk Art from the Holland Museum Collection*. It was a special opportunity to share items from the Collection that are rarely on display. The exhibit included quilts, pottery, puppets, carvings, and baskets including a range of basket weaving techniques. A variety of programs were offered that corresponded to the display, including Folk Art Family Day, featuring the work of contemporary artisans, many of whom practice techniques that have been used for generations.

In May, and just in time for Tulip Time, we brought in the large and exquisite paintings of contemporary artist Jane Jones for her exhibition entitled, *Cultivating the Dutch Tradition in the 21st Century: Jane Jones' Hyperrealist Floral Paintings*. Jones' work successfully combines the history and tradition of 17th Century Dutch still life painting with the modern objectivity of an individual who has degrees in biology and art history. Programs, including one by the artist Jane Jones herself and other art experts, were held connecting the traditions and changes throughout the centuries.

A related display, exhibiting concurrently, showcased the Museum's distinctive Dutch art collection. This exhibit discussed the history, tradition,

and symbolic significance of 17th-century Dutch still life painting. It explored the rise of the Dutch middle class, the evolution of the Dutch art market, and the importance of still life for women artists in the 17th century.

Newly installed artifacts in the history gallery present the expansion of stories of objects and artwork in our community. These items, along with the addition of some bilingual, (English and Spanish) labels are helping to expand opportunities for visitors to make their own connections and discoveries.

Connecting young people with the Museum and the history of our community is a crucial part of our mission and our future. This year we continued our Museum Internship Council program, which provides paid internships across various Museum departments. Welcoming a diverse group of students for educational placements facilitates peer networking and mentorship opportunities.

The skills and opportunities gained at the Holland Museum represent many aspects of our work here: curatorial, education, collections, communications, and development. A broader cohort of students more fully reflects our community within an actively evolving field of museum practice. Our interns challenge us to think harder about why we do what we do and who it is for, passionately advocating for honest, intentional action on sustainability, cultural heritage, obligation, and mission.

Greetings from Holland Michigan, Origins & Impact of the Local Post Office was the Summer Intern Council's Exhibition that opened in August 2022, and is still on display on the lower level of the Museum. The exhibit tells the story of Holland's postal service, from its early beginnings to the construction of its first federal building, which now houses the Museum. The bilingual exhibit has been of interest to members

of the community and the history of the building resonates for many. Occasionally, individuals still come in to mail their letters, even though the building has served as the Museum since 1992 and ceased functioning as a post office many years earlier.

We like to think there was something for everyone this year: Tales from the Archives, Cultural Lens, and exhibit programs for families and adults. Thanks to the Meijer Foundation, we were able to continue our free 2nd Mondays. We remain a Blue Star Museum offering special access to active military members, veterans as well as educators.

As always, your membership and donations are crucial to the continuation of this work. Please join us and all our staff and volunteers as we move forward with our mission of "Preserving our past, imagining our future".

With Gratitude,
Ricki L. Levine
Museum Director

Holland Museum Awarded Peninsulas Prize for DEAI



The Peninsulas Prize for DEAI was presented to the Holland Museum for its work over the last several years to expand its relevance and to include everyone's stories.



YOUR COMMUNITY MUSEUM

ANNUAL REPORT | JULY 1, 2022–JUNE 30, 2023

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MISSION

Preserving our past,
imagining our future.

VISION

To be a cultural leader and
community collaborator
inspiring the next
generation of leaders,
thinkers, and innovators.

VALUES

Community

We strive for interactive relationships
with everyone.

Curiosity

We encourage exploration and discovery.

Education

We value life-long learning opportunities.

Inclusion

We welcome everyone and their stories.

Stewardship

We uphold the highest standards in
maximizing and preserving the resources
we are given.

Impact

We inspire community change and
innovation through reflection upon the
past and collaboration for the future.

Thank you!

A special thank you to the generous
companies and foundations for their
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Donations to the Holland Museum, FY22/23.

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Looking Back



In Service to Others: A History of Holland's Women Missionaries+

This exhibition explored the varied roles of local women in the missionary field who sought to improve lives through expansion of education and healthcare to communities across the globe. July 15- November 28, 2022.



Tales from the Archives: A Look Back at Albertus Van Raalte*

This program was presented by Sara Simmons, Albertus Van Raalte's great, great granddaughter, in a discussion of her genealogical journey to discover more about her famous ancestor and his descendants. September 8, 2022.



