2008 Annual Report
Mission

The Milwaukee Public Museum inspires curiosity, excites minds and increases desire to preserve and protect our world’s natural and cultural diversity through exhibitions, educational programs, collections and research.

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# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Exhibits</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Public Programming</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humphrey IMAX® Dome Theater &amp; Daniel M. Soref Planetarium</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits Department</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Departments</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statements</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
President’s Letter

What a difference a year makes.

In May of 2007, a unique challenge was presented to the Museum by the Lynde & Harry Bradley Foundation and an anonymous donor: If the Museum could raise $5 million by the end of 2007, the Bradley Foundation and anonymous donor would match that amount with their own $5 million. By January 4, 2008, the Museum was ready to announce that they had met that challenge, and the resulting $10 million was used to eliminate the Museum’s short-term debt, and to replenish their squandered endowment. It was a good indication of what the rest of the 2008 fiscal year would bring.

It’s almost hard to believe how many things can be accomplished in a year. We ran two special exhibits, *The Climate Change Show* and *BODY WORLDS 1*, which in less than 20 weeks drew more than our previous two highest attended exhibits combined. We opened two permanent exhibits, *Wisconsin Archaeology: Pieces of the Puzzle* and the *Hebior Mammoth*, and three temporary exhibits, including that of our Japanese friendship doll and two student exhibits. Visitors, volunteers and staff again felt the excitement and energy that only comes from being in a busy environment where great things are happening.

Our exhibits staff wasn’t the only busy team this year. Our education department conducted 900 school programs for 23,000 students and teachers in the Museum, throughout the state, and even throughout the country via our award winning, interactive videoconferencing technology. This same technology also won our Passport Distance Learning programs the prestigious “Teacher Recommended” stamp of approval from the Teacher’s Choice Awards program, where it received second place as a Best Content Provider for the 2007-2008 school year.

With the knowledge and security that the Milwaukee Public Museum is once again on the right track, it might seem like a good time to sit back and rest on our accomplishments. But we know it’s not. In 2008, museums across the country began to face many unexpected challenges brought on by the slumping economy. Soft fundraising and the loss of projected investment earnings resulted in serious challenges few foresaw. Despite these challenges, 2008 was a banner year for MPM, and we will continue to be innovative in these difficult times to retain members, staff and our financial base.

The purpose of the Milwaukee Public Museum is to not only help visitors appreciate the past but to learn from it. In these vexing economic times this mission is more important than ever. Please join me in continuing to make MPM a vital investment in our community’s future.

So please come visit us in 2009. It is going to be a fantastic year.

Daniel M. Finley
President and CEO
Chairman’s Letter

Three years ago the Milwaukee Public Museum started on a mission to secure our financial foundation and to reinvent ourselves for the 21st century. 2008 proved to be a banner year for the Museum as we continued forward on this path.

Our exhibition season was record setting as we hosted the world renowned BODY WORLDS 1. More than 338,500 visitors streamed through the doors to peer inside the human body in ways they have been never able to before. Part of our reinvention strategy is to make our exhibits as relevant as possible, and what could be more personal to someone than gaining a better understanding of their health and the complexities of their own body.

The Daniel M. Soref Planetarium was dedicated in May to rave reviews as the finest planetarium in Wisconsin. This was the culmination of a dream envisioned 30 years ago. Wisconsin’s own Hebior Mammoth was acquired and a stunning exhibit of this magnificent animal now graces our atrium and leaves no doubt to visitors that they have entered a place of wonderment.

The extremely positive financial strides of the year were due to the hard work of the board of directors, staff and caring donors both large and small that made great investments in the Museum. We met the challenge set by the Bradley Foundation and an anonymous donor to raise $5 million, which they then matched with $5 million more. This enabled us to pay in full the short term debt guaranteed by Milwaukee County and will restore the endowment to its pre-financial crisis level. We lost two grand friends this year in Fred Ott and John Brander, but their contributions and memories will live on forever at their beloved Museum.

The Museum remains grateful to Milwaukee County for its unwavering support of our mission and the hundreds of thousands of people we serve each year. For a community to be world-class it needs world-class education, and Milwaukee County elected officials understand this. Our great institution would not be here today without their steadfast help. The County-appointed Financial Oversight Committee, chaired by Michael Falbo, was vital to our successful turnaround but we were equally glad they disbanded this year because their work was done.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank the many docents and volunteers who create the Museum’s energy every single day. They are truly the heroes of MPM and we would not exist without them. Thanks as well go to the board of directors for their steadfast stewardship during unprecedented fiscal challenges.

The Milwaukee Public Museum has regained its financial reputation and remade itself as a great educational institution that inspires people of all ages. The staff and board of directors will continue to work tirelessly to be worthy of your faith and support.

John J. Mulherin
Chairman of the Board
Traveling Exhibits

In addition to maintaining the Museum’s extensive exhibit galleries, the Museum Exhibits and Graphics team and curatorial staff mounted two travelling exhibitions during the 2008 fiscal year. The first of these, *The Climate Change Show*, was an interactive, multi-media exploration of the complex issues associated with global warming. The second, *Gunther von Hagens’ BODY WORLDS 1: The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies*, was an intimate exploration of the human body made possible by a unique preservation process called Plastination.

*The Climate Change Show*
*October 6–January 1, 2008*

This special exhibit taught about climate change and positive ways to protect our planet through a spectacular multimedia experience. By use of “object theatre,” a barrage of video, special effects, relevant objects and lighting changes, *The Climate Change Show* presented the serious and complex issues of global warming in a fun, dynamic way. Visitors experienced a virtual thunder-storm in a guided video tour with a talking, animated sheep in rubber boots, and learned how our Earth is changing and what to do about it through interactive quiz kiosks.
Gunther von Hagens’ BODY WORLDS 1: The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies
January 18–June 1, 2008

BODY WORLDS 1 featured authentic human specimens preserved through a revolutionary process called Plastination. This remarkable preservation technique replaces bodily fluids and fat with reactive plastics, thereby preserving human tissue in its natural state. Museum visitors who embarked upon this amazing journey below the skin’s surface viewed an extensive collection including more than 200 authentic organs, systems and whole-body displays.

GUNther von HAGENS’ BODY WORLDS 1: THE ORIGINAL EXHIBITION OF REAL HUMAN BODIES

BODY WORLDS 1 had the highest attendance of any exhibition in Museum history.

Attendance Fact and Figures

• 338,500 visitors attended BODY WORLDS 1, which is more than the Museum’s two previous top-drawing exhibits combined.

• 19,934 visitors went through BODY WORLDS 1 during the final weekend.

• Approximately 2,500 visitors attended BODY WORLDS 1 per day, on average.

• 55,817 school children (registered as school groups through grade 12) attended BODY WORLDS 1.

• Museum staff answered 78,138 related phone calls during the run of the exhibition.
Original Exhibits

Museum curators and collection managers are constantly rotating pieces of the MPM’s vast collections on and off display and acquiring new pieces. For example, 2008 marked the closure of the beloved Samson Remembered exhibit, as well as the arrival of an equally important piece of local history, the Hebior Mammoth. Many smaller featured collections were also exhibited during 2008.

Permanent Exhibits

The Hebior Mammoth
Publicly unveiled on July 8, 2008

In June of 2007, the Museum’s acquisition of the Hebior Mammoth was made possible by a gift from the John J. Brander and Christine Rundblad Family. A specimen with great significance to the state of Wisconsin, the mammoth was discovered less than 30 miles from the Milwaukee Public Museum on a farm in the small town of Paris in Kenosha County. After purchase from John Hebior, on whose farm the mammoth was found, the mammoth’s bones were sent to the Black Hills Institute in South Dakota for replicating. These replicas were erected for display, while the actual bones are stored behind the scenes for additional research.

Wisconsin Archaeology: Pieces of the Puzzle
Publicly unveiled on May 17, 2008

Wisconsin has more mounds built by ancient native societies than any other region of North America, and Wisconsin Archaeology: Pieces of the Puzzle is devoted to showcasing such local treasures. The exhibit answers common questions visitors have about the American Indians who lived here long ago, and the kind of life they led.

Wisconsin Archaeology occupies two cases. The first includes more than 40 artifacts from MPM collections, including some from Aztalan, the state’s most significant archaeological site. The second case is devoted to Wisconsin projectile points and ways to identify them. More than 50 common projectile points are on display for visitors to compare with those in their own collection. Wisconsin Archaeology: Pieces of the Puzzle was sponsored by the Wisconsin Archaeological Society.

