

# HORIZONS

MICHIGAN LEGACY ART PARK

SUMMER 2017

*"An Educator's  
Dream"*



Michigan Legacy Art Park





FROM THE PRESIDENT

Focus, Grow, Expand, Impact – Make a Difference. Key words driving the current Michigan Legacy Art Park strategic planning process. Our focus: a plan that builds on past successes and strengthens infrastructure. On that foundation, we’ll create a more impactful Art Park visitor experience and attract new artistic creativity.

We’ll expand our reach into area classrooms and encourage field trips to the Art Park with transportation funding. They’re an important audience—our children—and there’s more to the world than text and numbers. Through exposure to the arts and arts education, students learn to use their imaginations, exercise their motor skills, interpret, and critique visual information. Studies also show this kind of activity benefits language development, decision-making, inventiveness, cultural awareness, and even improved academic performance. Americans for the Arts reports that young people with regular exposure to the arts are “four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement, to participate in a math and science fair, or to win an award for writing an essay or poem.”

Supported by an amazingly engaged board, dedicated staff, and your time, effort and financial contributions, I can assure you Michigan Legacy Art Park will thrive. While keeping a focused eye on its mission, it will grow and have an increasing impact on our community, the region, and state. Our reputation and message have even had national exposure. The Art Park is poised to emerge from being a well-kept secret.

MARY ANN CHENEY  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CLOCKWISE: Girl Scout troop #80040 touches up *Logging Camp* · Channing & Quinn delight at Summer Sounds · Frankfort students learn about clash of cultures at *Shadow Stone Circle* · Snapshots from the Legacy Gala · Snowshoe past *Singing Tree* · Pathfinder teachers learn environmental art techniques · Fall colors in the park · *Sanctuary*

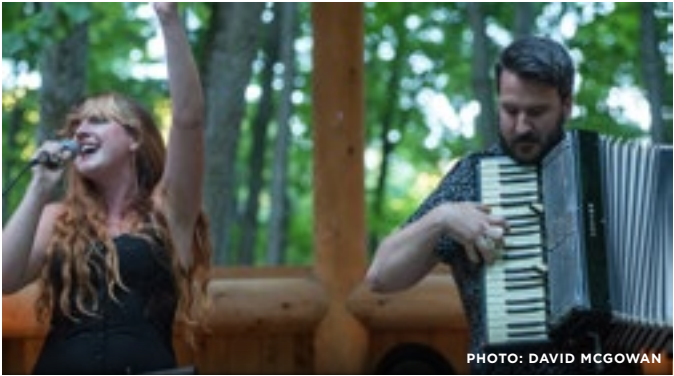


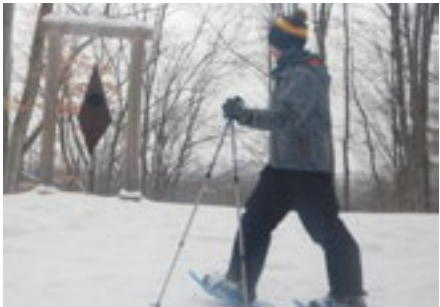
PHOTO: DAVID MCGOWAN

YEAR IN REVIEW

By Renee Hintz, Executive Director

- Over the last twelve months, Michigan Legacy Art Park has seen goals realized, projects come to fruition, and new opportunities arise. Here are some highlights:
- › Hired Kaz McCue as Artistic Director to carry forward the artistic vision of our late founder, David Barr
  - › Built Sanctuary, a new destination within the park for rest and contemplation
  - › Exhibited seven artworks on loan and currently for sale by the artists
  - › Hosted John DeHoog and Brian Nelson as artists in residence to create *Beacon Project*
  - › Involved hundreds of students and teachers from schools in Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Manistee, and Wexford counties
  - › Developed a new team-building program with teachers and students of The Pathfinder School
  - › Continued leading winter snowshoe tours with the general public and schools
  - › Presented our much loved “Special Places” art workshop for second graders at Frankfort Elementary School for the sixth consecutive year
  - › Featured Benzie Central High School Chamber Choir at our Winter Sounds holiday concert

The board and staff have developed a new strategic plan that will guide us through 2020 with a focus on Impact, Outreach, Diversity, Growth and Stewardship. I’m excited by these fresh initiatives and new goals we have created in response to all of the feedback we received from you, our visitors, artists, musicians, teachers, and volunteers. I look forward to seeing you in the Art Park!



