

From the desk of Lesley White, Foundation Director
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Foundation Provides Passenger Van to Discovery Center

The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation has funded a new 15 - passenger van for the Discovery Center. The Discovery Center delivers several youth, and adult education programs across Kansas and takes classes and groups into the Flint Hills.



The \$54,000 purchase from Briggs Auto Group was made possible by Foundation donors. The Foundation's annual fund fundraising programs help fund projects like the van. Our Spring Friend of the Flint Hill's Celebration, our Bison, Beef & Bourbon Gala, our Grow Green Day, and our year-end direct mail appeal raise charitable gifts to help with educational and other needs of the Center.

"The Foundation has provided more than \$3 million in funding to the City of Manhattan for the Discovery Center in the last ten years," said Bruce Snead, Foundation President. "The impact on the Center - its visitors, its educational programming, and its economic impact on Manhattan and the other communities of the Flint Hills - cannot be overstated. With annual attendance reaching 80,000 the original vision for the Kansas Flint Hills Discovery Center is being realized. We thank each of you!"



Gala, October 20, 2022

The Foundation is gearing up for its 3rd Annual Bison, Beef & Bourbon Fundraising Gala on Thursday, October 20, at 6:0 pm at the Wareham in downtown Manhattan. Grab your boots and hats and join us for an evening of Bison, Beef and Bourbon!

The night includes heavy hors d'oeuvres featuring bison and beef cuisine, complimentary beer and wine, signature cocktails and Mark Nutsch's Horse Soldier Bourbon! Entertainment for the evening is Heartland Dueling Pianos as well as a silent auction! Experience the Flint Hills and help raise funds for the Discovery Center!

(GALA CONTINUED) If you are interested in being a Bison, Beef and Bourbon sponsor, donation levels start at \$250. Contact the Foundation office at fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com, or call 785 748 1275, or go to the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation Facebook page for more information as well as ticket information. Tickets will go on sale September 1st!

Exhibits, Programs and Summer Draw Record Participants

Your support matters! The new Prairie Playscape and summer exhibition “Big League Fun” has record crowds visiting the Discovery Center. Summer Adventure Camp, a youth education program, was filled to capacity this summer. The Center’s educational staff provided programming on the Blue Earth Plaza as part of the Flint Hills Festival. Splash of Science and a new Friday session were conducted this summer. The Outdoor Classroom Program Series - The Nature Explorers Jr., Prairie Garden Walks, and the Nature Together programs launch this Fall.

During the summer months (as of the time this memo was printed) 63 educational programs were delivered benefiting more than 2,000 students and more than 600 visitors participated in 19 group programs. Since January more than 39,000 children and adults have visited the Discovery Center to learn, explore and experience the Kansas Flint Hills!

Pat Orazem, FHDC Board Member

We are thrilled to have Pat as a new foundation board member. Her passion for the Flint Hills, its people, and experience and knowledge in business makes her a valuable member of the Board of Directors. Pat has been an active volunteer for FHDC since the year it opened its doors.



Pat Orazem, a native of Marshall County, Kansas moved to Manhattan in 1981. She is married to Tom Orazem of Orazem and Scalora Engineering. Pat is retired but had her own business for 16 years. She worked in retail/management. While her kids were growing up, she was an active volunteer for USD 383 libraries and the school district. She has also worked for the Manhattan Parks and Recreation Dept. as a senior activity leader. Pat has 3 children and 2 grandchildren.

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