Temporary Exhibits

Samson Remembered
December 26, 2006–January 1, 2008

A remarkable reconstruction of Samson — Milwaukee’s “Great Ape” — was the focal point of Samson Remembered. MPM’s taxidermist/artist, Wendy Christensen-Senk, worked on the renovation of Samson throughout the run of the exhibit. Visitors met and learned from Samson’s longtime caretaker, Sam La Malfa. Also featured were archival photos and videos of Samson’s life at the Milwaukee County Zoo, and displays about other famous gorillas and gorilla preservation.

Student exhibit—More Than Meets The Eye:
The Art of Deception
May 4, 2007–April 5, 2008

This exhibit was the annual culmination of the 2007 UW-Milwaukee/MPM Museum Studies class, a cooperative graduate program between UW-Milwaukee and the Museum. Students developed the annual exhibit from inception to completion, gaining invaluable professional experience. More Than Meets The Eye: The Art of Deception explored how appearances can be deceiving through camouflage, fakes and forgeries, body modifications and illusions.
Student exhibit – Thinking Outside the Treasure Chest  
May 2, 2008–April 4, 2009

The annual culmination of the 2008 Museum Studies class, Thinking Outside the Treasure Chest explored different concepts of treasure through a variety of objects: a vest made of soda can pull tabs, Egyptian funerary figurines, and gemstones like amethyst and garnet.

Numismatics! Selections from the MPM Collection  
August 4, 2007–August 15, 2009

Much more than just minted or printed money, the field of numismatics includes the study and collection of coins, currency, tokens and medals, and the MPM exhibit showcases nearly 200 rare, prized specimens. While most items in this temporary exhibit date from the 1800’s, a few “curious” currency items date as far back as 2,500 years. Many belong to organizations, regimes, colonies or even countries that no longer exist.

Messenger of Friendship: The Adventures of Miss Kasumi Tsukuba  

A special “torei ningyo,” Miss Kasumi Tsukuba was on temporary display after her return from extensive restoration at the Yoshitoku Doll factory in Tokyo, where she was created in 1927. Sent with 58 other dolls to the U.S. from Japan in 1928 as a goodwill gesture, Miss Kasumi Tsukuba traveled around Wisconsin and was then sent to “live” at the MPM, where she was displayed intermittently throughout the rest of the century before her recent restoration.

HEBIOR MAMMOTH

The Hebior Mammoth is archaeologically significant for several reasons: 85 percent of its bones are present and intact, a rarity for such a find in North America, and there are visible butchering marks apparent on some of the bones.

These marks are very important because of the age of the bones. Carbon dating places the mammoth’s death at 14,500 years ago. This proves man existed here at least 1,000 years earlier than previously established by 13,000-year-old artifacts and specimens excavated elsewhere. Although the existence of older sites had always been theorized, it wasn’t until the Hebior Mammoth and other sites in southeast Wisconsin were excavated that such proof was found. The Hebior Mammoth site, and the bones themselves, are among the oldest evidence of human habitation in North America.
Education & Public Programming

Education Programming

During the 2008 fiscal year, the Museum’s Education staff developed and delivered more than 1,000 programs that reached 44,500 participants. This programming targeted a range of audiences to support and promote an increase in overall scientific literacy in the state and to encourage appreciation and discovery of the natural world. More than 900 school programs were conducted for 23,000 students and teachers in the Museum, throughout the state, and even throughout the country via our award-winning, interactive videoconferencing technology. More than 1,300 teachers attended two educator open houses to learn more about the Museum’s unique programming and resources and how to use them to support their curriculum needs. An additional 21,500 visitors took part in public programs celebrating the diversity of cultures, family workshops, special exhibit events and outreach within the community.

Early Childhood Programs are hands-on programs designed for preschools, daycares, K4 and K5 classes and target children ages 2 – 7, and immerse children in a variety of topics using artifacts, tours and age-appropriate activities.

Education Programs are 50-minute in-depth looks at a specific subject that meet Wisconsin Model Academic Standards, and Education Tours are broader, 50-minute walk-through tours meant to give students a wider view of an exhibit. Both Education Tours and Education Programs are tailored to students in different learning stages between grades 1 and 12.

The Passport Distance Learning Series is a unique new way to bring the Museum to the classroom through videoconferencing technology. Exciting video conferences allow students to see rare artifacts and objects and interact with experts during real-time sessions.

Through the Museums on the Move program, educators travel to schools to deliver hour-long programs filled with artifacts, specimens and hands-on learning. These programs can be tailored to the needs of specific groups.

After a hiatus in 2007, the Museum brought back the popular Summer Camp series for 2008. A total of 165 kids enjoyed exploring the world by engaging in hands-on, object-based, creative learning experiences through themed camps like “Spectacular Solar System” and “Dinosaur Hunt.”

Museum Internship Program

During the 2008 fiscal year, 54 high school, college and university students interned at the Museum in the Anthropology, Conservation, Development, Education, Exhibits, Geology, History, Human Resources, Information and Electronic Systems, Marketing, Planetarium, President’s Office, Registration and Retail areas.

They came from Albion College, Alverno College, Brookfield Central High School, Carroll College, Carleton College, DePaul University, DePauw University, Divine Saviors Holy Angels High School, Lakeland College, Loyola University, Marquette University, Milwaukee Area Technical College, Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, State University of NY at Oneonta, University of Illinois, University of Iowa, University of Minnesota, UW-Green Bay, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Parkside, UW-Whitewater and Winona State University.

These dedicated students contributed more than 5,700 hours of work to further the mission of the Museum.

Museum Studies Program

The Museum Studies Program, a cooperative venture between the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Museum, continued its 45 year relationship by working with 31 graduate students.
The program, which prepares students for careers in museum work, consists of five graduate courses and confers a certificate upon graduation. Museum staff from Anthropology, History, Conservation, Registration and Exhibits taught the Museum Studies courses and worked with students to develop their annual exhibit. The current exhibit, *Thinking Outside the Treasure Chest*, opened in May, 2008 and will run through April, 2009.

Public Programming

**Museum Overnights**

During our sleepovers, brave youngsters have the opportunity to explore the Museum in a way most people never can—after hours! Museum campers engage in educator-led activities, watch an IMAX® or Planetarium show, make arts and crafts, and even tour the Museum by flashlight. In 2008, Museum Overnights accommodated nearly 1,500 hundred visitors through public and special scout-only evenings.

**Celebrations of Culture**

The Celebrations of Culture series has long been a hallmark of Museum programming. These two-day events foster appreciation and understanding of different cultures, from those in Wisconsin to those halfway around the world, by showcasing cultural diversity through Museum exhibits, live performances and education programming. Now in its 17th year, the Celebrations of Culture series, proudly supported by MillerCoors, is more popular than ever: During the 2008 fiscal year, the Museum welcomed 17,916 visitors to its Celebrations programming, an increase of more than 4,000 visitors from the previous year.

**Snake Day**

Is that snake poisonous? How can you tell if it’s male or female? How much does it eat? Can it chew? Does it smell? For more than 10 years, these and other questions have been asked and answered during the Museum’s annual Snake Day, where visitors can feel that a boa constrictor is smooth and dry as opposed to slimy, stare into the eyes of a python, or become adventurers as they stand in a row to help hold a 15-foot-long python. Always a popular Museum event, the 2007 Snake Day attracted more than 1,000 adventurous visitors.

**Lighting of the Whale**

While the Museum has always gotten into the holiday spirit by decorating various exhibits, this was taken to a new level in 2006 with a spectacular Lighting of the Whale ceremony. The event in 2007 proved to be bigger and better than the first year, with hundreds of people watching as Dan Finley, with the help of children in the audience, finally managed to pull the magic lever to light the whale skeleton hanging over the grand staircase.

**Holiday Lights**

The MPM’s 36-foot-long humpback whale skeleton is infused with the holiday spirit when it is lit by more than 4,200 white lights and adorned with a Santa hat. Children in the audience are encouraged to help Museum President Dan Finley pull a magic lever, which activates the holiday lights and a medley of whale noises and holiday tunes.

