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Sam Noble Museum  
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020





# From the Director

## Dear Sam Noble Museum members,

It has been a year since we began to address the COVID-19 global pandemic, which impacted and changed our lives so much! One year ago, on March 12, museum staff and volunteers met in the auditorium to hear the announcement that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the museum was closing to the public, staff were to find ways to telecommute, all non-essential activities were suspended and research was placed on hold.

I am pleased to say that at no point during the closure was the museum abandoned. It was critical that specific operations be maintained to ensure the functionality of the building and the stewardship of the collections and exhibitions. During this time, security, custodial, facilities and some collections management staff performed their duties and responsibilities, although often at a reduced level.

In spite of challenges, the museum found new and creative solutions to meet its mission and the needs of its members and audiences. I want to thank the staff and volunteers for their service and dedication. They each contributed in important ways to the work we undertook to advance the mission of the museum. I am excited to share some of those highlights with you:

From March 14 to August 4, we focused on several initiatives and re-directed staff efforts to make them a reality. Many of us learned new skills

and put them to work. Education staff developed and expanded virtual learning programs via Sam Noble Home, offered an online version of the Summer Explorers programs, developed two content-specific STEM boxes and presented engaging Natural History: Live! with Josie live videos on Facebook. We opened an online Excavations gift store and developed an online timed ticketing reservation system. A Safe Museum Playbook was created to provide guidelines for staff prior to their return to work onsite. In preparation of re-opening, we prepared the museum's Reopen to the Public Guidelines that included several phases each with specific capacity limits.

The closure forced the reconfiguration of the temporary exhibit schedule, particularly since we missed our spring venue for Narwhal: Revealing an Arctic Legend (look for Narwhal in spring 2022). However, since reopening, we have had a successful period of public engagement through exhibits and programs. We reopened our exhibition schedule with Permian Monsters: Life Before Dinosaurs, and ended the year with Facing the Inferno, the Wildfire Photography of Kari Greer. Education programs were suspended until spring 2021, but we were able to present some new public programs such as Storytime at the Sam, Monarchs at the Museum, Let's Craft with Spike, Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead, and Permian Monster Mash and Woolly Mammoth Wonderland as alternatives to our traditional Spooktacular and Holiday Happening events.

Despite the closure and phased research re-start, curators and staff found ways to continue their creative, research and collection management activities. Evidence of the long tradition of scholarly excellence at the museum by curators, staff, research associates, and graduate students, undergraduate students and interns can be seen in the Collections and Research departmental summaries, and lists of grants, contracts and publications in this annual report. Two curators retired this year; Dr. Dan Swan, interim director and curator of ethnology, and Dr. Rich Cifelli, curator of vertebrate paleontology. Both contributed greatly to the success of the museum, were valued colleagues and were respected by their peers worldwide. During Dr. Swan's tenure as interim director, he provided the stable leadership that allowed the museum to weather some of its most difficult times in decades. For this, we should all be thankful.

Although the search for a permanent director remains on hold, Associate Director Dr. Rick Lupia and I remain committed to advancing the mission of the museum during these challenging times. We are fortunate to have two former directors, Drs. Mares and Swan, to serve as our institutional memory and provide counsel when asked.

I want to thank you, our members, for your continued support. Many of you maintained your membership during closure, and that was important to us. In appreciation, we extended all memberships for the time period that we were closed. We also appreciate those of you who donated to support the museum's operations, programs, exhibits and activities. Your memberships and donations are helping us through these difficult financial times and allowing us to fulfill our mission "to inspire minds to understand the world through collection-based research, interpretation and education."

I look forward to 2021 and the hope of a normal world. I am encouraged that repeated surveys report that, "in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, people believe that museums are places where they can visit and feel safe as long as certain safety measures are in place. People love museums and believe that museums are trusted institutions that serve the public and are assets to their communities." I hope that you find that the Sam Noble Museum is that important force in our community that provides a major connection between the university and the people of Oklahoma.

Janet K. Braun, Ph.D.  
Interim Director



# Exhibits

## 2020 Exhibit Scedual

### ***A New Moon Rises***

December 21, 2019 – March 15, 2020

### ***Permian Monsters: Life Before Dinosaurs***

August 4 – November 8, 2020

### ***Facing the Inferno, the Wildfire Photography of Kari Greer***

November 21, 2020 – January 17, 2021

### ***A New Moon Rises***

December 21, 2019 – March 15, 2020

The Moon is not in the same place as when astronauts last stepped foot on it. A New Moon Rises features amazing, large-scale, high-resolution photographs of the lunar surface taken between 2009 and 2015 by the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter Camera (LROC). These images provide unique visual data to help answer our questions about the Moon's formation, its continuing geological evolution, and its relationship to Earth and the solar system.

A New Moon Rises will include over 50 photographs, three videos, one interactive, and files to produce seven additional images, five 3-D models of craters, labels and environmental wall vinyl. Displayed at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in 2016, the exhibition was organized by the museum and the LROC team at Arizona State University.





## ***Permian Monsters: Life Before Dinosaurs***

August 4 – November 8, 2020

Step back 290 million years to a time when bizarre creatures dominated life on land and sea. Learn about these extraordinary creatures and how 90% of all life vanished in the largest extinction event of all time.

The Permian Period ended millions of years before dinosaurs evolved. This unique traveling exhibition brings the past back to life with vivid artwork and scientifically accurate 3-D sculptures that augment an amazing collection of fossils on view.





## ***Facing the Inferno, the Wildfire Photography of Kari Greer***

November 21, 2020 – January 17, 2021

Kari Greer, a former firefighter, specializes in wildland fire photography and editorial photojournalism. She has unprecedented access to aerial operations and accompanies fire crews working side-by-side on attack lines throughout the Western fire season. Her work examines the heightened fire activity seen across the West at a time when people are traveling further into the woods and the land surrounding wildfires is increasingly contested.

The traveling exhibit comes from the Pritchard Art Gallery at the University of Idaho and is a collaboration with the University of Idaho Forest, Rangeland and Fire Science program. It will be on display at the Sam Noble Museum through Jan. 17. It is funded in part through a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and funding from the Idaho Commission on the Arts. Additional contributors to the project include Metal and Paper, the Forest Fire Lookout Association and the Northern Rockies Fire Science Network.