GUIDED TOURS AT MICHIGAN LEGACY ART PARK

Enjoy a special guided tour of the Art Park at 10am on the third Saturday of each month from June through October.

- |                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>HIKE WITH KAZ</b><br>June 17 & September 16<br>Join Art Park Artistic Director and Curator, Kaz McCue, for an interesting perspective on the collection. | <b>BENZIE HISTORY TOUR</b><br>July 15<br>Get a deeper understanding of the stories with Benzie Historical Museum’s Andy Bolander. | <b>FLAGS OF GOOD INTENTIONS</b><br>August 19<br>Enjoy an introspective art project led by Deona Paine followed by a contemplative hike to <i>Sanctuary</i> . | <b>FALL COLOR TOUR</b><br>October 21<br>See Michigan Legacy Art Park light up in brilliant color as the seasons change from summer to fall. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
- RIDING TOURS:** For those with limited mobility, ATV tours are available on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10am from June 21-August 12. Call (231) 378-4963 to reserve your seat.

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

July 16 - August 7  
Saturday and Sunday mornings, drop in between 9am and Noon

Join environmental educator Ramona DeGeorgio-Venegas this summer for all-ages interpretive programs that help develop a more personal relationship with art and nature.



This past summer marked the culmination of *Art Access for All*—a three-year campaign that raised \$380,764 for the Art Park.

With the support of many generous donors, improvements made possible by the campaign are expanding opportunities for people of all ages, needs and abilities to create, explore, learn, and reflect at Michigan Legacy Art Park.

See results of the campaign here: [michlegacyartpark.org/support](http://michlegacyartpark.org/support)



# SUMMER SOUNDS

## SUMMER SOUNDS CONCERT SERIES

July 7 - August 19, 2017 · 7-9pm

Tickets: \$10 · Kids 12-and-under Free

Bring family and friends for a delightful evening of live music among the trees in the heart of the Art Park.

### VOX VIDORRA

Friday, July 7

Lead by vocal phenom Molly Bouwsma Schultz, this Kalamazoo indie soul band is becoming one of the most popular acts in the state.

### MEMBERS RECEPTION

All current MLAP members are invited to attend this special reception preceding the Vox Vidorra concert. **Please RSVP by June 25.**

### BLAKE ELLIOTT & THE ROBINSON AFFAIR

Friday, July 14

One of the hardest-working women in the northern Michigan music scene brings her retro bluesy rock to the amphitheater stage.

### MOUNT VALOR

Friday, July 21

Interlochen songwriting instructor Kyle Novy returns to the Art Park to perform original songs from his ambitious “52 Songs” writing and recording project.

### NESSA

Friday, July 28

This Celtic ensemble fuses traditional ballads and dances with elements of classical, folk, jazz, rock, and world music.

### SWEET WATER WARBLERS

Saturday, August 5

Michigan folk music “supergroup” featuring Summer Sounds favorites Rachael Davis, May Erlewine, and Lindsay Lou.

### NASHON HOLLOWAY BAND

Saturday, August 12

Equally at home in jazz, soul, and folk music, newcomer Nashon Holloway and her band bring a heartfelt performance all can enjoy.

### THE BERGAMOT

Saturday, August 19

Poignant songwriting and Americana-infused indie rock, perfectly suited for the very special forest amphitheater setting.

### SUMMER SOUNDS IS UNDERWRITTEN IN PART BY

Jon & Amy Ballinger · Blarney Castle Oil Co · Lucy Brand  
Tom & Julie Dawson · Kathy & Harry Eiferle · Iron Fish Distillery  
Izumi Myers · William & Martha Paine · Portland Building  
Traverse City State Bank · Rich & Sue Smith  
Watson Benzie · Mo & Linda White



## LEGACY GALA

## 2017 LEGACY GALA

Friday, August 4 · 6pm

Crystal Mountain, Crystal Center

\$75 per person, sponsorship opportunities available

All proceeds from this signature fundraising event will directly support opportunities for art and learning at Michigan Legacy Art Park.