This whale is also one of the oldest members of the Milwaukee Public Museum collection: found washed up on an East Coast beach in 1877, it was purchased by the MPM in 1884 and has been on display ever since.
Humphrey IMAX® Dome Theater & Daniel M. Soref Planetarium

Thanks to a great selection of films and exhibits, including the blockbuster exhibition Gunther von Hagens’ BODY WORLDS 1: The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies and its companion show The Human Body, the theater saw a marked increase in attendance during the 2008 fiscal year. More than 600 people made their way to MPM’s six-story theater per day, and more than 82,000 saw the IMAX movie The Human Body. Total theater attendance peaked at more than 220,000.

In early January 2008, the IMAX and Planetarium theater was closed for four days for a few significant upgrades: New seats with cup holders, courtesy of The Daniel M. Soref Charitable Trust, were installed, bringing the theater’s capacity to 261; A new LED cove lighting system was installed that is capable of filling the theater with any color of the rainbow; and the six planetarium projectors were replaced with two Sony SXR projectors that improved both resolution and performance.

After a soft opening and two years of improvements, the Daniel M. Soref Planetarium finally “blasted off” with a stellar official dedication ceremony and donor recognition event on May 14, 2008. The event was presided over by Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, County Executive Scott Walker and a delegation of Milwaukee school children who performed the official countdown and launch.

Spooky Skies
October 5–31, 2007
Education was mixed with scary fun at a special Halloween planetarium show. Spooky Skies took viewers back in time to medieval Ireland to trace the roots of the holiday, and then into the heavens to draw parallels between some celestial objects and famous monsters.

Mystery of the Christmas Star
Audiences journeyed back 2,000 years to Bethlehem to discover which ancient star was the one the wise men followed to find the baby Jesus. This modern retelling of the Christmas story also investigated possible dates for the birth of Christ and looked at recorded sightings of significant astronomical events during this important time in history.

Rock Stars
The Planetarium became a gateway to a far-out dimension with the addition of this revolutionary light show. Space scenes and bright organic patterns evoked the trippy heyday of the laser light show, while the auditorium resounded with the power chords of Rush’s ‘Tom Sawyer’, the frenzy of the Doors hit ‘Break on Through’ or the roots rock twang of Creedence Clearwater Revival’s ‘Bad Moon Rising’.

Secrets of the Zodiac
January 18–June 12, 2008
Most of us know our sign of the zodiac, the astrological system by which people are said to have specific traits based on where the planets are at the time of their birth. But does astrology really work? Does your horoscope in the newspaper really accurately predict what is going to happen to you throughout the day? Secrets of the Zodiac took a look at this celestial system and why it has been so instrumental and familiar since humans first looked to the heavens.

Romancing the Stars
February 13 and 14, 2008
While February in Milwaukee is not known for its heat, things steamed up at the Daniel M. Soref Planetarium during the Valentine’s show Romancing the Stars. Sweethearts embarked upon an out-of-this-world date at the planetarium, where they were treated to explanations of why some constellations double as “constellations of love.”
CSI: Cosmic  
March 21–September 4, 2008
This show explored distant horizons to try to answer the ultimate question of the universe: Got life? For centuries, humans have looked to the stars and pondered this deep mystery. CSI: Cosmic looked for life in the extreme conditions here on Earth, then journeyed through the Solar System to investigate neighboring planets for hospitable conditions where organisms might thrive.

Seven Wonders  
June 13, 2008–March 19, 2009
Seven Wonders brought audiences thousands of years back in time to witness the glory of the ancient world. They saw ancient Egypt's Great Pyramids and Lighthouse of Alexandria, wandered through the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, and stood in the shadow of the towering Colossus of Rhodes. Seven Wonders investigated theories of how these marvels were created, then traveled through the universe to give us a glimpse of the natural wonders far beyond our tiny planet. Narrated by Sean Bean, Boromir from the Lord of the Rings film trilogy.

Humphrey IMAX® Dome Theater

The Alps  
Featuring some of the most spectacular giant-screen imagery yet seen, this film celebrated the unsurpassed beauty of the Alps and the indomitable spirit of the people who live there. Viewers experienced an unprecedented view complete with a ride on the high-altitude Glacier Express train, stops in enchanting mountain villages, a bungee jump off Verzasca Dam and the rare chance to experience a triumphant ascent of the feared and revered Eiger North Face.

Dinosaurs Alive  
Audiences joined renowned paleontologists as they discovered new fossils and uncovered evidence that dinosaur descendants are still among us. Realistic and scientifically-accurate computer generated animation brought dinosaurs back to life... in a big way!

Santa Vs. the Snowman  
The magic of the holidays came to life on the big screen with this classic, animated IMAX® feature. A lonely Snowman became swept away by the magical wonders of Santa's Village in the North Pole, but soon became jealous of Santa and the attention he gets at Christmas time. A hilarious polar war erupted, waged with weapons such as hot chocolate squirt guns, but it wasn't long before friendship and laughter saved the day.

Human Body  
January 18–June 12, 2008
Three years in the making, The Human Body provided a dramatic picture of life, drawing on the most sophisticated medical imaging available and specially adapted to take advantage of the scope, power and detail made possible by the large screen format. The result was a visually mesmerizing, visceral experience that plunged viewers right into the action. They followed a tomato on its journey through the biological blender of our stomachs, paddled underwater with infants whose mysterious diving reflex allows them to comfortably “swim,” and accompanied a red blood cell into the pumping chamber of the body’s engine room, the heart.

Grand Canyon Adventure  
*sponsored by Kohler Co.  
March 21–September 4, 2008
Set against the immense backdrop of the majestic Grand Canyon, Grand Canyon Adventure took audiences on an exhilarating river-rafting adventure down the Colorado River. There was, however, one big problem — no water remains for the river’s end, the Colorado Delta. How do we provide enough freshwater for everyone who needs it, not only along the Colorado River, but everywhere on our planet? Combining science and adventure with some of giant screen cinema's most compelling imagery and locations, Grand Canyon Adventure delivered a message of hope and inspiration for all people of the world.

Mysteries of the Great Lakes  
*sponsored by MillerCoors  
June 13, 2008–March 19, 2009
Across the Great Lakes basin, there has been increasing awareness of the vital role this freshwater resource plays in maintaining the social and economic health of North America. Mysteries of the Great Lakes explored this world treasure, which contains some of the most spectacular wilderness scenery on earth and a fifth of all the planet’s fresh water. Audiences soared with the bald eagle, followed enormous cargo ships as they navigated the Lakes, and dove with a 300-pound lake sturgeon as Mysteries of the Great Lakes took them through the greatest freshwater system in the world.
Exhibits & Graphics

Throughout the 2008 fiscal year, MPM’s exhibit artists worked to create engaging new exhibits from the Museum’s collections, and to install major traveling exhibitions from other institutions. They also actively participated in the repair and maintenance of existing permanent exhibits, and the development of future exhibit programs for 2009 and beyond.

Exhibition Projects

Samson Remembered

Artist/taxidermist Wendy Christensen-Senk and Sam LaMalifa (Samson’s caretaker at the Milwaukee County Zoo) served as live interpreters for exhibit visitors. The exhibit was dismantled the first week in January, 2008, and Samson’s life-like reproduction was installed on the first floor near the grand staircase for permanent display.

The Climate Change Show

Installation was coordinated by Emilio Bras, assisted by all members of the exhibit staff.

Expansion of MPM’s Special Exhibit Galleries

In order to host large-scale traveling exhibitions at MPM, the Temples, Tells & Tombs exhibit was dismantled and removed from its gallery space in late November, 2007. That vacated space was connected with the neighboring Steigleder & Uihlein Galleries, creating a contiguous exhibition area of 16,000 square feet. Selections of artifacts from Temples, Tells & Tombs were re-displayed in other exhibition areas throughout the Museum, and artist Tom Shea coordinated the design and installation of these temporary displays.

Gunther von Hagens’ BODY WORLDS 1: The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies

BODY WORLDS 1 arrived on January 10, 2008, and was installed in time for the donor reception on January 17. The public opening occurred the following day. BODY WORLDS 1 is the most successful traveling exhibit of all time, attracting more that 25 million visitors worldwide.