# Education

The Sam Noble Museum seeks to provide the community and learners of all ages with opportunities to expand their curiosity of the natural world. Through a variety of programs, the museum engages Oklahomans onsite and across the state in high-quality science education experiences.

With the museum closure in March and the continued suspension of in-person programming and the Discovery Room due to University of Oklahoma COVID-19 guidelines, the Education Department was unable to conduct the majority of its scheduled programs, outreach activities or ExplorOlogy® field programming. While experiencing significant losses in revenue and traditional sources of public engagement, the museum identified opportunities to utilize staff expertise to create educational content in previously unexplored ways.

In response to the continued need for quality science educational resources for K-12 youth and families during the pandemic, the museum developed [Sam Noble Home](#).

Adult Programs

**1** program,  
**35** participants

Discovery Room Sessions

**11** programs,  
**240** participants

School Educational Programs

**36** programs,  
**874** participants

Discovery Kits

**9** reservations,  
**839** participants



Sam Noble Home



**20**  
activities



**45**  
activities



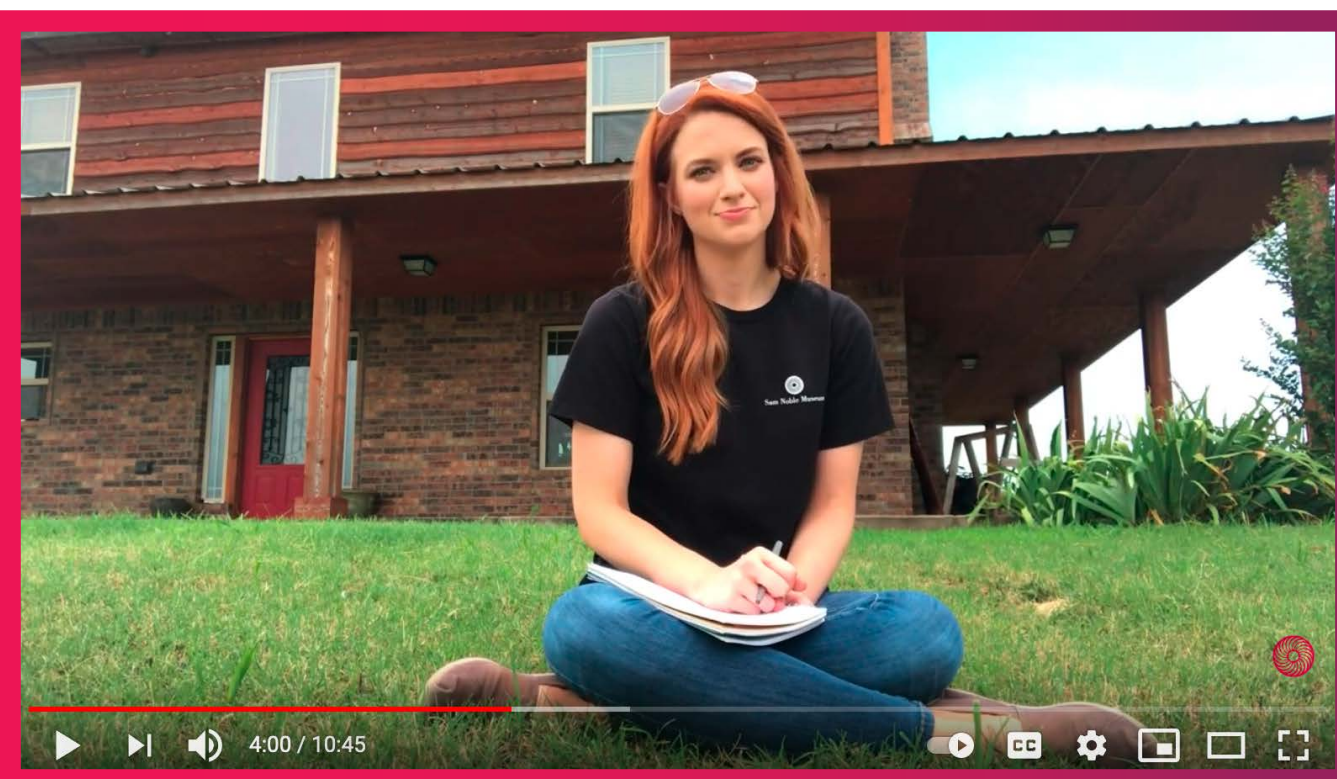
**10**  
activities

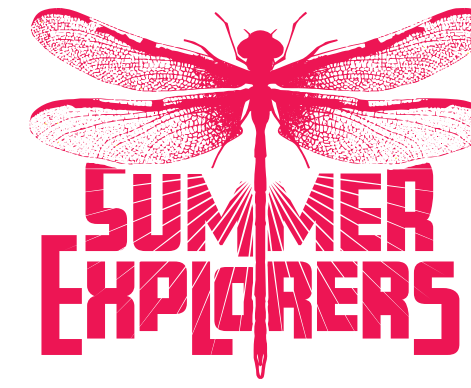


**24**  
activities

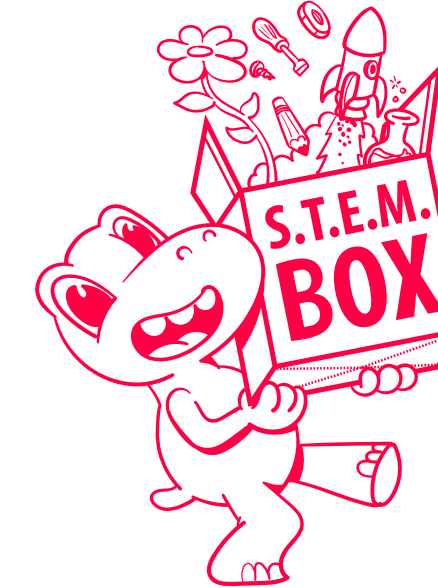


**Fantastic Fossils,  
Get Growing!**





Scientists *in the*  
Classroom



Wild  
Yoga



# Sam Noble Home

In response to the continued need for quality science educational resources for K-12 youth and families during the pandemic, the museum developed Sam Noble Home. Sam Noble Home is a suite of virtual content designed to introduce and reinforce science concepts in multiple formats. Collaborating with staff across multiple museum departments, including curators, collections managers, education staff, exhibits staff, and marketing and public relations staff, the museum generated a variety of new programming ranging from Facebook Live events and video demonstrations to a virtual art contest and a virtual form of the popular Summer Explorers camps.