The 2017 *Legacy Award* will be presented to **Doug and Anne Stanton**, in recognition of their significant contributions to Michigan including their own prolific writing, vision for building community through literature, and commitment to sharing a love for writing and reading with the next generation.



## FAIRIES & FORTS

Saturday, June 17 · 2pm

Free admission day

This fun family tradition officially kicks off summer at Michigan Legacy Art Park. Enjoy art projects at Discovery Grove, storyteller **Jenifer Strauss**, and a family concert from **brotha James**. It all leads up to the annual march to the the *Fort* to raise the flag.

### EVENT TICKETS AND INFO

To sponsor an event, purchase tickets, register, or make reservations, please visit the Art Park website.

[michlegacyartpark.org/events](http://michlegacyartpark.org/events)  
or call (231) 378-4963.



## GOLF CLASSIC

PRESENTED BY D&W MECHANICAL

PRESENTED BY



Tuesday, June 6

11:30am Registration · 12:30pm Shotgun Start

Crystal Mountain, Mountain Ridge Course

\$100 per person, sponsorship opportunities available

The Michigan Legacy Art Park Golf Classic is a team scramble with games, prizes, and a BBQ dinner.

Last year, this event raised over \$12,000 for Art Park education programs. The Golf Classic is not only a fun day on the links with friends and colleagues, but makes a positive impact on the next generation by helping the Art Park continue to inspire well into the future.

### 2017 GOLF CLASSIC SPONSORS



Century 21 Sleeping Bear Realty · Cooke Sheet Metal, Inc.  
Tom & Julie Dawson · Kathy & Harry Eiferle  
Hedrick Associates · Portland Building · Rich & Sue Smith  
Watson Benzie · Diane Wilbur & Jim Szalay





KAZ GIVES HIS LEELANAU SCHOOL STUDENTS A RIDE TO THE PARK

## MEET KAZ McCUE

Long-time Art Park friend and contributing artist Kaz McCue recently joined the organization as Artistic Director and Curator. In this role, he will guide the direction of the collection and carry forward the vision of the park's late founder, David Barr. Along with his extensive experience, Kaz brings enthusiasm, dedication, and belief in the power of the arts to his new role.

### WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT THIS NEW ROLE?

Following in David Barr's footsteps. David was an incredible visionary, and what he did with his career and the foundation of Michigan Legacy Art Park was truly unique. I knew about David long before I ever set foot in the park, and his vision is one of the reasons I have been so involved with the park. Having the opportunity to continue David's vision and help the Art Park move forward into the future is incredibly exciting.

### HOW DO YOU SEE THE ART PARK GROWING?

One of the things I've inherited in this position is David's "Legacy Framework," which was a drawing he had done defining all the areas he saw as part of the Michigan experience. One of the things that makes the Art Park unique is the strong connection

between the expression of the work and the history and environment of Michigan. As the Art Park grows I see us expanding the voices and inspirations that are defined in the Legacy Framework and working towards a greater diversity in terms of style, materials, and visual forms.

### WHAT DO YOU FEEL MAKES THE ART PARK SPECIAL?

First, the park occupies an amazing natural space that just screams "Michigan." I think the environment of the park makes for an awesome natural experience and the inclusion of visual works in the space helps create a unique sense of place. It is a fantastic way to encounter and consider the expressions of the artists presented within the park. Additionally, our "gallery" is fluid, ever-changing and dynamic... Wow!