Wisconsin Archaeology: Pieces of the Puzzle

After being closed for more than 15 years, a Woodland Indian exhibit once again features collections for Museum visitors. In May, 2008, Wisconsin Archaeology opened, offering visitors the opportunity to view collections and information about Wisconsin’s Native American ancestors. Art Shea coordinated exhibit design and production, Emilio Bras supervised lighting and mount making, and Rick Regazzi implemented graphic design and production.

Student Exhibit — Thinking Outside the Treasure Chest

Wendy Christensen-Senk served as an instructor for the development of the annual Museum Studies Student Exhibit Thinking Outside the Treasure Chest. Artists Emilio Bras and Rick Regazzi assisted with artifact lighting, mount-making and graphic production.

Hebior Mammoth

Art Shea created plans and specifications for the display platform, and assisted artists Craig Yanek, Wendy Christensen-Senk, Emilio Bras and intern Meagan Crouch with the installation of the mammoth’s reproduction skeleton and surrounding glacial ground cover. Graphic artist Rick Regazzi produced interpretive signage.

Future Exhibit Planning

Detailed planning for the installation and programming of Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition continued through the 2008 fiscal year. Exhibit Director Jim Kelly also participated in research and development for other large-scale traveling exhibitions.
Exhibit Maintenance

Artist Craig Yanek continued to serve as MPM’s exhibit maintenance coordinator, and supervised numerous high-priority maintenance and repair projects. He averaged over 221 maintenance tasks a month during the 2008 fiscal year.

2008 Summer Cleaning Program

The Museum was closed to visitors every Tuesday from June through mid-September, 2008, providing the opportunity to implement a massive cleaning program in MPM’s permanent exhibit galleries. Craig Yanek worked with exhibit artists, interns and the Museum’s facility staff to clean exhibit glass throughout the Museum. This summer program also included the cleaning and maintenance of “open” dioramas and other visitor destination exhibits.

Museum Graphics

Graphics supervisor Rick Regazzi was heavily involved in the design and production of graphics and signage for the Museum’s exhibit programs — as well as for other pan-Museum projects such as ticketing and admissions, facility identification, visitor way-finding, public programs and special events. Highlights included the design and production of banners and signage for MPM’s BODY WORLDS I exhibition, as well as graphics for the Wisconsin’s Shipwreck Connections exhibit to be included in the 2008-2009 run of Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition.

Museum Partnerships

Throughout the 2008 fiscal year, Tom Shea served as project designer for an MPM partnership with the Hoard Historical Museum in Fort Atkinson, WI. He supervised design and production for their new Wisconsin Indian Archaeology exhibit, with fabrication assistance by MPM artists Craig Yanek, Art Shea, Emilio Bras, Wendy Christensen-Senk, and other outside exhibit specialists. The Hoard Museum provided financial compensation for the services of MPM’s exhibit staff. MPM’s partnership program with the Hoard Museum expired in September, 2008, and their new Wisconsin Indian Archaeology exhibit is scheduled to open to the public in spring, 2009.

Public Programs and Special Events

Exhibit staff members participated in behind-the-scenes tours for visiting school groups, docents, exhibit sponsors, the media and visiting professionals from other museums. They also created displays and thematic environments for public programs and special events, and installed holiday displays and decorations throughout the Museum.
Collections & Research

Anthropology and History

The Anthropology Department cares for more than 120,000 objects, including strong collections of Great Lakes Indians artifacts and Wisconsin archaeology. The Museum also has significant holdings in African and Pacific Island ethnology, and Central and South American archaeology and ethnology. Anthropology’s partner discipline, History, holds more than 250,000 objects in its collections. Among the most specialized holdings are the Uhlein Stamp Collection, the Dietz Typewriter Collection, the Nunnemacher Arms Collection and the Decorative Arts Collection.

In 2007-2008, both of these departments were very active. In addition to his broad administrative responsibilities as Vice President of Museum Programs, Carter Lupton remained active in general oversight of the two cultural sections while Dawn Scher Thomae and Albert Muchka carried on the basic daily operations of each department.

Carter Lupton
Vice President of Museum Programs,
Section Head of Anthropology and History

• Actively maintained general oversight of the two cultural sections
• Oversaw coordination, through a series of regular meetings, of many activities related to preparing for, installing and running the BODY WORLDS 1 exhibition (Jan. 18 – June 1, 2008), as well as preparation for the following Titanic exhibition.
• Developed Hebior mammoth for exhibition and carried out initial research into a variety of content being prepared for the mounted skeleton which was unveiled in July 2008.
• Assisted with takedown of Temples, Tells and Tombs in late 2007 to help create contiguous exhibition space needed to accommodate the schedule of large traveling exhibits beginning with BODY WORLDS 1.
• Participated in new mummy scan in Tacoma, Washington in Aug. 2008, adding to the database being developed by the Akhmim Mummy Studies Consortium, of which he is co-director.
• Met regularly with participants on Institute of Museums and Library Services History database grant, applied for and received an extension until Oct. 31, 2008, and submitted interim progress reports.

Dawn Scher Thomae
Collections Manager for Anthropology

• Cataloged a total of 51 artifacts from Africa, Oceania, Latin America and North America into the Anthropology collections.
• Accommodated 45 researchers from around the country who came to the Museum to work on Anthropology collections, answered more than 1,039 public inquiries and answered inquiries for 85 items brought in for identification by the public.
• Supervised 19 interns, work-study students, volunteers and support staff working on identification, cataloging and labeling of the Hebior mammoth and a large collection of Native American baskets. Interns also produced detailed inventories of materials relating to Jemez, Zia and Navajo tribes.
• Opened Wisconsin Archaeology: Pieces of the Puzzle exhibit.
• Coordinated efforts related to development of projects and programs for Museum’s 125th anniversary, including a historic photo exhibit and a virtual exhibit for the web.
• Coordinated efforts to bring Powwow photography exhibit to Museum for summer 2009.
• Initiated work on Fifield Precolumbian exhibit to open in summer 2009.
• Administered IMLS History Collection Computerization Grant.
• Developed public image survey and supervised interns and work-study students from UW-Whitewater who conducted more than 500 surveys during BODY WORLDS 1.
• Worked on the organization of the Collectors Weekend Program.
• Organized and staffed Museum table at the Bead and Button Show at the Midwest Airlines Center and, as adjunct, developed self-guided MPM tour with interns on Beads of the Americas, Africa and Pacific.
• Coordinated efforts around the state for Wisconsin Museums Week in May, 2008.
• Worked with Education department to provide artifacts and information for Celebrations of Culture events.
• Acted as a grant reviewer for National Endowment of the Humanities grants.
• Provided collections access, documentation and work space for five UW-Milwaukee thesis projects.
• Coordinated UW-Milwaukee/MPM Museum Studies Program.
• Taught Museum Studies Exhibit graduate class during spring 2007 and the History and Theory of Museums graduate class during fall 2008.
• Coordinated and maintained Museum Internship Program.
Albert Muchka
Collections Manager for History

- Cataloged 209 items into collections: History Catalog H57163 through H57354 (191 entries); Nunnenmacher Catalog N38067 through N38082 (15 entries); and Numismatics Catalog Nm41399 through Nm41401 (3 entries).
- Accommodated 14 individual or groups of researchers from around the country who came to the Museum to work on or view parts of the History collections.
- Developed local Titanic exhibit component and provided insight into Edwardian era for docents and Education department’s costumed Titanic re-enactors, provided information and consultation for Lady Elgin Distance Learning project, worked with Milwaukee Public Library on Titanic collaboration and with Milwaukee County Historical Society to facilitate loans to Titanic exhibit.
- Worked with gun scholars to access Nunnenmacher Arms Collection (Tom Rowe, schuetzen specialist and Roy Marcot, Remington specialist), while beginning social history research and object selection for renewed Nunnenmacher Arms exhibit (Schuetzenfest) planned for spring, 2009.
- Facilitated loan of local history material to Milwaukee Art Museum (Hermann jug) for Wisconsin Decorative Arts exhibit.
- Worked with Education department to facilitate Celebrations of Culture programs and access to MPM collections.
- Served on MPM/UW-Milwaukee Museum Studies Committee and worked with Museum Studies Program to facilitate student access to collections and collections info.
- Continued work and consultation on basic data input to IMLS History database project and Information Systems department to facilitate History data transfer to Emu.
- Oversaw department volunteers in cataloging and other inventory or research projects.
- Provided access and information for MPM 125th anniversary project.
- Prepared and installed holiday exhibit in European Village with docent oversight.
- Work with Conservation and Exhibits & Graphics departments to consider and plan exhibit maintenance projects affecting History exhibits, including lighting in European Village and planned reinstallation of items for Japanese Armory.

