Permian Monsters

This year’s summer traveling exhibit Permian Monsters was created by Gondwana Studios. This unique traveling exhibition brought the past back to life with fossilized skeletons and full life size models of the animals that ruled the world millions of years before the dinosaurs, in a time known as the Permian era. Visitors got to explore this relatively unknown time period filled with giant insects, bizarre looking sharks, and strange mammal-like reptiles.

December to Remember

Each year, the Museum hosts a special exhibit showcasing holiday traditions from around the world. The displays are created by the Las Vegas community celebrating the culture and diversity of our city. Special activities and presentations were held at the Museum throughout December. This year, the Museum featured traditions from places such as Hawaii, Poland, Thailand, Scotland, Asia, Mexico, Russia, Norway, Ireland, Greece, North Africa, the Philippines, Hungary, and more. Performances included traditional Japanese and Scottish dance.
Mission Statement

The Las Vegas Natural History Museum strives to inspire, through educational exhibits and programs, a better understanding and appreciation of the natural world, the sciences and ourselves.

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Board of directors, Marilyn Gillespie, and Jeff Civillico at the 2018 Ice Age Dinosaur Ball
Children’s Education Fund

The Las Vegas Natural History Museum has been serving Las Vegas for more than two decades. One of its core values is accessibility for all community members regardless of their economic position. Equity in education is a pillar that makes the scholarship and subsidy programs at the Museum so important. The Museum understands the need to make certain that these marginalized populations of students not be deprived of educational opportunities outside of the classroom that can spark imagination and a love of learning that a classroom alone simply cannot provide.

The Nevada Department of Education reports more than ½ of the student population in Clark County is enrolled in the Federal Meal Program indicating a significant economic need. Each year 20,000 students benefit from scholarships to the Museum. But with proper funding, we can serve so many more.

Open Door & Explore!

The Museum’s scholarship programs Open Door & Explore! are supported by grants and generous donations from businesses that share the Museum’s commitment to children, education and the community. Since their inception, these programs have served nearly 400,000 children.

The Open Door Program provides funds students for field trip admission to the Museum ($5 per student).

Explore! is the counterpart which provides transportation funding for field trips (approximately $140 per field trip bus).
Educational Programs

The Museum’s field trip programs are carefully designed by grade level to introduce students to science and nature around the world.

The **Learning Safari** uses guided questioning and interaction to empower 1st – 8th grade students to construct knowledge, make discoveries, and connect their experience to the natural world while exploring habitats and adaptations.

**Early Explorers** addresses early childhood developmental milestones through active exploration and interactive inquiry for children between the ages of 3 to 6 years old. Children learn important skills, concepts, and vocabulary to provide a foundation for future science education.

Visitors enjoy the Museum’s **Living History** program, which is presented monthly in the Treasures of Egypt Gallery. Pharaohs, peasants, and even ancient Egyptian children come to life to tell the stories of the past in this live production featuring local actors and amazing stories.

**Science Sleuths** was created using national science standards and the Clark County curriculum essentials framework. The Science Sleuths program offers four choices that address standards for life science, earth and ocean studies for grades 4 to 12. These programs integrate inquiry-based, investigative, and hands-on learning with peer interaction. The combined interpretive Museum tour and lab experiences encourage observational and deductive reasoning skills as well as self-discovery outside the traditional classroom setting.

The **Ancient Egypt Experience** addresses middle school social studies standards and examines the ancient Egyptians’ dependence on the Nile River for survival; the social hierarchy and its impact on the daily lives of the Egyptians; and the technology and archaeology that has become their legacy. Students explore ancient Egypt through geography, history, mathematics, science, and technology.

The **Discovery Cart** offers science encounters for visitors, including interactions with fossils, bio-facts, science experiments and even meeting real scientists.

**Critter Connections** offers visitors encounters with the Museum’s living collection of resident animals. This popular program allows guests to interact with the animals, ask questions, observe feedings and have a unique, one of a kind experience at the Museum.
Sundown in Downtown

This year’s “Bones & Booze” themed evening, brought cold drinks, cool bones, and even better friends together for an amazing indoor soiree. This signature summer fundraiser, draws more than 375 guests and raises money for the Museum’s unique living collection, exhibits, and educational programs. Guests in attendance enjoyed a festive party with fun interactive galleries, and fabulous food and drinks provided by 13 amazing downtown restaurants and bars.
Dinosaur Ball

On October 20, 2018, we celebrated our 26th Annual Dinosaur Ball at Enclave. Hosted by Jeff Civillico, the evening had performances by the Skating Aratas, Magician John Rotellini, and local favorite, the Steel Benders. This year’s theme was Ice Age, and featured a display of mammoth bones found in Nevada. Guests were able to bid on numerous silent auction items before dinner and experienced an amazing live auction. We would like to thank everyone who donated to the live auction; Josh Bonde, PhD., All in Aviation, Chef Jean Paul Labadie, Bank of America, and NV Energy.
The 2018 Las Vegas Science & Technology Festival!

After eight years, the Las Vegas Science & Technology Festival continues to thrive and improve! More than 41,000 people participated in 161 programs across Southern Nevada during the nine day Festival. Around 137 cultural institutions, businesses, and organizations worked together with 165 volunteers to make the 2018 Las Vegas Science & Technology Festival a memorable event. Interest in the Festival continues to increase with the community’s generous support that grows each year.