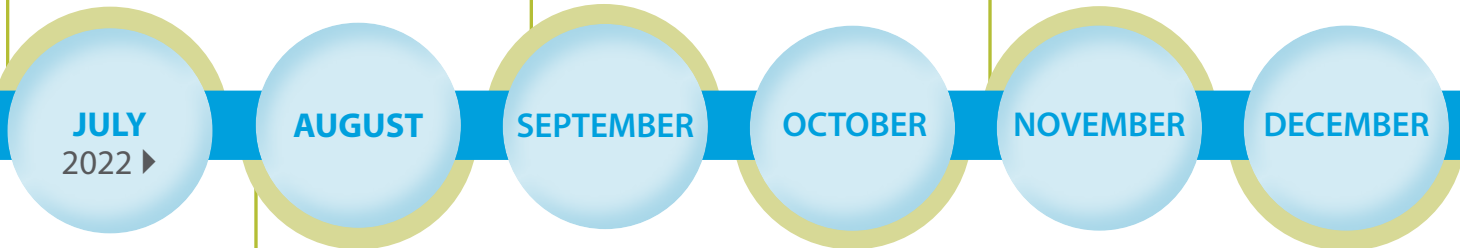
Preserving Our Stories: A Family History of Nelis' Dutch Village

A virtual fundraiser that brought together the multi-generational Nelis family for a live conversation as they shared stories, memories, and history behind the family business. Proceeds provided resources to strengthen and expand the Museum's education and outreach work with local educators and schools. November 3, 2022.



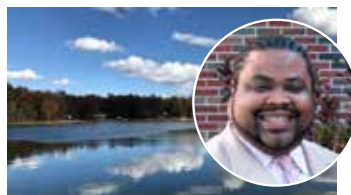
Holland's Hometown Heroes

Visitors celebrated some local heroes who work to create change, help others, and protect our community. This program was part of the community Big/Little Read. November 14, 2022.



Greetings from Holland, Michigan: Origins and Impact of the Local Post Office+

The Summer Intern Council put on an exhibit that described the evolution of Holland's postal service from its beginnings to the construction of its first federal building. August 11, 2022.



Idlewild—The Black Eden of Michigan: Heirlooms of the Past, Honored in the Present*

Using original songs, a pop-up museum and lecture, Chris CJ Kingdom-Grier shared his passion about Idlewild and knowledge of this recreational and musical mecca burgeoning toward its renaissance. It was at this program that the future exhibit, *Black Eden: Idlewild Past, Present, and Future* was announced. October 6, 2022.



Storied Objects: Folk Art from the Holland Museum Collection+

This exhibition explored rarely seen folk art from the Holland Museum collection such as quilts, pottery, puppets, carvings, and basket weaving. December 9, 2022 to April 17, 2023.



Holidays Around the World

Families visited the Museum to explore different holidays with art activities, stories, and history games. December 10, 2022.



Tales from the Archives: Chief Waukazoo's Band of Odawa Indians with Eric Hemenway*

Eric Hemenway, Anishnaabe/Odawa and Director of Repatriation, Archives and Records for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, examined the efforts of this leader to ensure the safety of his community and their place in their indigenous homelands of Michigan. January 12, 2023.



Tales from the Archives: The History of Holland Woman's Literary Club: 125 Years and Counting*

On March 9, 2023, Club President, Carol Cudzilo, discussed the history of the long-standing community organization. Artifacts were on display at the Holland Museum from February 1 to May 16, 2023.



Cultivating the Dutch Tradition in the 21st Century: Jane Jones' Hyperrealist Floral Paintings+

This exhibition contained 25 original oil paintings, produced from 2012 to 2021, by artist Jane Jones. The exhibition included label text translated into Spanish and a brochure with essays written by nature scholar Michael Tobias. The exhibit was on display from May 5 to July 3, 2023.



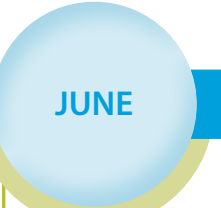
MLK DAY Celebration

Annual Cultural Lens celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. January 16, 2023.