Botany

The Museum’s botanical collections represent a continuing attempt to catalog the rich variety of the Earth’s plant species. Scientific research by the Museum Botany staff centers on identification, classification, evolutionary history and conservation of plants. Plant specimens are used for scientific study, exhibition and education.

Curator Neil Luebke and Botany Assistant (IMLS) Saul Drake completed the first phases of the IMLS-funded project to conserve the Huron Smith Ethnobotanical collections. All the plant specimens have been cleaned, repaired and filed into new cabinets. Field notes, publications and voucher specimens have been scanned and their images formatted for use on a website. A one-year extension of the grant was given for the construction of the Huron Smith Ethnobotanical website. Dr. Nancy Lurie, Curator Emeritus, Anthropology, reviewed the introductions to each of the Indian tribes which will be used on web pages.

Neil Luebke
Curator of Botany

- Hosted Dr. Mark Gabel and his associates from the Black Hill’s State University, to facilitate creation of a database of the herbarium’s extensive holdings of Black Hills plants for their project on plants of western South Dakota and eastern Wyoming.
- Taught classes on mitosis and chromosomes for Science Exploration Program and participated in Distance Learning Chat Sessions with the expert.
- Reviewed manuscript Two New Species of Isoëtes (Isoëtaceae) from Jeju Island, Korea for Novon.
- Continued to return outstanding loans which had been made to former curators. 2,254 specimens were returned to overseas institutions.
- Completed the reconstruction and checking of all entries in the non-Wisconsin database, which further completes vetting of all Botany’s herbarium databases.

Grants

$75,706 - Institute of Museum and Library Services for conservation of Huron Smith Ethnobotanical collection. Three-year grant, awarded 2006. (N. Luebke)
Geology

Early Museum geologists collected fossils, minerals and rocks to portray a general history of the Earth and its processes. The Geology staff continues to pursue the goal of keeping the public informed of the Earth’s history.

The Geology Department continued active programs in research, collections care and public outreach during 2007-2008. Dr. Peter Sheehan continued his role as one of six co-leaders of International Geoscience Program 503 (Ordovician Palaeogeography and Palaeoclimate), a six-year international project coordinating joint efforts of more than 250 geologists from around the globe. He attended the annual meeting in Lille, France, where he presented a paper on Late Ordovician and Early Silurian faunas of western North America. A field trip to the Belgian Ordovician included stops where Sheehan collected and described brachiopods during his post-doctoral fellowship. IGCP 503 will be extended into 2009, with a final meeting in Copenhagen, and a separate meeting at the North America Paleontological Congress in Cincinnati, where Dr. Sheehan is organizing a session.

Peter Sheehan, Ph.D
Geology Department Head

• Continued work on aftermath of the end Cretaceous extinction event, in association with Dr. John Isbell, UW-Milwaukee, and Dr. David Fastovsky, University of Rhode Island. Fieldwork on this project was conducted in North Dakota and Montana, assisted by three graduate students from UWM and URI. Current work is focused on an interval of extensive erosion caused by a total loss of all plant cover following the mass extinction.

• Continued work on the end Ordovician extinction, in association with Mark Harris (UW-Milwaukee) in the Great Basin. Ordovician-Silurian fieldwork in Nevada included geochemical sampling across the end Ordovician extinction event with Peter Ward (University of Washington).

• Participated in numerous outreach programs including organization of an invited symposium and keynote address on dinosaurs for the annual meeting of the Iowa Academy of Science, and a lecture for the Wisconsin Geological Society, and provided advice to Jim Dufoe, a long-time volunteer with Museum mineral collections, who is starting a business to assist small museums and private collectors curate their collections.

• Presented a lecture in a UW-Milwaukee course on evolution, presented a talk on extinction events at the University School Middle School.

• Provided assistance to an Animal Planet television production crew examining each of the great extinction events.

• Assisted a group preparing a geology exhibit at the Hartung Quarry Park in Wauwatosa.

Patricia Burke
Geology Collections Manager

• Coordinated numerous research projects involving the Geology collections, and assisted visiting researchers.

• Assisted with Museum summer camps.

• Assisted a group preparing a geology exhibit at Hartung Quarry Park in Wauwatosa.

• Made considerable progress on the backlog of material from off-site storage.

• Supervised Geology interns, including a UW-Milwaukee student who identified and prepared specimens lacking adequate data for inclusion in the MPM collections for distribution to middle school and college teachers.

Publications


Invertebrate Zoology

The Museum’s invertebrate collections are comprised of more than half a million specimens and represent animals as widely differing as sponges, squids and spiders. The beetles and the butterflies and moths are the two insect orders with the greatest representation in the collection, while mollusks are the best represented of the non-insects. Some specimens date back to the late 1800s and the collections include historically significant Wisconsin survey material from the early 1900s. The geographical distribution is worldwide but the strongest emphases are on Wisconsin and the Neotropics.
During 2007-2008, a total of 2,965 specimens were added to the collections and 360 MPM insects were sent out on loan to nine individuals. One loan resulted in the published descriptions of two new species of cicada collected in Costa Rica by curator emeritus Allen M. Young, Ph.D. in the 1970s. Five returns of loans, totaling 284 MPM specimens, were processed. An additional 8,235 beetles on loan to MPM were returned to 21 institutions. Six researchers were provided on-site access to the collections.

Efforts to centralize and digitize insect collection records and improve documentation continued in 2008 with a large portion of the identified species names and numbers being entered into an Excel file by Marquette University work-study student April Amison. The file will eventually provide an electronic list of the MPM Insect Collection holdings.

Susan Borkin
Director of Research Support Services & Puelicher Butterfly Garden

• Provided oversight for the Library which includes the MPM photography collections and archives.
• Assisted with coordination of grant-related activities including handling new institution registration/submission processes for federal agencies, tracking deadlines and filing reports.
• Assisted Allen M. Young, Ph.D., Curator Emeritus, working in conjunction with Raymond Guries, Ph.D. and Christopher Vaughan, Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, with coordination for the Cacao Research Project in Costa Rica, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
• Managed the Puelicher Butterfly Garden/Bugs Alive! living collections and associated display areas including handling required inspections and renewal of three federal permits required for operation of the facilities.
• Handled all routine curatorial functions for the insect collections plus public and media inquiries related to insects.
• Collaborated with Lincoln P. Brower, Ph.D. of Sweet Briar College, VA and others on a long-term study of monarch migration to Wisconsin, working on data analysis for publication.
• Served as a consulting state expert on the poweshiek skipperling for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the process for determining if federal endangered-species listing is warranted, and continued ongoing research on the species in Wisconsin.
• Collaborated with the WI-DNR Bureau of Endangered Resources assisting with survey work and status assessment for the state-listed swamp metalmark butterfly.
• Served as the MPM representative on the Natural Areas Preservation Council, an advisory board to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Joan P. Jass
Curator of Non-insect Invertebrates

• Contributed corrections regarding MPM Peckham Collection of jumping spiders to web site maintained by arachnologist J.Prószyński: http://salticidae.org/salticid/main.htm
• Received donation of Wisconsin freshwater mussels, voucher specimens documenting the research of T. Balding, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.
• Gave presentations on pond creatures to middle school girls from four Milwaukee schools during spring semester of the Science Exploration program.
• Contributed field research data to statewide database of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Ephemeral Ponds Project; also continued monthly photomonitoring of status of ponds at a Waukesha County Watch Site.
• Discussed completion of webpage of Wisconsin sponges of Museum website with Information Services department.
• Tested terrestrial isopod collecting methods at UW-Milwaukee Field Station.
• Served as judge for the Badger State Science & Engineering Fair, Marquette University

Publications

Grants
$20,887.21 - Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Completed fieldwork and submitted final report for 2007 Wisconsin survey for gastropod mollusks. (Jass)
$1,101,837 - United States Department of Agriculture, received 2001-2008 for ongoing Cacao Research Project. (Young)

