



Committee Report

To: Chair and
Members of the Museum Committee

From: Cathy McGirr
Director, Museum & Cultural Services

Date: December 1, 2022

Re: Education and Outreach Report - December 2022

Staff Recommendation:

The Education & Outreach Report is for information purposes only.

Background:

Museum Munchkins, October 13 & 27, November 10 & 24

October saw the return of our Museum Munchkins program. Aimed at children ages 18 months to four years, the munchkins explored a variety of hands-on learning activities such as gross motor games, necklace threading, sensory bags, sorting activities, playdough, card making, and more. Themes such as Tiny Town, Farm Friends, Dino-ROAR!, and Music & Movement were a hit with toddlers and parents/guardians alike. The program averaged 16 parents and Munchkins per session.



Munchkins and parents working on a Fall-themed craft under the watchful of Museum volunteer Muriel

October 22 - Night at the Museum: Theatre Magic Workshop

In October we brought back our popular Night at the Museum program. This entertaining program was led by theatre professionals Julia Scaringi and Leo Dragonieri who guided kids aged 8-12 through clowning workshops, improv clinics, and theatre activities. The newly minted performers capped the night off with a magical performance for their peers.



Participants in the audience watching program facilitator Leo Dragonieri give stage directions to two actors in the making

October 28 - School's Out Movies

On Friday, Oct. 28, we had 29 people come to the Museum to watch the PA Day films, The Addams Family and Ghostbusters: Afterlife, we were playing in the Bruce Power Theatre.



Movie posters for “The Addams Family” (2020) and “Ghostbusters: Afterlife” (2021)

October 28 - PA Day Maker Day: Eerie Inventions

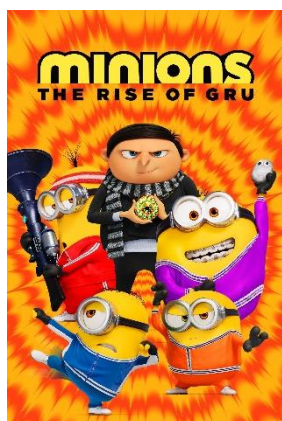
Children ages 5-10 enjoyed a full day playing ghoulish games and making creepy creations. Using everyday craft supplies, participants created their own colorful slime, working lanterns, and frightful art. The kids were able to do a behind the scenes scavenger hunt in our historic log buildings, searching out spiders, cats, and bats (oh my!). In addition, the kids had time to explore the museum, hike around Fairy Lake, and spend time at the park. The Maker Day was sold out with 15 program participants.



PA Day Maker Day participants holding up their Halloween lantern creations in the dark

November 25 - School's Out Movies

On Friday, November 25 PA Day we screened two family films in the Bruce Power Theatre. Both movies were well received.



Movie posters for
"Minions: The Rise of Gru" (2022) & "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (2000)

November 25 - PA Day Maker Day: Make It Merry

Children ages 5-10 spent the day playing holiday themed games and creating winter crafts. Kids embraced their inner artist as they made a variety of beautiful winter-inspired creations to take home, spent time in the new exhibits, and watched a holiday movie on the big screen with some popcorn. In addition, the kids had time to explore the museum, hike around Fairy Lake, and play some outdoor games. The Maker Day was sold out with 15 program participants.

Education Programs

Field Trips

The Museum delivered six education programs in October and November, hosting 119 students. Popular programs included *A Day in the Life of a Pioneer Child* and *LEGO Building Challenge*. We have another six education programs booked for December.

Treaties Recognition Week

On November 3, in honour of Treaties Recognition Week, the Museum hosted almost 200 students from neighboring GC Huston Public School to listen to Trish Meekins of Nikaanaganaa Counselling & Learning Centre present on the importance of treaties in Ontario. Video recordings of the presentations, as well as educational resources related to treaties, were made available on our website free for all teachers and educators. 116 people visited the landing page in the following 10 days alone.

You can watch the presentations here:

[Trish Meekins Treaties Presentation for Grades 3-5](#)

[Trish Meekins Treaties Presentation for Grades 6-8](#)



Trish Meekins answers questions from GC Huston Public School students during her Nov. 3 presentation called “Treaty Week: We Are All Treaty People.”

Upcoming Programs

December 8 - Merry Munchkins: Make wonderful memories with your preschooler during this holiday-themed program at the Museum! You and your munchkin will learn winter carols, play games, and create and decorate your own stocking. Meet other families with munchkins and have your picture taken with Santa!

[Merry Munchkins - Bruce Museum CA](#)

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There are no financial, staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

The Bruce County Public Library - a staff member from the Southampton branch provided programming for our October 27 Museum Munchkins event.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Goal #3 - Find creative new ways to engage our public

Report Author:

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Departmental Approval:

Cathy McGirr
Director, Museum & Cultural Services

Approved for Submission:

Derrick Thomson
Chief Administrative Officer