The education department staff created over 100 science and engineering activities designed to be conducted at home using minimal supplies. In addition, two STEM Boxes were created for sale in the museum gift store. Each themed box contains step-by-step directions and supplies needed to complete hands-on activities that meet educational standards for grades K to 5.

The exhibits department staff contributed to the Sam Noble Home platform by creating numerous graphics and illustrations for use in the online programming such as coloring pages and graphics for STEM activities.

The marketing and public relations staff reviewed, edited and formatted all of the Sam Noble Home content, then published it online. The department then used a variety of digital advertising methods including social media channels, email newsletters and press releases to promote Sam Noble Home.

Through the activities of Sam Noble Home, the museum successfully engaged audiences virtually and developed the capacity to produce diverse, accessible digital content. As the museum looks to resume some in-person programming in 2021, the creation of virtual content to support distance-learning will remain a focus.



# Research and Collections

## Overview

The 2020 calendar year will perhaps be remembered most for what we, as a museum, a university, a state and a country, could not do. Challenged by the circumstances and consequences of a global pandemic, we were compelled in March to close the Sam Noble Museum to staff and volunteers, students and visitors. Nevertheless, as our faculty curators moved classes online and research and collection management activities into home offices, the work of the museum continued.

In 2020, curators and collection staff published over **50** articles and **one** book, and curated an exhibit documenting and increasing the understanding of the natural world while actively working on over **\$4,400,000** in grants from diverse agencies, including the National Science Foundation, Institute for Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Park Service, among others, and mentoring **20** graduate students. Curators and collection staff gave over 40 scientific and informal presentations using streaming media. COVID-19 strongly affected collection operations due to closure. In 2020, curators and collection staff cataloged over **45,000** specimens, sent **88** loans and over **110,000** specimens/objects out for use by other researchers, engaged

with 168 visitors to the collections and responded to over **400** information requests from the public and peers.

When we reopened, gradually, first to researchers and their students, and then to all staff and finally to patrons, challenges remained. Among them, the continued physical absence of our volunteers who give their time, apply their skills and work with pride in our collections and labs, as well as throughout the museum, was acutely felt. Nevertheless, several research departments worked with Lindsey Kaib, volunteer coordinator, to develop “tele-volunteering” options and our volunteers stepped up and helped out. The Division of Collections and Research recognizes and thanks the 190 adult and student volunteers who donated thousands of hours still in 2020.

## Oklahoma Collection of Genomic Resources

The collection currently contains 22,711 samples and 51,393 aliquots from 678 genera and 1,153 species. While collection growth was maintained at ~86% compared to last year, growth was impacted by the reduction in field research activities due to COVID-19 restrictions.



## Department of Mammalogy

Dr. Janet K. Braun was appointed interim director, effective July 1, 2020. Dr. Braun, assisted by Dr. Michael A. Mares and Dr. Brandi S. Coyner, provided an independent scientific review of the USFWS Species Status Assessment Report for the Texas Kangaroo Rat. Giovanni Tolentino Ramos, M.S. student, was awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship award from the National Science Foundation and was selected for an Outstanding Graduate Student award by the University of Oklahoma Latinx Coalition. Addison Allen, M.S. student, was also recognized by the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program with an honorable mention.

## Department of Herpetology

Departmental research resulted in the discovery and description of four new species of frogs, one new species of nematode and nine new species of lizards in 2020. Research led by Clark University with Dr. Siler as senior scientist and principal investigator on the National Science Foundation grant was featured in the *New York Times*. The 2020 study, published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, revealed the unexpected re-evolution of a four-limbed body plan in lizards that had already evolved to be snake-like. Curator Emeritus Dr. Janalee Caldwell had an Amazonian frog species named in her honor in 2020: *Allobates caldwellae* (Dendrobatidae).

## Department of Ichthyology

Six new research associates joined the department offering multiple research opportunities to undertake broad but in-depth investigations of the evolutionary biology and ecology of fishes. The department received an official letter of intent from the University of Puerto Rico to donate the largest collection of marine fishes in the Caribbean to the Ichthyology Collection at the Sam Noble Museum.

## Department of Ornithology

The preparation of bird specimens was suspended in mid-March due to the closure of the university, museum and the suspension of the volunteer program. Other collection management activities were also reduced or suspended through the end of the year. Imaging of specimen tags continued (23,203 total images to date) as part of an inventory and data verification project.

## Department of Recent Invertebrates

The preparation and cataloging of invertebrate specimens was suspended in mid-March due to the closure of the university, museum and the suspension of the volunteer program. Other collection management activities were also reduced or suspended through the end of the year. New cabinet labels were created and installed. New drawer labels were created; labels are in review and will be installed in early 2021.

## Department of Archaeology

The Archaeology Department was awarded a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Consultation/Documentation grant for \$90,000. This is the department's sixth NAGPRA grant in a row, for a total of over a half-million dollars. The department also published three NAGPRA Notices of Inventory Completion in the Federal Register, including a total of 142 sets of human remains and 207 associated funerary objects. Finally, the department completed an oral history project with Curator Emeritus Dr. Don Wyckoff.