Vertebrate Zoology

As in the past, activities in the Section of Vertebrate Zoology (which includes fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals) included research (in the field and laboratory); responding to loan requests from scientists, students and artists; information queries from scientists, students and the general public; and maintenance of collections. Fieldwork continued to be centered in the West Indies, especially on the Grenada Bank and Guana in the British Virgin Islands. Laboratory-based research was concentrated on documenting geographic variation in the beautiful Emerald Treeboa. Much time was devoted to completing the massive manuscript compiling and synthesizing information pertaining to the natural history of 735 species of West Indian frogs and reptiles.
Robert W. Henderson
Senior Curator of Herpetology

- Traveled to Grenada and Carriacou to continue research on treeboa (Corallus grenadensis) populations.
- Returned to Guana Island in the British Virgin Islands to continue study on the Puerto Rican Racer (Alsophis portoricensis) where more than 400 snakes have been micro-chipped for long-term identification.
- Spent three weeks on Dominica introducing nine U.S.-based undergraduate students to field research with West Indian frogs and reptiles (sponsored by the National Science Foundation).
- Organized another successful Snake Day event at the Museum.
- Appeared on the History channel to discuss the potential for attacks by “giant” snakes on humans.
- Received acceptance for publication of an 1800-page manuscript (co-authored by Robert Powell) summarizing the natural history of each of 735 species of West Indian frogs and reptiles by the University Press of Florida.
- Continued to serve on editorial boards of the journals Studies on the Neotropical Fauna and Environment and Iguana.

Publications

Library, Photographic Collection and Archives

The MPM Library collects, organizes, provides access to and preserves the research literature needed by MPM staff to carry out their research, care for and develop collections, and plan and implement exhibits and public programs. During 2007-2008, the library received a total of 1,400 serial issues valued at $19,000. Of this total a total of 385 pieces with a value of $4,400 were purchased and the rest came as gifts or exchanges. Some 311 items were circulated to staff and 811 items were signed out for longer term use.

In addition to bibliographic material, the Library holdings include the Museum archives, photographic and audiovisual collections. Public use of the collections is facilitated through participation in an interlibrary loan program, and through on-site services to students and outside researchers.

Susan Otto
Museum Librarian

- Responded to 80 requests for information related to the photograph collection with more than 700 emails required to complete use transactions.
- Scanned and added pipe collection and historic Milwaukee photographs to the Cumulus database bringing the total to just over 40,000 digital images stored.
- Cleaned up and backed up MS Access/Cumulus data regarding all stored digital images so images are easy to search and retrieve.
- Continued work on the inventory of archive boxes. To date 250 of the 475 boxes have inventory lists.
- Added 1,200 titles to the electronic catalog (Resource Mate 3), bringing the total to 2,500 titles. About 35% of these are new cataloging; the other 65% are titles of old library materials that were never entered into an electronic catalog.
- Continued the mailing of the backlog of publications owed to other institutions.
Conservation

2007-2008 saw the culmination of a two-year project with Kikkoman Foods in Walworth County, Wisconsin, and the people of the Ibaraki Prefecture in Japan, that resulted in the complete restoration of MPM’s Japanese Friendship Doll by the Yoshitoku Doll Manufacturing Company in Tokyo—the factory where she had been made in the 1920s. Doll activities in the fall of 2007 included two October concerts at MPM by the Ibaraki Prefecture’s Gagaku Orchestra (a traditional Japanese music orchestra), and the November 1 opening of the Japanese Doll exhibit attended by a large delegation from Japan, a representative from the Japanese Consulate in Chicago as well as many local dignitaries.

Conservation closely collaborated with both the Facilities and Exhibits Departments to produce and maintain an environmentally controlled case in which to display the doll without any danger of compromising the restoration work done in Japan. This involved pre-installation testing, daily and weekly monitoring, deinstallation of the doll when the case was too dry, and re-installation after numerous tests and modifications. Following her permanent deinstallation, the doll is now being kept in an environmentally controlled storage cabinet to ensure her long-term preservation.

In conjunction with this project, Conservation gave a number of lectures about the conservation of the doll which included detailed photos taken at the doll factory in Japan, during restoration and Del Re’s October 2006 courier trip to Japan.

Christine Del Re
Senior Conservator

- Reviewed six Museum and Library Services Conservation Project Support grants.
- Co-edited post-prints of the Objects Specialty Group’s professional papers, and reviewed 12 papers that had been presented at the annual meeting in Richmond, VA, in April 2007.
- Reviewed internal professional development grants, and evaluated and made recommendations on the continuing education curriculum offered by the American Institute for Conservation to its members.
- Attended annual Wisconsin Federation of Museums meeting in Appleton, Wisconsin, and special training, in Elk Grove Village, IL, by Vaisala Precision Instruments in the measurement of relative humidity and temperature.
- Attended annual conference of the American Institute for Conservation in Denver, CO, and a special workshop on the newly developed AIC Digital Imaging Standards for Practicing Conservators.
- Attended symposium on “Archaeological Storage: Access and Retrieval” at the Getty Conservation Institute and the Costen Archaeological Institute at UCLA.
- Trained UWM Museum Studies Graduate student Kevin Cullen on Conservation’s x-ray machine and in processing techniques. Cullen x-rayed a collection of 40+ Iranian ceramics for his Master's degree thesis project from UW-Milwaukee.
- Taught two days of the Museum Studies Practicum Class during spring semester, acted as the “expert” in a Distance Learning class entitled: “Chat with the Expert,” and continued weekly training and supervision of Collection Preservation interns.
- Completed conservation treatment, documentation and digital imaging of MPM artifacts lent to the Harley-Davidson Museum and the Milwaukee Art Museum, and worked with Dr. Burton from UW-Madison while he removed 60 tooth enamel samples from Wisconsin Indian skulls in the Anthropology Collection.
- Completed conservation treatment, documentation and digital imaging of 145 artifacts (work completed by Collection Preservation interns with supervision from Del Re), including artifacts for the Wisconsin Archaeology exhibit and English House in the European Village.
- Stabilized 51 ceramics from excavations at el Qatar damaged by water while in storage, and supervised interns in re-packing and relocating ceramics from Tell Hadidi and el Qatar.
- Taught intern P. Johnson how to test for porosity and do UV examinations on Hebior Mammoth skeleton.
- Completed project time match for the IMLS History project through data entry, data verification and attaching History Collection digital images to KE Emu.

Grants

$900 - Inspired Artisans of Milwaukee for the Conservation of MPM’s South American Salty Pots project. Received August, 2008. (Del Re).
Collections & Loans

Donors to the Collections

Donors to the Collections of the Milwaukee Public Museum
September 1, 2007 – August 31, 2008

Anthropology
Ms. Nancy Abraham
Mr. & Mrs. John and Christine Brander
Ms. Virginia, Mr. John and Mr. George Fifield
Ms. Julie Hall
Mr. John A. Reynolds, Estate of
The History Center of Olmsted County

History
Mr. Theodore J. Allen, Sr.
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Ms. Evelyn Griffith
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Ms. Jean Kirby
Mrs. Eiko Kitamura for the Ibaraki Committee
for the Homecoming of Miss Kasumi Tsukuba
Oconto County Historical Society
Dr. Ivan Laubenheimer
Mrs. Hazel Limpert
Mrs. Shirley Michael
Mr. Albert Muchka
Mr. Charlton Price
Mr. Albert E. Rinehart, Estate of
Milwaukee County Highway Dept.
Standard Electric Supply Co.
Ms. Wanda Wattleton
Ms. Elaine M. Whiteley
Ms. Diane Young

Invertebrate Zoology
Dr. Philip J. DeVries, Ph.D.
Irwin Leeuw, Estate of
Mr. Ron H. Leuschner
Mrs. Elizabeth Parkinson

Incoming Loans

Loan Activity at the Milwaukee Public Museum
September 1, 2007 – August 31, 2008

Exhibit
To supplement special exhibit Messenger of Friendship: The Adventures of Miss Kasumi Tsukuba:

• Japanese Friendship Doll and Accessories for Japanese Friendship Doll Exhibit loaned by Lake Shore Middle School, Mequon

The Climate Change Show:

• The Climate Change Show exhibit, produced by Science North, Sudbury, Ontario

BODY WORLDS 1:

Gunther von Hagens BODY WORLDS 1: The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies, a traveling exhibit, produced by Plastination Company, Inc.

