



NATURALLY CONNECTED

Winter 2021 – 2022



NEW EXHIBITS ENJOYED BY VISITORS OF ALL AGES

Visitors from around the region turn to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center for high-quality time together learning about the natural world. Since our reopening in 2020, the Center has continued to prioritize free general admission so that people of all ages can experience the wonders of native wildlife in a welcoming and accessible facility. Over the past year visitors have discovered new animals and their improved habitats in the Center’s indoor and outdoor exhibits:



American Crow Pair

The American Crow has a new friend on exhibit in the Wildlife Gardens. Highly intelligent and social creatures, visitors will observe their curious nature and cooperative behaviors.



Amphibians

An American Toad and Gray Tree Frog were introduced to cylindrical enclosures in the indoor exhibit hall. Low to the ground, these exhibits offer an exceptional eye-to-eye viewing experience for children.



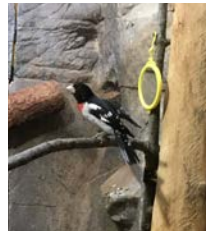
Eastern Screech Owls

The Eastern Screech Owls have adjusted nicely to their new habitat in the Wildlife Gardens. No, these are not baby owls, but rather one of Ohio’s smallest native owl species.



Peregrine Falcon Pair

A male and female pair of Peregrine Falcons cohabit in the Wildlife Gardens as animal ambassadors representing a major conservation success story.



Rose-breasted Grosbeak

The beautiful Rose-breasted Grosbeak, formerly in our Porter Creek preschool classroom, is observed by more visitors than ever in the indoor exhibit hall.



Rough Green Snakes

Actively climbing throughout the branches and vines in their indoor habitat, the Rough Green Snakes offer a lesson in camouflage for visitors of all ages.

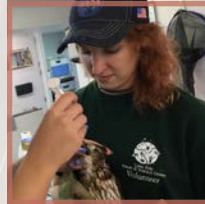
Free general admission 7 days each week from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.lensc.org for updates.

WILDLIFE INTERN SPOTLIGHT

In Summer 2021, the Center welcomed eight college interns to our Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Program to gain valuable experience and assist in the areas of wildlife rehabilitation, animal care, and public programs. Each intern brought a unique set of skills and interests to the Center as they pursued their respective degrees in biology, pre-veterinary medicine, psychology, and environmental science. The Center is grateful for their hard work and wishes them success in their future endeavors.



Rebecca Cevetto
Bowling Green State University
Biology



Anne Pannent
University of Findlay
Pre-Veterinary Medicine, Animal Science



Isaac Covington
The University of Akron
Biology, Pre-Veterinary Medicine



Emma Pierce
University of Notre Dame
Biology



Alex Miakisz
The Ohio State University
Animal Biosciences



Emily Richley
Bowling Green State University
Environmental Science specializing in Restoration



Tim Mihocik
Youngstown State University
Psychology and Anthropology



Alexis Sosic
Baldwin Wallace University
Biology

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES RETURN TO PRESCHOOL SESSION CLASSES

As one of the first and largest nature-based preschool programs in the region, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center provides hands-on learning experiences and treasured memories to preschoolers, parents, and grandparents. This year, more than 220 children are participating in the Center's preschool sessions including Frogs & Polliwogs, Nature Nuts, Earthlings, and Wild Things.

Registration is open and ongoing for Spring 2022 with prorated fees available. Children explore the wonders of science and nature with hands-on activities, crafts, music, games, live animal encounters, and planetarium shows.

Learn more and register at www.lensc.org/preschool-programs.



NEW WAYS TO SUPPORT EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND HELP FOR ANIMALS

Did you know Lake Erie Nature & Science Center accepts grants from **donor advised funds**? You can recommend a grant from your donor advised fund to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center by contacting your financial advisor and providing our tax identification number 34-0845030. This simple way to give has a big impact, as it helps us perpetuate our mission to educate and inspire us to understand, appreciate, and take responsibility for our natural world.

Also, as an independent nonprofit organization, Lake Erie Nature &

Science Center is eligible to receive charitable distributions from **Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)**. If you are 70 ½ years of age or older, your required minimum distribution can be directed to the Center as a qualified charitable distribution. A gift to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is a gift to children and families. Donations support our preschool classes, wildlife rehabilitation services, community scout programs, and captivating planetarium shows as well as free general admission to exhibits!



You can make a gift through a **donor advised fund** or an **IRA qualified charitable distribution** to:

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center
Tax ID # 34-0845030

28728 Wolf Road
Bay Village, OH 44140
440-871-2900



Mission: Lake Erie Nature & Science Center educates and inspires each of us to understand, appreciate, and take responsibility for our natural world.