## Department of Ethnology

Dr. Daniel C. Swan, interim director, curator and professor of anthropology, retired in 2020. He received the 2020 Annual Book Award from the Council for Museum Anthropology and an Honorable Mention for the 2020 Wayland D. Hand, Book Prize for History and Folklore from American Folklore Society; both for *Wedding Clothes and the Osage Community: A Giving Heritage* (with J. Cooley). The department added significant new collections through acquisitions made possible by the Fred and Enid Brown Collection Endowment. The museum acquired important examples of Native American traditional arts from Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wisconsin. A key highlight was a substantial number of beadwork items from Oklahoma, ca. 1960-80. Artists include Buleah Larney (Cheyenne), Mary Little Bear Inkanish (Cheyenne), Laverna Capes (Kiowa/ Wichita) and Paul and Gina Mc Daniels (Kiowa).

## Department of Native American Languages

This year the Native American Languages Collection received two national grants, one from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the other from the National Endowment for the Humanities, to improve digital collection infrastructure and plan the creation of a new public interface. The department hosted a series of six virtual workshops for depositors

and archival professionals to engage in a dialogue about the future of the collection. The department also designed a custom archival metadata CMS and began preparations to migrate to the new system.

## Department of Vertebrate Paleontology

Dr. Richard L. Cifelli, curator and presidential professor of biology, retired in 2020 after 34 years of distinguished service to the museum, the Department of Biology and OU. Vertebrate paleontology volunteer Delfar Grant celebrated the 100th anniversary of his birth in 2020.

## Department of Invertebrate Paleontology

The Invertebrate Paleontology Department continued working on imaging and documenting Cretaceous fossils for National Science Foundation collections grant on faunas of the Western Interior Seaway. Prior to the March shutdown, the project allowed the employment of several students to assist in imaging and other curation tasks. After the shutdown, activities shifted to photography of trilobite collections, processing of Cretaceous fossil images and updating the general collection database.

## Department of Paleobotany, Micropaleontology and Mineralogy

Despite COVID-19 impacting operations, the Paleobotany Collection continued working on the pteridophyte grant by taking 2,235 total photographs and cataloging. Collection staff gave two public presentations on paleobotany and the grant, as well as participated in online discussions, conferences and trainings for professional development and for the development of digitization standards. Dr. Richard Lupia was appointed associate director in July 2020.



## Grants

**Allen, A. G.** 2020. Dietary competition during fire succession influences ecological turnover in a small mammal community. American Society of Mammalogists Graduate Honoraria, Anna M. Jackson Award. **\$2000.**

**Arcila, D.,** and Bemis, K. 2020-2023. Exploring the genomics of convergent snout elongations in deep-sea fishes. National Science Foundation. **\$300,062.**

**Braun, J. K., H. C. Lanier,** and **B. S. Coyner.** 2018-2022. Survey of the Distribution, Habitat, and Current and Historical Presence of White-nose Syndrome in the Tri-colored Bat in Oklahoma. Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. **\$89,960.**

**Casauay, J.** 2020. University of Oklahoma Honors College, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program. Rana Virus Disease Screening in Oklahoma Turtles. **\$800.**

**da Cruz, M.** 2020. Demographic history and genomic variation in North American pikas. University of Oklahoma Adams Summer Research Scholarship. **\$3,400.**

**Eliades, S. J.** 2020-2021. Sunset Zoo – Headstart program for Texas horned lizards at the Oklahoma City Zoo. Robert Klemm, Ph.D, Conservation Scholar Award. **\$2,000.**

**Eliades, S. J.** 2020. Headstart program for Texas horned lizards on Tinker Air Force Base. Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden, Research Fellowship. **\$13,780.**

**Ellsworth, E. D.** 2020. Ecology and Conservation of the Central American River Turtle. Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden, Research Fellowship. **\$20,135.**

**Ellsworth, E. D.** 2020. Ecology and Conservation of the Central American River Turtle. Southwestern Association of Naturalists. **\$1,000.**

**Ellsworth, E. D.** 2020 Ecology and Conservation of the Central American River Turtle. Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. **\$500.**

**Freitas, E. S.** 2019-2020. The phylogenetics, biogeography, and diversity of skinks in the genera *Lygosoma*, *Mochlus*, *Riopa*, and *Subdoluseps* (Squamata: Scincidae). University of Oklahoma, Nancy Mergler Dissertation Completion Fellowship. **\$20,000.**

**Heaton, R.** 2019-2020. Towards an Enenlhet grammar and dictionary. University of Oklahoma Junior Faculty Award. **\$7,000.**

**Heaton, R.** 2020-2021. The Native American Languages Collection: Infrastructure and Stewardship. Institute for Museum and Library Services. **\$80,142.**

**Heaton, R.** 2020-2021. Planning preservation and access for the Native American Languages Collection. National Endowment for the Humanities HCRR Foundations Grant. **\$50,000.**

Kaspari, M., **C. D. Siler,** M. Weiser, K. Marshall, and M. Miller. 2017-2021. Early NEON Science: Research on Biological Systems at Regional to Continental Scales – MSB-FRA: Testing abiotic drivers of activity, abundance, and diversity of ground-dwelling arthropod communities at a continental scale. National Science Foundation. **\$1,509,247.**

Kelly, J., S. Mata, **H. C. Lanier,** K. A. Marske, L. R. Stein. 2020-2021. Effectiveness of computing in modern biology workshops for broadening participation in STEM. Vice Provost for Research and Partnerships, The University of Oklahoma. **\$17,328.**

**Landis, M.** and **R. Lupia.** 2018-2021. Digitization TCN: Collaborative Research: The Pteridological Collections Consortium: An integrative approach to pteridophyte diversity over the last 420 million. National Science Foundation. **\$38,937.**

**Lanier, H. C.** 2020-2022. Bank vole genome sequencing collaboration. Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics, Czech Academy of Sciences. **\$90,278.**

**Lanier, H. C.** 2020-2023. Collaborative Research: Squirreling Around for Science: Incorporating Sciurid Behavioral Research into the Undergraduate Curriculum. National Science Foundation. **\$160,524.**

**Lanier, H. C.** 2020-2021. Linking dispersal and population connectivity across scales in the collared pika. OU Research Council. **\$7,000.**

**Levine, M.** and **S. Fishman-Armstrong.** 2016-2021 contract. Curation of archaeological materials from Camp Gruber at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History National Guard Bureau, Oklahoma Military Department. **\$12,710.**