To supplement MPM’s “local connections” component of Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition:

• Pilot house door and stateroom shutter from the SS Lady Elgin and painting “The Sinking of the Lady Elgin,” by C.B. Moiegar, 1960, loaned by the Milwaukee County Historical Society

• Martin Dooley militia sword loaned by Tom Staats

• Life Preserver, oar blade and two lanterns from the Edmund Fitzgerald loaned by the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society

• Model of Edmund Fitzgerald loaned by Northwest Mutual Life Insurance

• The book “Wreck and Sinking of the Titanic. The Ocean’s Greatest Disaster,” official edition, loaned by Herbert Flanders Smith

• 58 Titanic-related items for educational programming loaned by the Denver Museum of Nature & Science
Outgoing Loans

Exhibit

Anthropology and History
- Two paintings of Wisconsin Indians by Samuel Marsden Brookes loaned to the Milwaukee Art Museum

History
- Stoneware Jug by Carl Hermann Pottery of Milwaukee, 1856, loaned to the Milwaukee Art Museum
- Six Tools and Documents loaned to the Harley-Davidson Museum

Vertebrate Zoology
- Seven vertebrate and bird mounts loaned to the Milwaukee County Historical Society

Research

Anthropology
- 47 items, Nitschke Site Material, loaned to the University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee
- French Paleolithic Material loaned to the University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee
- Copper Beads for analysis loaned to Washington State University

Invertebrate Zoology
- 269 Coleoptera specimens loaned to P. Messer
- 3 Odonata specimens loaned to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- 13 Hymenoptera specimens loaned to the University of Georgia-Athens
- 41 Lepidoptera specimens loaned to the Florida Museum of Natural History
- 5 Coleoptera specimens loaned to the Wisconsin DATCP
- 29 Hemiptera: Cicadidae specimens loaned to Barry University, Florida

Vertebrate Zoology
- 3 mounted specimens (monkey, bat, parrots) loaned to the Schlitz Auduban Center
- 46 snake specimens loaned to Avila University
- 2 study skins loaned to bird artist Michael Riddet
- 2 study skins loaned to bird artist Todd Wohlt
- 1 study skin loaned to bird artist Chuck Wollslair

Development

Membership Events

Halloween Hauntings
The Museum welcomed more than 2,400 little ghosts and goblins to a special members-only Halloween party in October 2007. This annual event allows costumed children to experience the Museum in a whole new way as they trick-or-treat through the Museum exhibits, make monster crafts, meet live creepy-crawlies and even ride the haunted freight elevator.

Behind the Scenes
With spring comes one of the Museum’s most popular events—Behind the Scenes. The Museum welcomed 900 guests into parts of the building never seen by the general public. Many people don’t realize this, but most of the Museum’s collections are not actually on display—the MPM has more than 4.6 million specimens and artifacts in its permanent, research, education and library collections. Visitors to the 2008 Behind the Scenes got to learn many obscure things, such as how bones are cleaned at the Museum and the history of cake walk dances.

Friends of the Museum

The Friends of the Museum have been integral to MPM development for nearly 50 years, and the 2008 fiscal year was no exception. The Friends of the Museum continue to be a critical force by driving initiatives in fundraising, programming and planning special member events.

Friends Events

21st Annual Gala: Samson Soiree

The Friends of the Museum’s gala was a wild affair in 2007, a fitting tribute to the man of the evening, Samson. Star of the original Museum exhibit Samson Remembered, which closed January 1, 2008, Samson would’ve felt at home among guests decked in their finest sophisticated jungle wear.

10th Annual Food and Froth

MPM’s beer festival showed no danger of slowing down despite having reached the ripe old age of 10. Once again, the event was sold out, and the Museum was thronged with patrons sipping more than 200 styles of beer, enjoying food from 17 vendors and listening to music by 10 different bands.

Luncheon Lectures

Educational programs at the Museum go far beyond field trips for young people. The Museum’s mission is to inspire learners of all ages, and what better way to stimulate the adult mind than through insightful conversation over lunch. The 2007-2008 Luncheon Lecture series covered a diverse range of topics, from Antarctic glaciation patterns to the Museum’s Japanese Friendship Doll, and served more than 400 patrons.
Friends of the Museum

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Samson Soiree
21st Annual Friends of the Milwaukee Public Museum Gala—October 20, 2007

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PICK-n-Save—Glendale—Bananas
Major Donors

As the Milwaukee Public Museum continues on its path of strong fiscal management and a commitment to providing a dynamic and stimulating environment for learning, we thank our donors for their continued and generous support. In Fiscal Year 2008, museum donors and members contributed more than $3.9 million to our annual campaign. Additionally, the museum received gifts totaling more than $10.1 million in support of exhibits, research, educational programs, endowment and debt reduction. Every gift is important, and we are sincerely grateful to each and every donor for their support.

The following list recognizes donors whose gifts of $1,000 or more were received between September 1, 2007 and August 31, 2008.

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Richard L. & Barbara B. Weiss

$5,000 - $9,999
Priscilla & Anthony Beadell
Richard & Jo Ann Beightol
Anne Booth & Charles Trainer
Mrs. Frederick L. Brengel
Anthony & Andrea Bryant
Community Foundation, Inc.
John & Kay Crichton
Davidson & Harley Fund, Inc.
Mary Mohrhusen Dittmar
James Ericson & Patricia Platten Ericson
Charitable Gift Fund
Dan & Jennifer Finley
Lee Fitzsimonds
Jan & Dale Fritz
Nancy & Bill Gaus
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Donald & Barbara Abert Fund
Lois & Donald Cottrell Fund B
Charles T. & Jean F. Gorham Fund
Luedke-Smith Fund
Mainman Family Fund
Robertson II Fund
Dorothy Inbusch Foundation
John T. & Suzanne S. Jacobus
Family Foundation
Mary Ann & Charles P. LaBahn
Jean S. Lindemann
Kenneth & Maureen Manning
Barbara N. McCallum
in memory of Fred Ott
Clare M. Peters Charitable Trust
Robert & Josephine Pipher Foundation
Jack & Lucy Rosenberg Philanthropic Fund
Will Ross Memorial Foundation
Bill & Gloria Stanford
Barbara & Ted Wiley
Bettie Zillman

$3,500 - $4,999
Derse Foundation
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Trapez Family Fund
Susan & Charles Henderson
Janet & James McKenna

$2,500 - $3,499
Anonymous
Bayerlein Foundation LTD
Dawn & Michael Bernatz
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Biersach
Elizabeth Blackwood & William Honrath
Clarence Chou
Lynda & Tom Curl
Elizabeth Dean
Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Dean
Juliana Ebert & Frank Daily
Patricia Emerson
Barbara & Henry Fuldner
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Theodore & Anna Grollmann Fund
Bernadine & Stephen Graf Fund
Priscilla & G. Edward Heinecke
Dick & Donna Holtscher
Richard G. Jacobus Family Foundation
Susan & Leander Jennings
Billie & Mike Kubly
Kuehl Family Foundation
$5,000 - $9,999
C.G. Schmidt, Inc./Richard L. Schmidt
Johnson Outdoors, Inc.
Journal Communications
MGIC Investment Corporation
National City Bank
Safari Club International
Sigma-Aldrich Corporation
Twin Disc, Inc.
Zaun Memorial Foundation, Ltd.
Zilber, Ltd.

$1,000 - $4,999
American Transmission Company, LLC
api Software, Inc.
Bank Mutual Corporation
Bostik, Inc.
Brady Corporation
Catholic Knights
Charter Manufacturing Company, Inc.
Desert Aire Corp.
DigiCOPY
Direct Supply, Inc.
Engerg Anderson Inc.
Galland Henning Nopak, Inc.
Grayline, Inc.
Habush Habush & Rottier, S.C.
Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops
Hoffman York/Lone Wolf
Holz Motors, Inc.
Innovative Construction Solutions, Inc.
InPro Corporation
Ingens Development Partners
J.W. Winco, Inc.
Jacobs Wealth Management, Inc.
Kalmbach Publishing Company
Kikkoman Foods Foundation, Inc.
Megal Development Corporation
Mercer Human Resource Consulting, Inc.
Metal-Era, Inc./Gene & Becky Mallinger
Midwest Rehabilitation Network, Inc.
Milcul, Inc.
Miller Compressing Company
Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation
National Insurance Services Group
Northwestern Extract Company
Oilgear Ferris Foundation
Park Bank Foundation
Penworthy Company
Perlick Corporation
Phoenix Care System, Inc.
R & R Insurance Services, Inc.
Sargento Foods, Inc.
Standard Process Inc.
Strattec Security Corp.
Trackside Services, Inc.
UMOS
Usinger’s Famous Sausage
Wauwatosa Savings Bank Foundation
Weldall Manufacturing, Inc.

