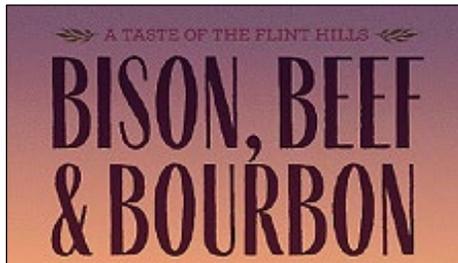

From the desk of Lesley White, Foundation Director
November 2022 / Volume 6, Issue 5



THANK YOU! \$98,000 Raised

A full house at the Wareham Theatre – about 300 – helped raise more than \$98,000 for the Foundation’s 3rd Annual BISON, BEEF & BOURBON Gala.

Dueling pianos provided the entertainment as guests made the silent and live auction a success and helped raise \$66,000 for the Fund the Need portion of the evening. A dollar-for-dollar challenge grant from an anonymous donor helped set a record for fund-the-need. Great weather and a busy downtown Manhattan added to the night’s experience. I want to personally thank my board of directors, Discovery Center staff, and other volunteers for making the night possible.

More than \$12,000 in underwriter and table sponsorships were secured before the evening arrived. We extend our heartfelt thanks to each of these sponsors!

Ascension Via Christi

Bruce & Leslie Snead

Carl & Mary Ice

Central National Bank

Chuck & Sue Rice

Dan & Beth Bird

Grand Central Hotel & Grill

Jack Lindquist

John & Karen McCulloh

Landoll, Inc.

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Bo & Robert Swanson

Roger & Kathleen Lanksbury

Stifel & Nicolaus

Tim & Anne de Noble

The Trust Company

Varneys & Associates

WTC Communications

“Stepping into the Prairie” Project \$200,000 Challenge Must Be Met

The week after the Gala the Discovery Center received formal notice it is the recipient of a \$200,000 grant to fund the design and construction of the new immersive experience on the first floor of the Flint Hills Discovery Center which will enhance the Discovery Center’s visitor experience, improve regional quality of life, and positively impact Manhattan and the State.

The Discovery Center Foundation must match the grant to receive it. The Foundation has already raised \$56,000 towards this challenge. “The FHDC Foundation is thrilled to have this opportunity to support a dramatic addition to the first floor of the Discovery Center,” said Bruce Snead, Foundation President. “We know our supporters will jump at the opportunity to secure matching funds to make this dream a reality.”

(CONTINUED) The challenge provided by a State of Kansas TASK program is to provide one-time funding opportunities for the development of a new or an enhancement of existing tourism attractions in the State of Kansas. The Flint Hills Discovery Center is one of only eight Kansas sites receiving such a grant this year.

The new exhibit will use high-definition projectors, surround sound speakers, and motion-sensing devices to create a virtual Flint Hills environment that reacts to guests in the space. The exhibit will feature the sights and sounds of the tallgrass prairie digitally recreated to produce an immersive educational experience. The Discovery Center already draws more than 80,000 participants a year. Combined with the new Children's Play Scape on the second floor Center leaders believe participation will reach 100,000.

How People Make Things: **New Exhibit – Opened Sept 24th**

How People Make Things celebrates the people, the manufacturing processes, and the technology used to make everyday objects in our world. It tells the story of how familiar childhood objects are made and how people, ideas, and technology transform raw materials into finished products.

Kids can try firsthand the tools and processes used to make everyday objects in an immersive play factory environment. *How People Make Things* opened on **September 24, 2022, and runs until January 8, 2023.** Have fun and learn!

Mark Nutsch, **Next VISTAS Honorary Chair, Honored**

Mark, former army commander, and Washington native, along with his special forces Green Beret unit will be honored on November 19th at 10 a.m. at the Washington, KS courthouse lawn. Mark and his team were the first to enter Afghanistan after the attack on September 11th. Their mission was immortalized in the book and movie, TWELVE STRONG. The memorial will be placed to the east of the current Horse Soldier monument and will feature a piece from the World Trade Center.



Over the past three years, the Flint Hills Discovery Center and Foundation have been honored to have Mark Nutsch serve as the honorary chairman for our Next VISTAS Campaign which has raised \$3.2 million. Although our campaign is ending at the end of the year, Mark continues his relationship with the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation and Center. If you can make it, come to Washington, KS and honor these American heroes!

The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation

315 S. 3rd Street, Manhattan, KS 66502
(785) 748-1275 / fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com

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