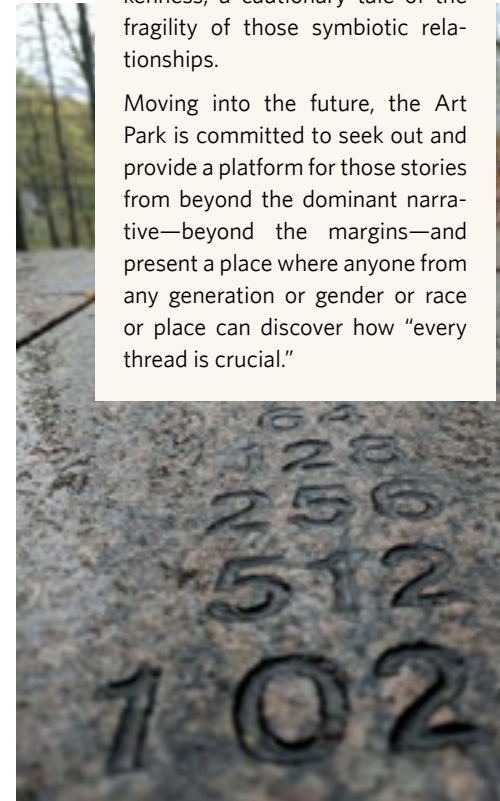
### AS A TEACHER, HOW DO YOU SEE ART EXPERIENCES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE?

Our culture is so driven by technology and our connectivity has altered the way we move through our daily lives, communicate with each other, and the way we experience the world around us. We're overwhelmed with images and information, and it all comes at us so very, very fast. Art, and particularly art as it is presented in the park, can force us to slow down, consider ideas more deeply, and interact more directly and more comprehensively. It is about experience, but it is also about real-world experience, not a second-hand iteration of an experience. For young people, these experiences can expand their understanding of the world they live in, enhance their own processes, and help them to explore their own imaginations.

## ON DIVERSITY

David Barr's *Diversity* sits both literally and figuratively in the heart of Michigan Legacy Art Park. The integrity and messages wrapped up in both the form and expression continue as a standard by which this organization sets its bearings. It is at once a temple, a testament to the interconnectedness that sustains all things, yet in its brokenness, a cautionary tale of the fragility of those symbiotic relationships.

Moving into the future, the Art Park is committed to seek out and provide a platform for those stories from beyond the dominant narrative—beyond the margins—and present a place where anyone from any generation or gender or race or place can discover how "every thread is crucial."



## BEACON PROJECT

This past summer, artists in residence John DeHoog and Brian Nelson created *Beacon Project*, based on the idea they call "sculp-itecture." The form makes reference to lighthouses, water buoys, and smoke stacks (elements from both rural and urban Michigan landscapes). Architectural processes, materials, and principles were used, but for a sculptural end. The Eastern Michigan University instructors collaborated on the piece at the nearby Jean Noble Parsons Center, while involving their students in the experience.

"The piece pays respects simultaneously to our state's history of experimental modern architecture and the resourcefulness of life up north."



EACH HUMAN IS THE RESULT OF TWO, THOSE TWO OF FOUR, THOSE FOUR OF EIGHT AND SO ON UNTIL AFTER THIRTY GENERATIONS WE MATHEMATICALLY REALIZE THAT WE ALL MUST BE RELATED. OUR DIVERSITY IS OUR HUMAN TAPESTRY.

— David Barr, excerpt from the book *Michigan Legacy Art Park*



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Committees are planning projects, guides are leading tours, postcards are mailed, trails are maintained, and the mission of this park is put into action every single day by the hard work and priceless passion of Art Park volunteers.

Benzie Central Football Team	Autumn Gillow	George Marsh	Frank Smiddy
Benzie Conservation District Staff	Girl Scout Troop #80040	David McGowan	Russell Smith
Betsie Valley District Library Staff	Jerry Gretzinger	David McPhail	Sue Smith
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Sandy Blocksma	Kathryn Habecker	David Mix	Ken Stevens
Sally Bobek	Zach Hegg	Jim Mulvoy	Shirley Sutton
Andy Bolander	Interlochen Arts Academy Visual Art Students	Alan Newton	Harriet Wall
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John Bullington	Courtney Jerome	Alan Notenbaum	Keith Westphal
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Kathryn DenHouter	Judith Kraus	Ivy Ratliff	Janine Winkler
Diana Fairbanks	Norm Ling	Dan Remahl	Clarissa Wright
Mike Fruge	Leelanau School Students	Jamie Robinson	Greg Wright
	Kathy Maginity	Becky Sharp	
		Emily Smiddy	

**Interested in becoming a volunteer?** There are many different ways to get involved. Visit [michlegacyartpark.org/volunteer](http://michlegacyartpark.org/volunteer) or call (231) 378-4963.