Folk Art Family Day

Demonstrations by local folk artists were on display. Museum attendees participated in a folk art scavenger hunt and created their own quilt square and Netherlandish Staphorst Stipwork design. March 18, 2023.



African American Quilt History in Michigan*

Dr. Marsha MacDowell, MSU Museum, highlighted stories of African American quilt history. She highlighted stories of this cultural activity from Idlewild to Detroit, from the time of slavery to today, from individual expressions to community collective work. February 9, 2023.



Celebrate the Earth Programs

To celebrate Earth Month 2023, the Holland Museum and Explore Hope/Hope College joined forces to organize a series of 3 programs where people of all ages learned ways to help take care of our land and water as well as opportunities to appreciate the natural beauty all around us.



Yas Queen! The History of Drag*

Kate Leighton-Colburn, Executive Director at Out on the Lakeshore, presented the history of drag on an international, national, and local level. This program was moved to the Armory in order to house all the guests who signed up for the program. June 22, 2023.



Civil Rights Road Trip*

Barbara Lee VanHorsen and previous trip participants discussed their life-changing experiences in Birmingham, Selma, Montgomery, and Memphis. The Civil Rights Road Trip is an opportunity to open one's eyes to the truths about America's past and how it continues to influence our society today. February 16, 2023.



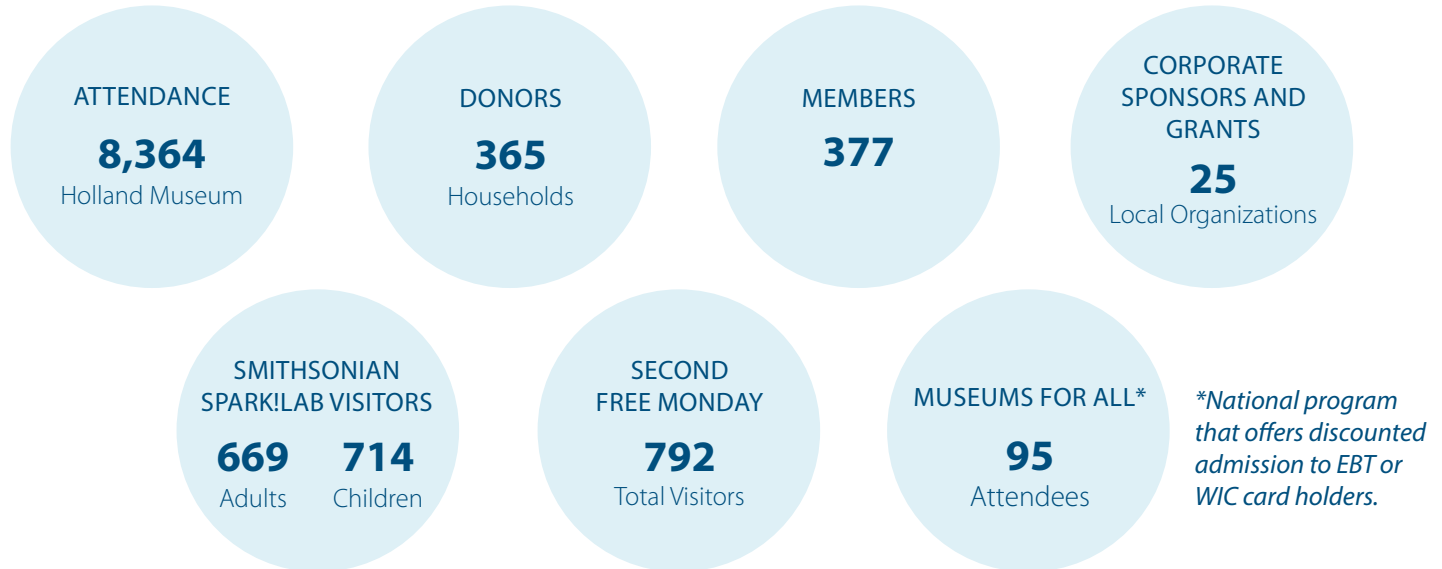
*If you missed this program, it is currently available to view on the Holland Museum YouTube Channel. Scan the code to go to the Holland Museum YouTube Channel.

+Check out the Holland Museum YouTube Channel for programs related to this exhibition.

