

From the desk of V. Marie Martin
Foundation Director, April 8, 2019
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Dear Flint Hills Friends,

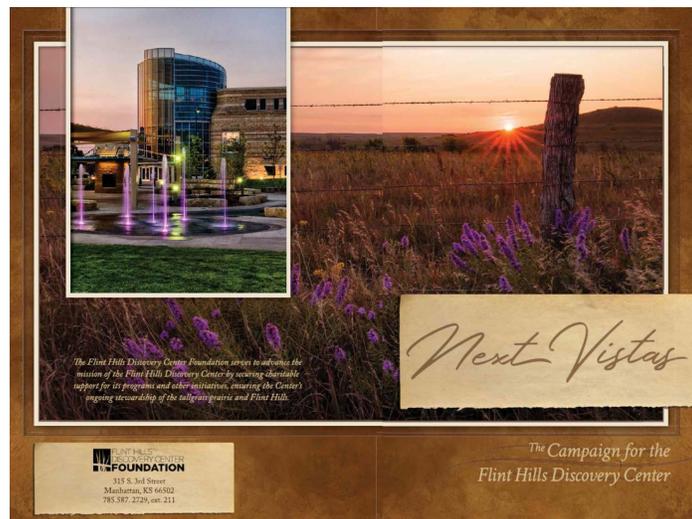
The Foundation's Annual FRIENDS OF THE FLINT HILLS event was held this past weekend and the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation announced its **first ever multi-million-dollar campaign in support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center!** It was an exciting evening. I want to extend my personal thanks to everyone for making the event such a special moment in the life of the Foundation and Discovery Center. The future is exciting!

NEXT VISTAS CAMPAIGN

The Next Vistas Campaign, a major initiative to serve youth, expand programs, and enhance technology at the Flint Hills Discovery Center was announced Saturday night, April 6, by the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation.

At this, the 8th Annual Friend of the Flint Hills Recognition event, honoree Marty Vanier, special guest Kansas State University President Richard Myers, and the Campaign Leadership Committee announced the campaign had secured gifts of nearly \$2 million and was about halfway to its goal.

"The Flint Hills Discovery Center has become a regional keystone for the entire Kansas Flint Hills community," said Campaign Co-Chair Bruce Sned. "Drawing almost 85,000 visitors a year, including some 30,000 children, it has become a destination for learning about and celebrating the place, the people, and the promise we call the Flint Hills."



A campaign video was shared for the first time. Kansas State University President Richard Myers introduced Flint Hills native Mark Nutsch as the National Campaign Honorary Chair. Mark is a decorated war hero with roots and family here in the Flint Hills.

"I have traveled the globe in my Army career," said Nutsch. "This landscape is truly special. The work of the Flint Hills Discovery Center and Foundation to ensure that the Flint Hills story is told to a national and international audience is so important. I am very proud to serve as the Honorary Chair of the Next Vistas Campaign."

Campaign leaders conveyed their gratitude to Carl and Mary Ice, Marty Vanier and Mary Vanier for their leadership gifts to the campaign. “We are grateful for all of those who have made gifts and pledges to the campaign,” said Karen McCulloh, a member of the Campaign Leadership Committee. “The value of the Flint Hills Discovery Center cannot be overstated. It serves to educate the world. It serves to preserve the history and heritage of the Flint Hills. It serves as a source of endless pride for Manhattan and the Flint Hills.”

KID-SCAPE

Traveling Trails to Trails: The first hills have been a vibrant and diverse landscape for centuries. Children will trace the hills of Anasazi, Archaic, and Paleo Indian cultures and the history of transportation. Teachers obtain about the history of the Flint Hills and the development of the region.

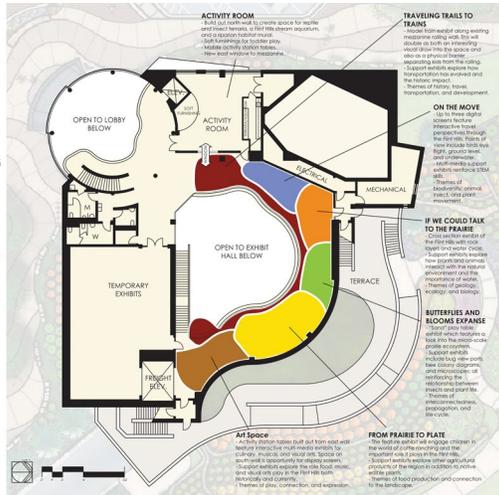
On the move: A multi-level exhibit, how do animals, insects and plants move from place to place throughout the Flint Hills? Some fly, some walk, and some are carried or blown by wind and water. This multi-media exhibit will explore the science of how things move and travel. Children will spend time with science, math and technology as they are engaged in the discovery of how things move.

If We Could Talk to the Prairie: The history and heritage of the place and the people that live in the Flint Hills is brought to life in the exhibit. From the time of the first Americans and through the 19th century to the present, the exhibit will tell the story of the Flint Hills. Children will see how the region and how it developed into the agricultural wonder it is today.

Butterflies and Blooms Exposure: The prairie ecosystem requires the interlocking of plants, animals, insects, and other organisms. Children will learn about the life cycle of butterflies, bees and other insects and the role of plants in the ecosystem. Through microscopes, tubes, glasses, magnifiers and other instruments.

From Prairie to Plate: Too many children (and adults) do not understand how the food they eat is produced. This exhibit will explore the history and science of the various foods grown in the Kansas Flint Hills and how it comes from the prairie. Children will learn about the science of growing and harvesting food. Children will see how the Flint Hills is a source of food and how it is processed to become the products we eat.

Art Space: Artists create art through the Flint Hills. Children will learn about the history of art and how it is created. They will see how art is used to tell the story of the Flint Hills. Whether that is the landscape, animals, plants, crops or tools - giving them the opportunity to help show, paint or sculpt their vision, engage their senses and learn in a technique other teaching methods do not.



According to Campaign Co-Chair Kent Glasscock, “The campaign is seeking private support for three major initiatives. First, the second-floor mezzanine level will become home to KID-SCAPE, a youth-focused, interactive experience immersing children into the place, the people and the promise that is the Kansas Flint Hills. Second, new technology will energize visitors’ experience of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. And third, new, endowed funds will provide expanded educational classes, workshops and other activities for

children.”

Private support for new exhibitions and community days of celebration are also part of the comprehensive campaign. “The Flint Hills Discovery Center is unique in that it serves as more than an educational experience,” said Glasscock. “Events like Flint Hills Fest and Military Appreciation Day which are held at the Discovery Center bring family and community together. It has become a cornerstone for our community.”

Honorary Campaign Chair, Mark Nutsch and Campaign Co-chairs Kent Glasscock and Bruce Snead spoke Saturday night. They are joined on the campaign leadership committee by Joe Carpenter, Jeff Davidson, Kent Glasscock, Jack Lindquist, Karen McCulloh, Carlin Murphy, Bruce Snead, V. Marie Martin, Susan Adams and Katharine Hensler.

The FHDC Foundation functions to advance the mission and work of the Flint Hills Discovery Center through dynamic and vibrant development programs which identify, cultivate, solicit and express appreciation to donors of the Foundation. The Foundation seeks capital and programming, along with deferred and endowed gifts in support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center.

Please remember that the **FHDC Foundation is again participating** in the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation - Grow Green Day on April 22. You will be receiving more information soon!

The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation

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VISTAS, a monthly memo, is provided to advance the cause of philanthropy in support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. We thank and celebrate all those investing in the Center’s unique and dynamic mission.