**Levine, M.** and **S. Fishman-Armstrong.** 2015-2020 contract. Archaeological Curation Services at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. U.S. Army Tulsa District, Corps of Engineers. **\$254,139.**

**Levine, M.** and **S. Fishman-Armstrong.** 2016-2021. Bureau of Reclamation Cooperative Agreement. **\$135,531.**

**Levine, M.** and **S. Fishman-Armstrong .** 2018-2020. Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Consultation/Documentation Grant. National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. **\$89,999.**

**Levine, M.** and **S. Fishman-Armstrong.** 2019-2021. Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Consultation/Documentation Grant,” (2019), National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior: **\$90,000.**

**Levine, M.** and **S. Fishman-Armstrong.** 2020-2022. Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Consultation/Documentation Grant. National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. **\$90,000.**

**Levine, M.** and **S. Fishman-Armstrong.** 2020-2021. Archaeological Curation Services at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. U.S. Army Tulsa District, Corps of Engineers. **\$35,202.**

**Lupia, R.** and **R. Cifelli.** 2019-2024. Collaborative Research: Time of Transformation: integrating the dynamic geologic, climatic and biotic systems of North America during the Early to Late Cretaceous transition. National Science Foundation. **\$374,543.**

**Melendez, F.** 2020-2024. University of Oklahoma Alumni Fellowship. **\$25,000.**

**Melendez, F.** 2020-2021. Hill Fund Award, University of Oklahoma. **\$500.**



**Siler, C. D., J. L. Watters, H. C. Lanier,** K. A. Marske, K. Sankaranarayanan, R. Snyder, B. Lock, and L. Barrett. 2020-2023. Establishment of a viable headstart and release program for Texas Horned Lizards (*Phrynosoma cornutum*) in Oklahoma. Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. **\$222,053.**

**Siler, C. D., J. L. Watters,** T. Yuri, and L. Souza. 2016-2020. Detecting Native Aquatics Network (DNANet)—A novel biodiversity freshwater monitoring program for native aquatic and semi-aquatic species using Environmental DNA. Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. **\$134,235.**

**Siler, C. D. and J. L. Watters.** 2018-2021. Monitoring population health, spatial ecology, and microbiome diversity of the Texas horned lizard on Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. Department of Defense, Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit. **\$141,827.**

**Siler, C. D., J. L. Watters,** and K. A. Marske. 2020-2023. Seasonal variation in emergent amphibian and turtle infectious diseases in Oklahoma and temporal risk assessment for wildlife conservation. Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. **\$109,070.**

**Siler, C. D., J. L. Watters,** and K.A. Marske. 2019-2022. Assessment of Texas Horned Lizard population status in western Oklahoma. Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. **\$89,972.**

**Siler, C. D.,** J. Daza, T. Gamble, and M. Heinicke. 2017-2020. Collaborative Research: From Exaptation to Key Innovation - Evolutionary Insights from Gliding Geckos. National Science Foundation. **\$322,230.**

Smith, K. and **N. Czaplewski.** 2020. Exploration and collection of fossil vertebrates from the Morrison Formation near Kenton, Oklahoma, and Ogallala Formation in western counties of Oklahoma. Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Choctaw Tribal Nations, Native Explorers Foundation, and the Whitten-Burrage Law Firm. **\$44,009.35**—CANCELED due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Smith, K., E. Miller, and **N. Czaplewski.** 2020. Guiding American Indians in medical and STEM career awareness through Native Explorers. Mellam Family Fund. **\$10,000**—CANCELED due to COVID-19 pandemic.

**Smith, S. N.** 2020. Interrelationships Between Invasive Species and Wildlife Disease in the Philippines. Fulbright Fellowship, Research Award. **\$11,900.**

Stein, L., **Lanier, H., Siler, C.,** Marske, K., Rowe, A., and **D. Arcila.** 2020-2022. BII-Design: Institute for the biogeography of behavior. National Science Foundation. **\$199,170.**

**Stroh, K.** 2020. University of Oklahoma Honors College, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program. Amphibian Infectious Disease Presence at Mt. Palay-palay, Luzon, Philippines. **\$996.**

**Tolentino Ramos, G.** 2020-2023. Graduate Research Fellowship Program National Science Foundation. **\$138,000.**

**Tolentino Ramos, G.** 2020-2021. Research Traineeship Fellowship, National Science Foundation. **\$39,000.**

**Tolentino Ramos, G.** 2020. Back to the Past: delimiting the effects of climate change through historical specimens. American Society of Mammalogists Patton Award. **\$5,000.**

**Tolentino Ramos, G.** 2020-2021. Source or sink? Evaluating population structure in collared pikas in Alaska. American Philosophical Society, Lewis and Clark Field Scholarship. **\$5,000.**

**Tolentino Ramos, G.** 2020. Back to the Past: tracking the effects of climate change through resampling historical sites. American Museum of Natural History, Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Fund. **\$3,497.**

**Troyer, E.** 2020-2024. Leota McGuire Fellowship, University of Oklahoma. **\$7500.**

**Troyer, E.** 2020-2021. Adams Research Scholarship, University of Oklahoma. **\$3500.**

**Troyer, E.** 2020-2021. Robberson Research Grant, University of Oklahoma. **\$1500**

**Troyer, E.** 2020-2021. Hill Fund Award, University of Oklahoma. **\$500.**

**Ward, S. J. E.** 2020-2021. Graduate Student Senate Research Award; The University Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma. **\$750.**

**Ward, S. J. E.** 2020. Hill Fund Award; The University of Oklahoma Department of Biology, Norman, Oklahoma. Research grant. **\$500.**

**Westrop, S. R.** 2017-2021. Digitization PEN: Expanding and enhancing a TCN digitizing fossils to reconstruct evolving ecosystems the Cretaceous Western Interior Seaway. National Science Foundation. **\$102,369.**