Trustees of Tradition

Trustees of Tradition are individuals whose legacies demonstrate their commitment to carrying forward the mission of the Milwaukee Public Museum into the next century and beyond. This list is complete to August 31, 2008.

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Ahrens
Anonymous
Charles W. Auring, Jr.
Estate of Gertrude Bates
Priscilla & Anthony Beadell
Laurette Broehm
John & Julie Carpenter
Mr. & Mrs. George Chester, Sr.
Lucile Cohn
Mary Corcoran
Mrs. Roland S. Cron
Mangot Dierkemann
Mary & Fred Dohmen
Patricia Emerson
Estate of Tula Enkine
Tom & Marilyn Fifer
Linda Findley
Robert T. Foote & Dede Meyer Foote
Thomas & Marilyn Frenn
Roy Fried
Estate of Elsa C. Gatzke
David Glenn
Bian Glenn
Ms. Pauline L. Goniu
Payson R. Gould
Bernadine & Stephen Graff
Evelyn & Harold F. Grunewald
Kristin Hansen
Priscilla & G. Edward Heinecke
Ann Bardeen-Henschel, M.D.
Thomas G.A. Herz
Richard Hoffmann
Dr. & Mrs. Donald R. Hoke
Dick & Donna Hofscher
Estate of Freda Huber
Joyce & Noral Jacobs
Mr. & Mrs. Charles V. James
Susan & Leander Jennings
Ken & Cathy Kerznar
Charles Kletzsch
Mary Kralj
Jack & Jeanne Ladky
Jean S. Lindemann
Estate of Frieda F. Luctman
Dr. Nancy O. Lurie
Dr. John A. & Kristie Malone
Mrs. Robert L. Manegold
Mary M. Mason
Elizabeth M. Matz
Estate of Pauline McNight
Charles & Ann McNeer

Estate of Suzanne Miles
Calvin W. Miller
Janet Miller
Lenore Nueslein
Helen & Jeanette Oberdorfer Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Philip W. Orth, Jr.
Elizabeth & Frederick L. Ott
Lycgere Panagopoulos
Phyllis Purbaz & Lynn Chappy
Joyce Raffel
Marion C. & Verne R. Read
Chris Rundblad & John Brander
Randall Sandes
Estate of Elizabeth Schulze
Estate of Alice M. Shaughnessy
Ms. Susan Shields
Estate of Katherine T. Sieker
Yvonne B. Smith
Katherine M. Smith
Nita Soref
Bill & Gloria Stanford
Gerald & Louise Stein
John W. Taylor
Aaron & Anita Tilton Family Fund
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Van Dyke III
Mrs. Harvey E. Vick
Lowell Warshawsky
Marlene & Robert Watchmaker
Estate of Audrey Wegner
Sally & George Wells
Estate of Edward Wesccher
Joan C. Wiegand
Barbara & Ted Wiley
Mr. & Mrs. Webster Woodmansee
Estate of Daisy Woods
Diane & Richard Wright
Imogene M. Wyckoff
Robert S. Zigman
Bettie Zillman

Trustees of Tradition
### Operating Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fiscal 2007</th>
<th>Fiscal 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum</td>
<td>315,882</td>
<td>611,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMAX</td>
<td>181,661</td>
<td>220,354</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Attendance</strong></td>
<td><strong>497,543</strong></td>
<td><strong>832,190</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Average Total Revenue per Visitor</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24.34</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24.77</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Staffing</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Employees at Year End</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>149</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Full Time Equivalent</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>118</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change %</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions and Membership</td>
<td>$3,964,264</td>
<td>$3,754,039</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Support</td>
<td>$3,502,053</td>
<td>$3,503,153</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earned Revenue</td>
<td>$3,033,348</td>
<td>$5,647,404</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (Released from Restriction)</td>
<td>$1,608,323</td>
<td>$7,704,817</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,107,988</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,609,413</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum Departments</td>
<td>$9,744,200</td>
<td>$11,663,175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Expense</td>
<td>$1,208,711</td>
<td>$515,159</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>$1,210,296</td>
<td>$1,272,937</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,163,207</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,451,271</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted Operating Income</strong></td>
<td>($55,219)</td>
<td>$7,158,142</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Non-Operating Income</td>
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<td> </td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounting and Restructuring Changes</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pension and Retiree Benefits</td>
<td>($4,434)</td>
<td>($330,858)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$75,749</td>
<td>($10,046)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>$71,315</td>
<td>($340,904)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Restricted Net Assets</td>
<td>$357,810</td>
<td>$3,312,483</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$373,906</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,129,721</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fiscal 2007</th>
<th>Fiscal 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Investments</td>
<td>$3,202,933</td>
<td>$4,118,107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions Receivable</td>
<td>$1,065,981</td>
<td>$4,402,748</td>
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<td>Other Current Assets</td>
<td>$309,900</td>
<td>$414,260</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,578,814</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,935,115</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross Property and Equipment</td>
<td>$29,625,834</td>
<td>$29,840,506</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>($9,616,322)</td>
<td>($10,674,389)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Property and Equipment</strong></td>
<td>$20,009,512</td>
<td>$19,166,117</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td>$252,128</td>
<td>$212,421</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,840,454</strong></td>
<td><strong>$28,313,653</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$1,087,141</td>
<td>$748,515</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Accruals</td>
<td>$2,252,145</td>
<td>$1,596,754</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pension and Retiree Medical Liability</td>
<td>$8,777,200</td>
<td>$8,132,249</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Leases</td>
<td>$290,545</td>
<td>$57,363</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonds and Bank Debt</td>
<td>$21,361,000</td>
<td>$16,576,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$33,768,031</strong></td>
<td><strong>$27,111,509</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>($13,936,490)</td>
<td>($7,119,252)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>$3,882,496</td>
<td>$5,938,103</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted</td>
<td>$1,126,417</td>
<td>$2,383,293</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>($8,927,577)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,202,144</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,840,454</strong></td>
<td><strong>$28,313,653</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Museum Department Expenses</th>
<th>Fiscal 2007</th>
<th>Fiscal 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curatorial</td>
<td>$911,466</td>
<td>$991,863</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibits and Graphics</td>
<td>$797,739</td>
<td>$1,676,796</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMAX Theater</td>
<td>$801,011</td>
<td>$898,568</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>$658,463</td>
<td>$656,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributed Services</td>
<td>$104,262</td>
<td>$52,493</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restaurant/Facility Rental</td>
<td>$59,729</td>
<td>$121,203</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>$501,150</td>
<td>$567,655</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Expenditures</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$908,934</td>
<td>$1,112,319</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$1,901,355</td>
<td>$1,997,306</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>$2,714,981</td>
<td>$3,124,370</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>$385,110</td>
<td>$463,762</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,744,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,663,175</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Operating Items</th>
<th>Fiscal 2007</th>
<th>Fiscal 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Change in Interest Rate Swap</td>
<td>$20,501</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Earnings</td>
<td>$55,248</td>
<td>($10,046)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pension and Retiree Medical Expense</td>
<td>($4,434)</td>
<td>($330,858)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension Adoption of FASB 158</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restructuring Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on Sale of Tirimbina Member Interest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Control in Affiliated Organizations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Non-Operating Income/(Expense)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$71,315</strong></td>
<td>($340,904)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Endowment Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2002</td>
<td>$4,052,725</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2003</td>
<td>$4,418,052</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2004</td>
<td>$2,769,373</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2005</td>
<td>$95,282</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2006</td>
<td>$207,070</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2007</td>
<td>$346,374</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2008</td>
<td>$1,873,218</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Financial Recovery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Bonds and Bank Debt</th>
<th>Total Net Assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2004</td>
<td>$16,838,356</td>
<td>$2,600,124</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2005</td>
<td>$19,900,000</td>
<td>($8,161,051)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2006</td>
<td>$20,611,000</td>
<td>($9,301,483)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2007</td>
<td>$21,361,000</td>
<td>($8,927,577)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2008</td>
<td>$16,576,628</td>
<td>$1,202,144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>