NEW LANDSCAPING

Two dozen new trees and hundreds of native plants were added near the trailhead and amphitheater. This not only provides a more welcoming and beautiful experience for park visitors, but also helps improve sustainability by preventing erosion.



STUDENTS PITCH IN

Students from the Leelanau School and Interlochen Arts Academy came out on April 19 armed with buckets, scrub brushes, and rags to clean several sculptures. What an incredible difference it made with so many young people working together.



VOLUNTEERS WORK TOGETHER TO BEAUTIFY THE PARK ON STEWARDSHIP DAY



THE WHEELS OF PROGRESS (DETAIL)  
BY DEWEY BLOCKSMA

MICHIGAN IN MOTION

This year, students visiting the Art Park on school field trips will discover the important role forces such as wind and water have played in Michigan’s cultural and natural history.

The *Michigan in Motion* theme was developed in collaboration with the park’s Teacher Advisory Council, a group of educators from schools in Grand Traverse, Benzie and Leelanau Counties.

*Michigan in Motion* is intended to provide teachers even more opportunities to connect their students’ Art Park experience to classroom learning, particularly in science and social studies. By engaging with the art in the park, students are able to gain fresh perspective on curriculum content, opening channels for new classroom discoveries.

**Want to know more about field trips?**  
**Contact:** [patricia@michlegacyartpark.org](mailto:patricia@michlegacyartpark.org)

TRANSPORTATION GRANT

A generous donor has made grants available for up to \$500 to help with the transportation costs that often prohibit schools from taking field trips. Teachers can find grant applications on the MLAP website. [michlegacyartpark.org/education](http://michlegacyartpark.org/education)

I ENTHUSIASTICALLY  
HAIL THIS PARK AS AN  
EDUCATOR’S DREAM.

— Jonathan Rinck, [Sculpture.org](http://Sculpture.org)



MARK WASSA AND HIS STUDENTS MEASURE UP BRIAN FERRIBY’S MICHIGAN

BEYOND THE BENEFITS

By Mark Wassa

Education is a process. It is a process that establishes relationships, transcends curriculum, and provides a framework to attach experience. Engaging in the educational process is meant to be done as a participant and not as a spectator. As educational leadership mandates more and more focus on data and results, places like Michigan Legacy Art Park become integral in the education of a child.

As an elementary teacher in Thompsonville, I first looked into the Art Park as a field trip destination to simply get out and hike in an interesting location nearby. Upon first arrival with a group of fifth graders, I realized that this was going to end up being much more valuable than originally intended.

The obvious benefits of moving to an alternative venue for instruction and the incorporation of exercise were easily attained. However, the additional and unforeseen bonus was the conversation. Students were able to open themselves up to great conversations about personal experiences, historical references, and opinions of the art.

Group conversations at each sculpture easily moved to a higher analytical level than in the classroom as students shared their unique perspectives. My interaction with individual or small groups of students also flourished as we were able to converse without the time restraints normally found on a school schedule. These conversations not only strengthened the bond between our class as a whole, but also acted as a reference point throughout the remainder of the

year. These types of experiences are the foundation for evolving from simply a group of students into a community of learners. It is for this reason that I return to the park every year.

STUDENTS WERE ABLE TO OPEN THEMSELVES UP TO GREAT CONVERSATIONS ABOUT PERSONAL EXPERIENCES, HISTORICAL REFERENCES, AND OPINIONS OF THE ART.

Providing art experiences for students has also become a driving force behind our trips to the Art Park. Many northern Michigan students obtain exposure to art primarily at school. With art education being one of the first subjects to be cut due to district financial concerns, the importance of finding alternatives becomes essential.

Hiking throughout the park provides an opportunity to establish a pace for the kids to take in what they are experiencing without rushing. Whether we embark on a guided tour or simply wander as a group, the students always want to express their opinions of the sculptures and make connections to their own prior knowledge. This process is especially evident when we make return trips to the park and view the sculptures in a different season. Students find it very entertaining to compare and contrast the park first when flush with fallen leaves then blanketed in snow. Providing an interactive experience in which to view, discuss, and ultimately create art upon returning to school is integral for the development of a complete learner.