# Public Relations & Marketing

Followers **15,362**

Followers **3,610**

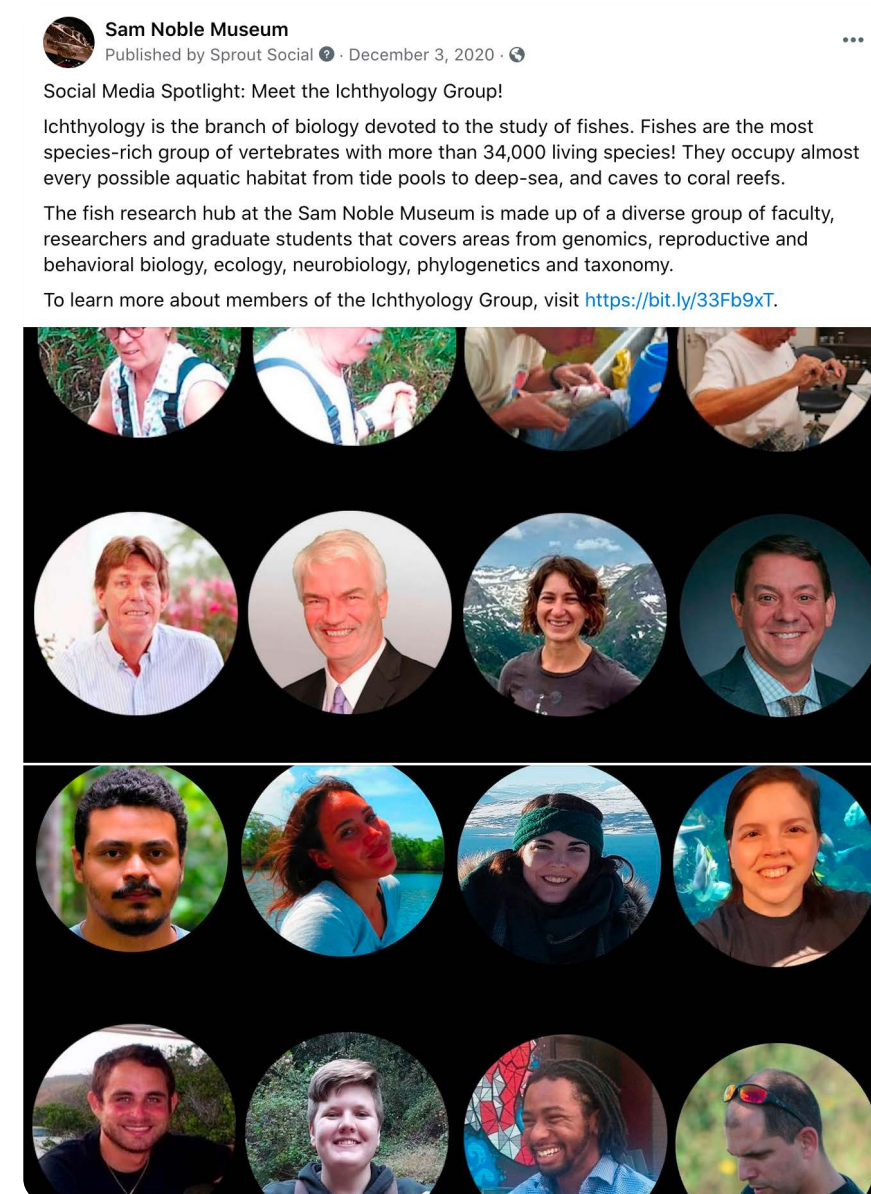
Followers **2,607**

Over the past year, the department continued using digital marketing methods to promote the museum's exhibits, programs and events.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the marketing and public relations department played a crucial role in the creation of the museum's virtual programming platform, [Sam Noble Home](#), throughout the spring.

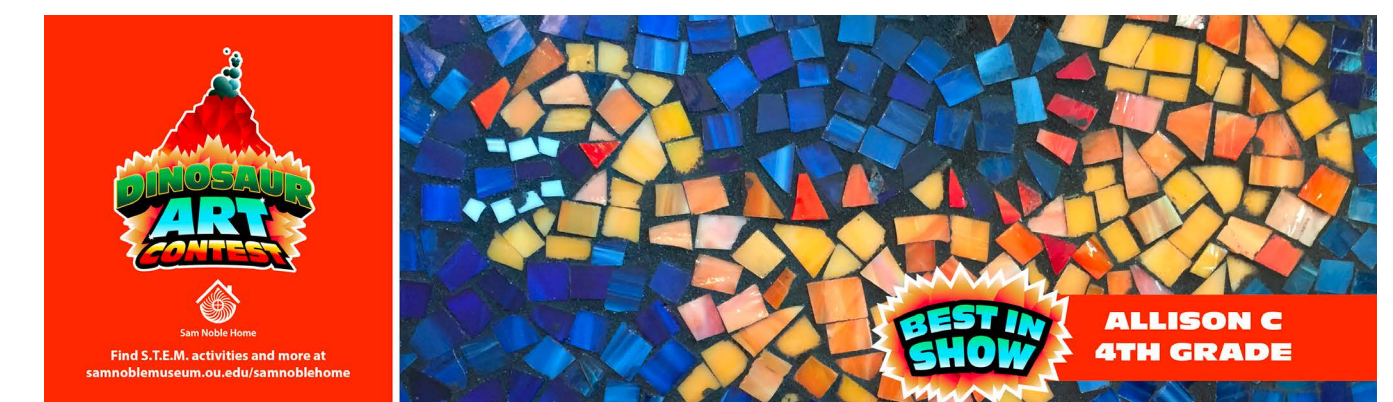
In the summer, marketing and public relations staff assisted the museum's education department in creating a virtual Summer Explorers camp in lieu of the traditional in-person camps. The education department created short, educational videos on a variety of topics which the marketing and public relations department then uploaded to the museum's YouTube channel.

The department also grew its social media content by partnering with other staff members. Live videos of behind-the-scenes tours, Q & A's with curators and collection managers and research demonstrations drew in viewers across the state and nation. The videos were shared on the museum's Facebook and Instagram accounts. In addition, a variety of museum staff members and volunteers were featured on the museum's Facebook account in a special Social Media Spotlight campaign.



