

# VISTAS



From the desk of Lesley White, Foundation Director  
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## GROW GREEN

April 21, 2023

Join us on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> as we participate in the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation (GMCF) GROW GREEN MATCH DAY! Your generosity during last year's GROW GREEN secured almost \$15,000 for the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation.



What are the benefits of your GROW GREEN match day gift? Our Youth Education Endowment was founded in 2016. These funds go to the FHDC Education Department to enhance programming and inspire youth to CELEBRATE, EXPLORE, and PRESERVE the Flint Hills. Be on the lookout for more information and if able, please make your charitable gift on April 21!



## Friend of the Flint Hills - Mark Nutsch

April 28<sup>th</sup>

On April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 we celebrate Mark Nutsch, as our 12<sup>th</sup> "Friend of the Flint Hills" at the Flint Hills Discovery Center.

Nutsch, who grew up in Washington County, led a 12-member Green Beret-Special Forces ODA-595 Unit that used horses to defeat the Taliban and Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan after September 11<sup>th</sup>. One of the first teams to enter Afghanistan, unaware they would be traveling by horseback. Nutsch's knowledge of riding, ranching, and horsemanship contributed significantly to his team's success. Nutsch's mission has been called the most successful, unconventional warfare campaign in modern history. Portions of this story can be seen in the major Hollywood movie, *12 Strong*, where Nutsch is portrayed by actor Chris Hemsworth. Today, Nutsch and several of his "band of brothers" own and operate American Freedom Distillery - their "legacy in a bottle."

Mark Nutsch became the National Honorary Chair of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation in 2019. The NEXT VISTAS campaign raised \$3.2 million for capital projects at the Center, programs, and endowment.

To learn more about the April 28th event or to purchase tickets online, go to <http://auctria.events/2023FOTFH> or contact Foundation Director, Lesley White, at [fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com](mailto:fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com) or 785-748-1275.

## Kansas Art Projects

A new exhibit featuring artists from across the state spotlights favorite Kansas sites with a fresh new style.

Channeling the beloved National Parks posters of the 1930s and '40s, nine Kansas artists re-envisioned outdoor spaces to

create unique new images of Kansas landscapes. Encouraging the appreciation of outdoor spaces, the artists aimed to inspire and spark the imagination.



The community is invited to view these works of art from March 1 through March 31, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 12-5 p.m. The display is free and open to the public. Those wishing to explore the exhibits beyond the atrium must pay the general admission fee.

In an earlier era, artists employed by the WPA Federal Art Project developed a distinctive style to promote America's National Parks and areas of natural beauty. The simple, yet elegant approach to illustrating the natural world became a majestic visual vocabulary stirring wonder and wanderlust. The nine artworks of the *See Kansas Art Project* celebrate readily available natural and historic sites, communicating how outdoor spaces can ignite powerful visual art. The artists invite Kansans to see familiar spaces with fresh eyes. You are encouraged to visit, embrace, experience, and in turn, be inspired. Featured artists:

<b><i>Castle Rock</i></b>	<i>Stephanie Lane Gage</i>	<i>Lawrence</i>
<b><i>Flint Hills: Konza Prairie</i></b>	<i>Mary Gordon McFall</i>	<i>Manhattan</i>
<b><i>Kansas River National Water Trail</i></b>	<i>Lisa Grossman</i>	<i>Lawrence</i>
<b><i>Keeper of the Plains</i></b>	<i>Ric Dunwoody</i>	<i>Wichita</i>
<b><i>Monument Rocks</i></b>	<i>Mary R. Gage</i>	<i>Lawrence</i>
<b><i>Nicodemus National Historic Site</i></b>	<i>Jordan Brooks</i>	<i>Topeka</i>
<b><i>Rock City National Natural Landmark</i></b>	<i>Michelle Leivan</i>	<i>Topeka</i>
<b><i>Santa Fe Trail: Pawnee Rock</i></b>	<i>Lana Grove</i>	<i>Lawrence</i>
<b><i>Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve</i></b>	<i>Lori Stanziola</i>	<i>Overland Park</i>

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### The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation

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VISTAS is provided to advance the cause of philanthropy in support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center.