By the Numbers

Engagement

The Museum continues to reach new audiences through visits to the Museum, Cappon and Settlers Houses, Smithsonian Spark!Lab, education initiatives, programs, and community outreach. Thanks to all of our members, guests, donors, and sponsors, the Museum continues to grow.



TOP 5 VISITING STATES

1. Michigan
2. Illinois
3. Indiana
4. Ohio
5. Wisconsin



TOP 5 VISITING COUNTRIES

1. The Netherlands
2. Canada
3. United Kingdom
4. Germany
5. Japan



Juneteenth Program with I AM Academy: Systems that Shape(d) Black America with Author Tracee Bruce

Museum Charter Members Celebrate 30-Years: 1993-2023! Thank you for your loyal support!

“Being charter members of the Museum has enriched our lives and given us appreciation for the many pioneers and entrepreneurs that have made Holland the unique city it is today.”

— Dr. James K. and Dorothy Chamness, Charter Members

“As our town has evolved into a bustling city, I have particularly enjoyed the offerings of the museum. Displays about Dutch heritage, local businesses, and the Cappon House have been well done and remind us where we have been, who we were, and who we can be.”

— Dale Dykema, Charter Member

“More recently, the regular programming offered throughout the year continues to interest me about topics I knew nothing about. And again, continue to spark my interest in history.

All of this, and the opportunity to get to know some of the staff and learn more about the work they do, has furthered my appreciation of the Museum.”

— Dorothy Sherburne, Charter Member

Educational Programs and Outreach Numbers

The Education Department continues to engage new participants.

Education Department Connections: Programming, Events, Tours, Outreach **6,902** Total number of participants



A family exploring Spark!Lab

Programs: 38

- General/Community Programs: 11
- Exhibition Programs: 8
- Cultural Lens Programs: 10
- Family Programs: 5
- Special Programs: 4

Total number of participants: 3,054

Exhibition Openings: 3

Total participants: 125

Tours: 60

Total participants: 1,251

Outreach Events: 18

Total participants: 2,597

Exceptional Exhibits

The Museum hosted dynamic exhibitions over the last year with a variety of related programming to enhance visitor experiences. Each exhibit inspired new partnerships and new opportunities for attendees.

In Service to Others: A History of Holland’s Women Missionaries

July 15 – November 28, 2022

This exhibition explored the varied roles of local women in the missionary field who sought to improve lives through expansion of education and healthcare to communities across the globe.

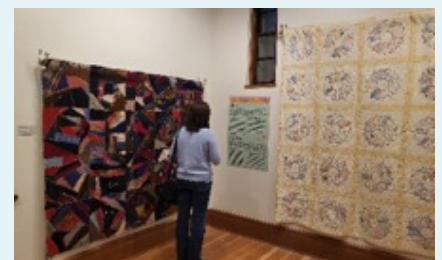


In Service to Others Exhibition

Storied Objects: Folk Art from the Holland Museum Collection

December 9, 2022 – April 17, 2023

Folk art spans every culture across the globe, merging the utilitarian with the decorative, and reflects the heart of the community from which it comes. This exhibit explored rarely seen folk art from the Holland Museum Collection. Each piece has a story; the artist behind the piece, the culture from which it came, and a purpose.



Storied Objects Exhibition

Cultivating the Dutch Tradition in the 21st Century: Jane Jones’ Hyperrealist Floral Paintings

May 5 – July 3, 2023

This exhibition featured 25 original oil paintings by the artist Jane Jones. Her contemporary perspective on floral still life successfully combines the history and tradition of 17th Century Dutch Still Life painting with modern objectivity. This exhibit is circulated by David J. Wagner, LLC.



Jane Jones’ Hyperrealist Floral Paintings Exhibition



Engaging Our Community

Collection Highlights

Art is a wonderful gift to share, and the Holland Museum has been fortunate to receive several great paintings and prints through the years.



This is a print of the painting, "Watercolors of Historic Holland, Michigan," created in 1997 by Holland resident Mae Naber Van Ark. Several of these historic structures remain forever (i.e., De Zwaan, Pillar Church) and a few are gone forever (i.e., Hotel Ottawa, Brouwer Furniture).

From 1958-1962, Mae developed her painting skills at the Oxbow in Saugatuck and later took art classes at Hope College. Mae helped establish the Arts Council where she later taught watercolor classes.