After working from home for several months, department staff returned in-person to the museum in July, where they assisted with publishing and promoting new health and safety guidelines for visitors in preparation of the museum's reopening to the public in the fall. The department filmed a walk-through video that explained all of the new policies and procedures, which was also published to the museum's YouTube channel.

After the museum officially reopened to the public in August, marketing and public relations staff worked with the Visitors Services department and public programs coordinator to start promoting new events and programs that adhered to safety guidelines issued by the University of Oklahoma and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.





# Financials



Revenue from birthday parties  
and number of participants

**\$475 / 49**

Revenue from Program Fees and  
number of visitors participants

**\$1,115 / 35**

Revenue from admissions and  
total number of attendees

**\$66,383.88 / 14,027**

Revenue from memberships, and active  
members

**\$17,120 / 853**

Revenue from donations and gifts

**\$83,263.34**



# Donors



## Museum Circle \$5,000-\$24,999

The Bilby Foundation  
David L. Boren  
Janet Braun  
Michael Mares

## Director's Circle \$1,000-\$4,999

Brandi Coyner  
Craig & Maria Abbott  
Cal Hobson  
Claren M. Kidd  
Darryl L. Rhoads  
Eric Sherburn & Leigh Ann Moss  
Oklahoma City Zoological Trust  
Rod & Janene Davis

## Curator's Circle \$500-\$999

Carl E. Engelman  
CustomInk LLC  
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Semiole nation of Oklahoma

## Supporters \$250-\$499

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Charles W. Hollen  
Karol E. Kourtis  
Kirk Milby & Rebecca Darrow  
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

## Contributors \$100-\$249

Douglas Almond  
Linda S. Baldwin & Billy Baldwin  
Paula Baker  
Marion C. & Dianne Bauman  
Tracy Bidwell  
Tevarhee L. & Marshall Brackin  
Cleo Brown  
William D. Butcher  
Jock A. and Cia Campbell  
Gregg C. Carr  
Meg B. & Fred Carr  
William V. Clark  
Joe Carter  
Nancy Pees Coleman  
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Edith C. Marsh-Matthews & Bill Matthews  
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Diane Willis  
Ellen Wisdom & Robert Griswold  
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Nancy & Jim Yoch  
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# Museum Publications

**Armstrong, M. A., S. R. Westrop**, J. D. Eoff. 2020. Systematics of a survivor: the late Cambrian kingstoniid trilobite *Blountia* across the Marjuman–Steptoean (Guzhanghian–Paibian) extinction interval in Laurentian North America. *Zootaxa* 4804:1–79.

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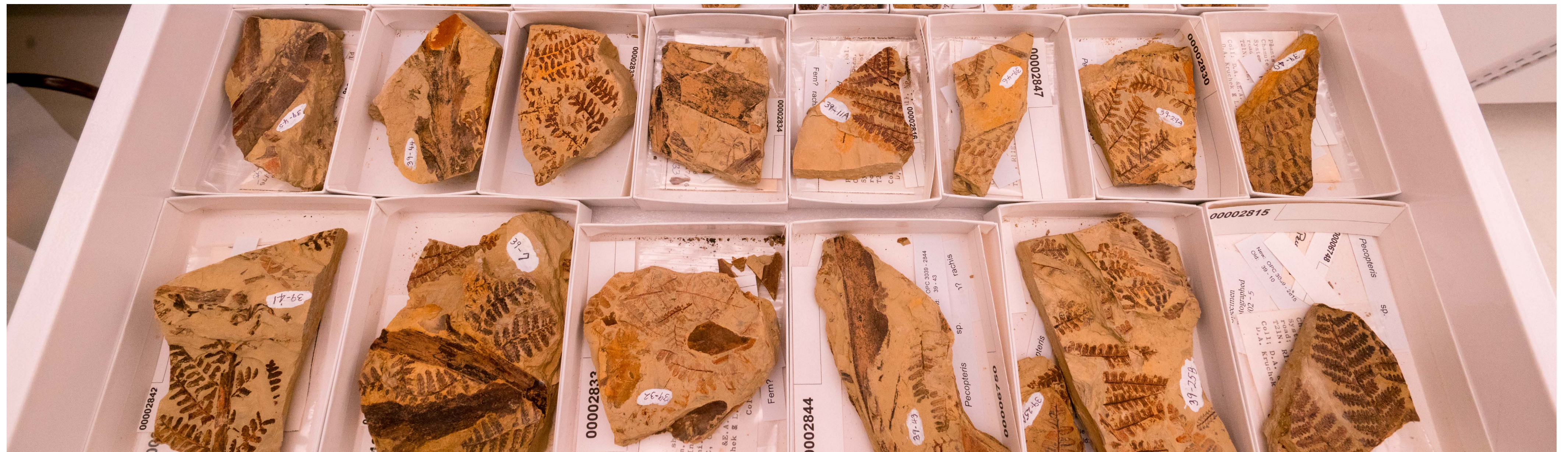
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- Varner, J., **H. C. Lanier**, J. M. Duggan, L. Dizney, E. A. Flaherty, P. K. Connors, L. P. Erb, C. Yahnke, and J. D. Hanson. 2020. How many squirrels are in the shrubs? A lesson for comparing methods for population estimation. *CourseSource*. <https://doi.org/10.24918/cs.2020.6>
- Wang, K.**, S. Bhattara, Y. Wu, J. Che, and **C.D. Siler**. 2020. Resurrection of *Amolops nepalicus* Yang, 1991 (Amphibia: Anura: Ranidae), with comments on the record of *A. cf. afghanus* in Nepal and China and the validity of two other junior synonyms of *A. marmoratus* (Blyth, 1855). *Zootaxa* 4819:143–158. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4819.1.7>
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# Volunteers

In the beginning of 2020, the volunteer program engaged volunteers in continuing education events, collaborated on new projects and celebrated at the annual volunteer appreciation dinner. When the onsite volunteer program was suspended in mid-March due to COVID-19 precautions, our group of dedicated volunteers seized the opportunity to work with various departments on virtual projects to help make museum-related information more widely available and accessible to all. Volunteers also did not hesitate to help with take home projects which helped make STEM boxes and public programs a success. Sam Noble Museum volunteers never cease to amaze us with their support and love for the museum!