Beyond the benefits that I take from a field

trip to the Michigan Legacy Art Park as an educator, probably the most important element associated with the park is fun. Students come to my class asking when we will “head to the park” as a result of a sibling’s story. Likewise, former students that I see will ask me if I still take kids to the Art Park. The common characteristic in all of these discussions is the smile. Kids love Michigan Legacy Art Park for what it provides on the whole. Eating lunch at the amphitheater, snowball fights around “The Maze,” art projects using natural materials, stories, jokes, and nonsense all elicit a smile from a positive experience. It is telling that the kids first mention the fun of the park when asked about their experience. However, with continued questioning, you begin to hear about their thoughts, reflections, and analysis of their adventure. Sneaking a higher level learning experience based on art and history to a group of eleven year olds is not an easy task—the driving force of a fun experience makes this possible.

Earlier this fall, I was reminded just how lucky we are to have this amazing place right in our backyard available to visit at any time. Even though my five and seven-year-old sons have hiked numerous times at the park, they continually ask if we can return. Each time they find a new sculpture to call favorite, a new nugget to explore, and a new memory upon which they can reflect.



EXPLORING STOCKADE LABYRINTH

Mark Wassa is a fifth grade teacher at Betsie Valley Elementary school. He has been teaching for nineteen years and over the course of his career has brought many classes on field trips to Michigan Legacy Art Park. Special thanks to the Benzie Sunrise Rotary Foundation for making this and other area field trips possible.



YOU MAKE THE INSPIRATION POSSIBLE

From sculpture installation and maintenance to concerts and youth education programs, your gifts directly benefit mission-driven activities.

THANK YOU TO EVERY ONE OF THESE DONORS FROM THE PAST YEAR

From May 1, 2016 - April 30, 2017 these generous donors supported the park through various opportunities: membership, Golf Classic participation, Legacy Gala sponsorship, year-end appeal, Summer Sounds sponsorship, general donations, education program underwriting, and the Art Access for All campaign.

\$20,000 +

Community Foundation for Muskegon County  
Crystal Mountain  
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

\$4,000 - 7,000

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<sup>2</sup>David Barr  
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<sup>8</sup>Maxine L. Pelizzari  
<sup>9</sup>Tony Seidel

INCLUDES GIFTS IN HONOR OF

<sup>10</sup>Emilia Arnold



INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE DAY

Visitors enjoyed free admission and some fabulous spring sunshine on April 24 for International Sculpture Day. The day also included an Artist After Hours event in collaboration with Crosshatch and Blackbird Arts that brought several first-time visitors to the Art Park.



Michigan Legacy Art Park is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions may be tax deductible as allowed by law.

TO MAKE A DONATION

Visit [michlegacyartpark.org/donate](http://michlegacyartpark.org/donate) or call (231) 378-4963.

IN THE DETAILS: There is much inspiration to be found and stories to discover when you take your time and experience the smaller things in the park.

HELP CREATE A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

JOIN THE LEGACY SOCIETY

You can make an impact at Michigan Legacy Art Park now and in the future.

Each year, over two-thirds of our annual operating budget is supported by gifts from people like you. We rely on donations from individuals, corporate sponsorships, and foundation grants to implement the mission-driven activities happening now. Thank you!

Future gifts allow us to have predictable cash flows so that we can focus on our mission by reducing the amount of resources we put into annual fundraising activities. You can help by adding Michigan Legacy Art Park as a beneficiary of your will, trust, or life insurance policy; or by making a gift to the Michigan Legacy Art Park Endowment Fund at the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation.

Consider a planned gift if you are at a transition in your life. For Life Income Plans, there are many structures that can be customized for your circumstances including Charitable Remainder Trusts, Charitable Gift Annuities, and Pooled Income Funds. Charitable Lead Trusts have many benefits for your heirs.

To learn more, please visit [michlegacyartpark.org/donate](http://michlegacyartpark.org/donate) and talk with your estate planning attorney and personal financial advisor.

Please contact Renee at (231) 378-4963 if you have questions and to let us know of your intentions. Thank you.





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