The Las Vegas Science & Technology Festival is one of the largest educational events in Nevada, striving to inspire our community’s youth and bring the excitement of science and technology to families from all walks of life. Through engaging and educational programming, the Festival strives to spark students’ curiosity in STEM and to ultimately encourage them to consider careers in science, technology, engineering and math. Thanks to the generous community support and hard work by the Festival’s committee, collaborators, sponsors and volunteers, the Las Vegas Science & Technology Festival remains one of the largest educational events in Nevada.

2018 Festival Numbers
- Over 41,000 people participated in 161 programs over 9 days;
- 165 volunteers donated more than 750 hours of service;
- Over 6,850 students were served during the week-long Science in the Schools program;
- 7,800 people attended 48 Science is Everywhere Day events around the Las Vegas Valley;
- More than 15,000 people experienced the Giant Expo at World Market Trade Center.
Research Developments at the Museum

The year 2018 started with the Museum’s Research and Conservation Staff, with the support of the Bureau of Land Management, going to Redlands, CA to recover the Ice Age Tule Springs paleontological collection. After decades of being stored in California, the Museum was able to bring thousands of these fossils back to Las Vegas. In 2018, the Staff presented original research at regional and international professional conventions on topics ranging from archaeological discoveries in Southern Nevada, to Columbian Mammoth biology of the Mojave desert, to the first known discovery of fossilized maggots in the fossil record. Dr. Bonde co-authored a peer-reviewed paper on the first known survivor of the end-Cretaceous extinction, a little frog from White Pine County. The staff has active research projects in seven of Nevada’s 17 counties. The Museum paleontologists, Dr. Bonde, Lauren Parry, and Becky Humphrey have been given a state-wide paleontological permit from the BLM, a rare honor.

Welcome to Jeff Civillico

Celebrity Entertainer, Jeff Civillico, best known as an award-winning comedic entertainer on the Las Vegas Strip for more than a decade, has been named “Ambassador” for the Las Vegas Natural History Museum. This is the first-time in the 27-year history of the Museum that a celebrity has partnered with the Museum to further rally local and national recognition to foster the growth and expansion of the Museum. Jeff is a family-friendly entertainer with an interest in science, discovery, and history, as well as a true desire to inspire kids. His role will include being the celebrity ambassador for marketing, special events, corporate development, and special programming.
### Financials

#### Expenditures

- **Wages**: $504,303.35
- **Payroll Taxes**: $43,266.73
- **Accounting**: $8,000.00
- **Advertising**: $9,394.10
- **Auto**: $144.40
- **Cost of Goods-Giftshop**: $37,642.73
- **Misc. and Administrative**: $21,116.69
- **Dues and Memberships**: $8,771.17
- **Insurance**: $51,884.42
- **Janitorial**: $8,190.00
- **Office Supplies**: $10,351.91
- **Postage and Shipping**: $2,106.04
- **Outside Services**: $28,782.96
- **Repairs and Maintenance**: $7,829.38
- **Telephone**: $3,931.99
- **Utilities**: $3,178.68
- **Gift-in-Kind Expenditures**: $325,563.26
- **Fundraising Expenses**: $91,057.75

#### Revenues

- **Operational**
  - **Admissions**: $316,861.38
  - **Interest Income**: $683.27
  - **Giftshop**: $73,435.90
  - **Other**: $16,325.39
  - **Subtotal**: $407,305.94

- **Fundraising & Public Memberships**
  - **Donations-Non Specific**: $20,926.41
  - **Memberships-Family**: $68,620.00
  - **Memberships-Corporate**: $19,500.00
  - **Memberships-FOM**: $4,500.00
  - **Friends of Paleontology**: $0.00
  - **Bricks-Fundraiser**: $2,000.00
  - **Special Events**: $216,929.80
  - **Donations-Gift in Kind**: $325,563.26
  - **Subtotal**: $658,039.47

#### Program and Exhibit Expenses

- **Animal Care**: $34,417.96
- **Exhibit Expenses**: $3,587.68
- **Friends of Paleontology**: $40.05
- **Collection Maintenance**: $12,791.84
- **Education Program**: $22,764.57
- **Traveling Exhibit**: $36,612.76
- **Staff Development**: $95.00

#### Restricted Revenue (Program)

- **Endowment Interest**: $15,000.00
- **Exhibit Donations**: $0.00
- **Collection Maintenance**: $42,845.66
- **Animal Care Donation**: $13,096.08
- **Education Program**: $72,387.55
- **Curation Income**: $6,300.00
- **Science Festival**: $48,666.63
- **Expansion Fund**: $1,000.00
- **Traveling Exhibit**: $0.00
- **Subtotal**: $199,295.92

**TOTAL EXPENSES**: $1,275,825.42

**Change in net assets**: -$11,184.09

**TOTAL REVENUE**: $1,264,641.33
A Special Thank You to Our Donors

The Museum relies upon the continued financial support of the generous community donors. The following individuals, corporations and foundations made contributions to the Las Vegas Natural History Museum in 2018. Space prevents the listing of donors under $1,000.

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