Alarcon, Kat	Carlile, Allie	Dunn, Luceen
Allen, Darlene	Carlone, Casey	Dysart, Jo Ann
Allen, John	Carr, Meg	Edwards, Randy
Ambuehl, Alan	Cartwright, Lathan	Edwards, Tommy
Ambuehl, Linda	Casauay, Jed	Elliott, Adam
Arnold, Darin	Cassidy, Patricia	Elliott, Erin
Ashbacher, Mariah	Christenson, Elizabeth	Erickson,
Baalke, Joe	Clinton, Jack	Elwood Margaret
Bailey, Vicki	Coleman, Nancy	Everaard, Ronald
Barton, Destiny	Cornelius, Melanie	Fematt, Estefania
Bates, Caleb	Cornelius, Terry	Ferguson, Karen
Beers, Robert	Crenshaw, Ella	Fick, Zachary
Bennett, Jim	Cummings, Patty	Flansburg, Dirk
Bernstein, Thomas	Dalke, DeAnna	Foster, Makayla
Biddick, Laura	Dalke, Sandra	Franklin, Darlyne
Bolino, John	Dewey, Jen	Franklin, Gerald
Bolt, Charlie	Dickson, Theresa	Fredrickson, Sherman
Braun, Betty	Dimitrijevic, Martina	Galvez, Gabby
Brewer, Jennifer	Dols, Matthew	Garrison, Carmelita
Brumley, Tina	Dudley, Meghan	Garrison, Neil
Bryan, Cameron	DuMond, Chari	Garrison, Pat

## Total Hours

4,121

## Number of Volunteers

190

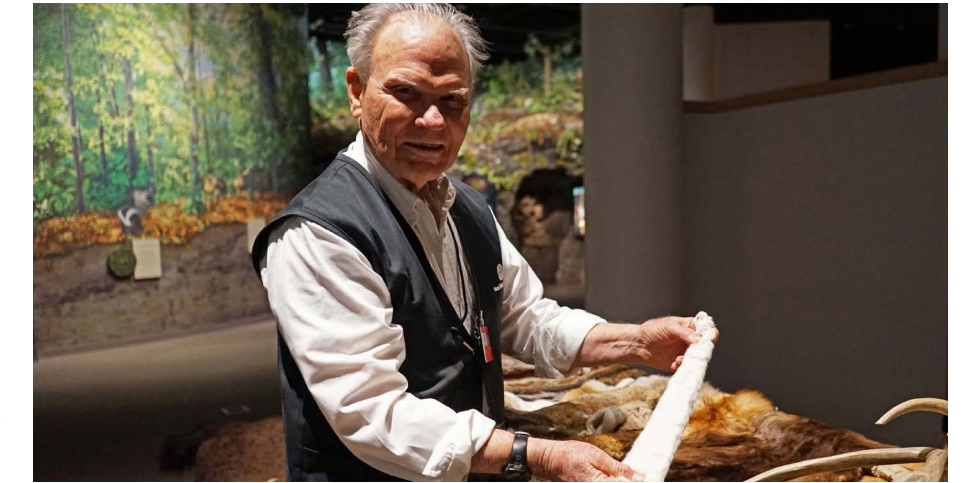
Gibson, Robert  
Gilliam, Jim  
Goble, Carla  
Godsey, Taylor  
Gossard, Nathan  
Graf, Mackenzie  
Grant, Delfar  
Green, Briten  
Gregg, Mason  
Haines, Howard  
Hammond, Marilyn  
Hanna, Kenzie  
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Holder, Ellie  
Holley, James  
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Hubbard, Rachel  
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Hull, Zac  
Hutton, Carol  
Iman, Carol  
Jennings, Jill  
Jensen, Susan  
Johnston, Norman  
Johnston, Sally Mae  
Jovanovic, Alexandra  
Kay, Deborah  
Kelley, Ethan

Knotts, Tom  
Kubier, Lauren  
Larison, Keely  
Leader, Pam  
LeBlanc, Mary  
Lewis, Spencer  
Liesenfeld, Patricia  
Lilly, Carolyn  
Lilly, Chuck  
Litz, Thomas  
Love, Tom  
Loveless, Stacy  
Madison, Sue  
Magruder, Susanna  
Manning, Annalisa  
Mattke, Jacob  
May, Bill  
May, Julie  
May, Kristin  
McCallister, Coral  
McCarley, Kaye  
McCaskill, Lukas  
McCasland, Jean  
McClurkin, Riza  
McLachlin, Mary  
McSpadden, Quincy  
Meldrum, Benjamin  
Messer, Bryce  
Meyer, Becky  
Miller, Bill  
Miller, Janelle  
Miller, Savannah  
Miller, Shannon

Milligan, Meghann  
Monroe, Cara  
Montgomery, Thomas  
Morton, Patrick  
Mullenix, Murphy  
Mychajliw, Alexis  
Nath, Abhinandan  
Nazworth, Laura  
Nelson, David  
Nickell, Cassidy  
Norris, Jordan  
O'Neil, Wanda  
Owen, Kayci  
Pailes, Roberta  
Peake, Frederick  
Perry, Jacob  
Perry, John  
Pool, Samuel  
Powell, Chance  
Price, Samuel  
Ratliff, Lisa  
Reese, Beverly  
Roberts, Erin  
Ross, Nance  
Rowe, Jayme  
Rubin, Diane  
Salmon, Jeanne  
Scott, Donovan  
Shell, Rodger  
Simpson, Joanna  
Smith, Kat  
Spence, Bronwyn  
St. John, Edi

## Volunteer of the year 2020

Howard Haines



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Ryan Deligans

Becky Franklin

J. Ross Kirtley

Brad Mallett

Tim W. Munson

David Nimmo

Lars Noble

Becky Samples

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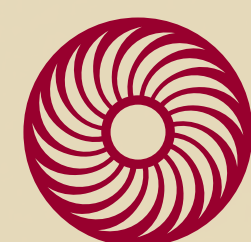
Carolyn Taylor

Reggie Whitten (Chair)

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