This watercolor painting shows the former Coast Guard station in Macatawa Park. The artist is Macatawa resident Winifred Blacklock (1890-1974).

Winifred was a school teacher in Detroit for 36 years. Her family owned a cottage in Macatawa Park where she spent her summers. After retiring in 1961, she and her husband John became year-round residents.



Holland Resident, Dorothy Vander Bie Von Ins (1925-1967) created this painting of her pet dog. A graduate of Holland High School, Dorothy had a particular challenge most painters will never experience. Dorothy was born without hands.

Collection Data

Records available to the public on June 30, 2023	18,606	Items donated during the fiscal year	71	Archival Research Requests	150
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Community Collaborators

We made great strides with our community partners, increasing and deepening those relationships.

- Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony (ACEH)
- Big Read/ Little Read
- City of Holland
- Disability Network Lakeshore
- Empowering Youth Global Connection (EYGC)
- Explore Hope
- Fair Housing Center of West Michigan
- Grand Valley State University
- Groundworks/Herrick Public Library
- Harbor Humane Society
- Holland Fire Department
- Holland Garden Club
- Hope Academy of Senior Professionals (HASP)
- Hope College
- I AM Academy
- Latin Americans United for Progress (LAUP)
- Lighthouse Immigration Advocates
- Momentum Center
- OAISD/Future Prep'd and IChallengeUth
- Ottawa County Health and Human Services/Meet Up and Eat Up
- Out on the Lakeshore
- Outdoor Discovery Center
- Promesa/Ferris State University
- West Ottawa High School
- Holland Woman's Literary Club



Volunteer field trip 2022

Volunteers

65 Total Volunteers	9 Interns
51 Committee Members	13 Board Members

2,096
TOTAL
VOLUNTEER
HOURS



Yas Queen! The History of Drag Cultural Lens Program

\$864,604

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE

- 60% Contributions
- 12% Government
- 12% Earned
- 8% In-kind
- 5% Investments
- 3% Grants

\$825,001

TOTAL EXPENSES

- 56% Programs & Exhibitions
- 29% Management
- 15% Fundraising



Museum on Tap fundraiser



Day of the Dead, Holland Museum and LAUP free community Cultural Lens program

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"It is easier to learn and appreciate history when seen through exhibits in the museum along with history books."

— M. Dawn Bredewag,
Charter Member

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Please notify us if there are any omissions.

Sneak Peek into what's happening in FY 2023-2024

FUTURE EXHIBITIONS & CELEBRATIONS

NEWSFLASH!
The Story of Journalism in Holland

The Power of Storytelling



NEWSFLASH! The Story of Journalism in Holland
November 17, 2023 – April 8, 2024

This exhibition reflects on the history of local media outlets including the Holland Sentinel and WHTC. Many of the objects on display are from the collection of local photographer, journalist, and historian Randy Vande Water.

Sponsors: WGVU, Horizon Bank, Boileau & Co. and DeNooyer Chevrolet

7TH ANNUAL
MLK DAY CELEBRATION

How can **YOU** change the world?

JANUARY 15
10:00 am–5:00 pm
Holland Museum
FREE Family Event



Cultural Lens Sponsors:
 



Cappon House

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS
1874–2024

Cappon 150th Anniversary Celebration

2024 is the 150th anniversary of the Cappon House! The Museum will commemorate this milestone with a series of events, exhibitions, and tours throughout the year. Highlights include exhibits featuring the restoration of the house, Lavina Cappon's influence on Tulip Time Dutch dancing costumes, and a display of paintings by Bruce McCombs. Stay updated on hollandmuseum.org for details!

FREE SECOND MONDAYS

free admission monthly

4:00–7:00 p.m.

Sponsored by The Meijer Foundation

FUNDRAISERS



Museum On Tap:
Beer, Cider, Wine Tasting
February 9 | 7:00-9:00 PM
Holland Museum




History Mystery Trivia Night
April 18 | 5:30-8:30 PM
Holland Armory

NEW!
SPRING BREAK DISCOVERY CAMP

April 2–4 | 10:00–3:00 PM | \$100/child

This new camp is for 2nd–5th graders and will be 3 days of history, experimenting, and fun!
Afternoon snack and all supplies included. Students will bring their own lunch.



Day of the Dead
DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Saturday, October 26
FREE Family Event | Holland Armory