CELEBRATING CONNECTIONS
2023 Annual Report
In my initial days as director of MNCH, I have seen our museum’s incredible impact.

It serves as a place of connection, fostering a sense of pride and identity among community members. I have seen a parade of school children meander through our exhibit halls and their eyes widen in awe; I have seen families bond over shared discoveries; and I have seen lifelong learners find a sanctuary for intellectual exploration.

This report offers a snapshot of our activities from July 2022 to June 2023, both in the museum and across the state.

Best,
Todd

Todd Braje
Executive Director
STUDENTS are at the heart of what we do.

Every day at the museum, students take their learning beyond the classroom. The museum is a vital part of the University of Oregon’s commitment to a rich academic experience and inclusive university community. We are proud Ducks!

5,500+ University of Oregon students served
52 student employees
50+ UO academic course visits
130+ student members

Students celebrate accomplishments and engage in groundbreaking research at the museum.
COMMUNITY
is built at the museum.

The museum is a place for creating connections—to each other, to our past, and to our future. It’s where we discover what brings us together and challenges us to grow.

In 2023 we launched the Access Membership Program, inviting guests who use SNAP benefits or Oregon Trail cards to join at a discounted rate. Access members enjoy all the same member benefits. Our museum community is growing!

440
member households

3,300+
K-12 students
served on-site

5,000+
volunteer hours
recorded

70
volunteers

30,000+
guests welcomed
EXHIBITS
that honor community
and inspire connections

Discover yourself at the museum—or find a neighbor. This year we were honored to host Outliers and Outlaws—Stories from the Eugene Lesbian History Project and MAGIC in Medieval Europe, as well as Braiding Sweetgrass author Robin Wall Kimmerer as a featured contemporary Indigenous artist.
STATEWIDE service across Oregon

From the ocean to the high desert, from the Willamette Valley to the Wallowas, the museum supports education and research around the state.

10,000+ Oregonians served off-site

22 libraries and community centers hosted a traveling exhibit from MNCH

280 traditional artists on the Oregon Culture Keepers Roster

29,000+ individual artifact fragments analyzed

2,000+ new marine fossils labeled as part of the Fossil Hackathon

Director of the Condon Fossil Collection
Edward Davis brought students and museum staff to the Oregon coast to study and identify more than 2,000 fossils.
Museum archaeologists worked with the Oregon Historical Society and Tribal members from the Burns Paiute Tribe and The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Indians on a two-day public symposium: *Human Experience in the Oregon Great Basin: Past and Present Ways of Knowing.*

The museum welcomed Samoan researchers and tradition-keepers Regina Meredith Fitiao and Su’a Ulisone Fitiao to study the museum’s collection of tapa cloths.

**STEWARDSHIP**

*of our shared cultural history*

Our museum is not just a collection of items. We work to make our collections and research accessible, especially to Indigenous scholars and bearers of cultural traditions.
LOOKING FORWARD

What to expect in 2024

- Educational programs in 80+ libraries
- New exhibits that look from the sea to the stars
- The launch of *Native Innovation*, a new Museum Adventures traveling exhibit
- And much, much more!