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
Tax ID #34-0845030

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ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30, 2021

Prepared by Card, Palmer, Sibbison & Co.

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Program and class fees	\$ 93,466	\$ -	\$ 93,466
Cuyahoga Arts & Culture	79,013	-	79,013
Contributions and grants	454,417	140,605	595,022
Membership	4,028	-	4,028
Donated services and supplies	16,698	-	16,698
Facility rent in-kind	324,000	-	324,000
Investment income for operations	204,184	-	204,184
	1,175,806	140,605	1,316,411
Net assets released from restrictions	15,500	(15,500)	-
Total support and revenue	1,191,306	125,105	1,316,411
EXPENSES			
Salaries, payroll taxes, and benefits	512,841	-	512,841
Other employee costs	24,644	-	24,644
Fundraising	11,638	-	11,638
Educational programs and services	11,103	-	11,103
Capital renovations	347	-	347
Wildlife rehabilitation and animal care	42,414	-	42,414
Building maintenance and utilities	112,166	-	112,166
Insurance	14,447	-	14,447
Technology	70,496	-	70,496
Marketing	4,585	-	4,585
Professional fees	8,735	-	8,735
Facility rent in-kind	324,000	-	324,000
Total expenses	1,137,416	-	1,137,416
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	53,890	125,105	178,995
OTHER CHANGES			
Paycheck Protection Program grant	224,651	-	224,651
Unrealized loss on split-interest trusts	-	389,659	389,659
Investment return (loss) in excess of amounts designated for operations	7,921	593,725	601,646
Total other changes	232,572	983,384	1,215,956
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	286,462	1,108,489	1,394,951
NET ASSETS, JULY 1, 2020	1,096,813	4,112,990	5,209,803
NET ASSETS, JUNE 30, 2021	\$ 1,383,275	\$ 5,221,479	\$ 6,604,754

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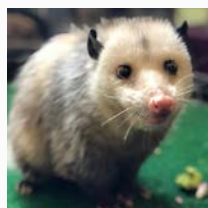
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WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN THE WINTER NIGHT SKY

Winter skies can be the clearest of the year and the richest in stars. Here are a few objects to observe this season:



Orion

One of the biggest and brightest constellations in the night sky is Orion the Hunter. Look southeast for three equally bright stars that form a straight line, otherwise known as Orion's Belt. From there, you will see two bright stars, Betelgeuse and Bellatrix, marking his shoulders, and two more bright stars, Saiph and Rigel, marking his knees. Hanging from Orion's Belt is his sword, with the famous Orion Nebula as its centerpiece.

Jupiter and Saturn

After sunset, look southwest to see two objects shining brighter than any surrounding stars. These bright objects are the largest planets in our solar system, Jupiter and Saturn. The brighter object is Jupiter, and the dimmer object below is Saturn. Take advantage of this opportunity while you can, as these beautiful planets will be lost in the light of sunset by February.



Cloudy forecast? The stars are always shining in Schuele Planetarium! The Center offers space science programs for all ages including Twinkle Tots for toddlers and Astronomy Club for teens and adults. Plan your visit at www.lensc.org/planetarium

FAMILY PROGRAMS TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is the perfect place for families and groups of all ages to enjoy time together while learning about seasonal changes in nature. All of the Center's family programs include up-close wildlife encounters, a themed planetarium program, a festive craft, and a nearby hike in Huntington Reservation.

Stay tuned for exciting offerings each season at www.lensc.org/family-programs.



MECHANICAL ENGINEERING BADGES FOR GIRL SCOUTS

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is offering more mechanical engineering badges than ever for local Girl Scouts. From designing a roller coaster car to testing their very own board game, these badges are an enjoyable and highly transferrable way to build interest and confidence in solving new challenges.

Spring 2022 programs for Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Scouts BSA are available for registration at www.lensc.org/scout-programs





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Follow us on   

The Women's Board of Lake Erie Nature & Science Center supports the Center and its mission through service, community awareness, and fundraising. To become involved, please contact 440-871-2900.



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

NATURALLY CONNECTED

WONDERS OF WILDLIFE

Children and families experience up-close encounters with a variety of the Center's resident animals in Wonders of Wildlife, a new program offering at the Center.



WILDLIFE ASSISTANCE

The Center offers free wildlife rehabilitation services 7 days a week. For assistance, please call 440-871-2900 x204 or email wildlife@lensc.org.



Tickets and information at www.lensc.org