



# 2023

YEAR-END REVIEW



## STAFF & BOARD

### Free, Open, and Accessible

We meet the needs of our communities as a welcoming and inclusive gathering place.



5,998	Total Visitors to PoCo Muse in 2023
2	Interns during 2023
6	Total Number of Staff Members in 2023
100%	Percentage of 2023 Staff Started as Interns
12	Total Members in Board of Trustees

### Staff & Board

#### Executive Director

Kevin Matthew Pazour

#### Director of Exhibits & Publications

Jacob Just

#### Visitor Experience Manager

Quinn Albert

#### Collections Manager

Sarah Berndt

#### Collections Assistants

Kaelie Eberhart  
Ashley Vernon

#### Interns

Logan Albright  
Ashley Vernon

#### Board of Trustees

Joanne Urschel, *Chair*  
Ronald Trigg, *Vice Chair*  
Kathryn McMillan, *Treasurer*  
Ellen Kapitan, *Secretary*  
Brandi Anstine  
Patricia Crise  
Kathleen Evans  
Ruth Johnston  
Kevin Kerr  
Jeffrey Lewis  
Paul D. Miles  
Carlos Rivero



## EXHIBITIONS & PUBLICATIONS

### Meaningful Storytelling

We connect stories with artifacts to encourage imagination, introspection, and empathy.



9	Exhibitions during 2023
19	Artists Represented
245	Artifacts Displayed
8	Total Number of Publications
368	Magazine Subscribers

2023 began with the *Prehistoric Pop-Up* exhibit in the Montague/Urschel Gallery. Upon its closing on April 30, the exhibit travelled to Cedar Lake and was installed at the Museum at Lassen's Resort from May through October.

The featured exhibit, *Ever Yours: Postcards from the Golden Age*, ran from May 12, 2023, through January 7, 2024, in the Montague/Urschel Gallery and was the primary exhibit for 2023. Over 400 postcards from our collection were displayed, including 150 original artifacts and 250 transcribed reproductions. A "pop-up" booth featuring content from *Ever Yours* was installed at the Porter County Fair from July 20 to 29.

The Robert Cain Gallery hosted four small exhibits throughout the year, each including different selections of artwork from our permanent collection. *Connections*, our permanent exhibit in the Eunice Slagle Gallery, saw an update in September. Seven new pairings (twenty artifacts) were added. •



## PROGRAMS & TOURS

### Hands-on Learning

We create opportunities to learn from interactive and intergenerational experiences.



152	Attendees of Free Guided Museum Tours
64	Total Tours, Programs, and Openings
15	Thursday Evenings with Extended Summer Hours
782	Total Program Attendance
1,436	Exhibit-related Buttons Awarded to Visitors

During 2023, the PoCo Muse continued to offer free weekly guided museum tours every Saturday. From November onward, the time was changed from noon to 2p in response to visitor feedback. An additional Curated Tour with Quinn Albert, Visitor Experience Manager, was offered each quarter, providing in-depth stories and featured objects not normally on display.

Pamela Murrow presented a history talk on her transcription of Morgan Township farmer John B. DeCrow's 1866-1890 diaries. Ian Baker and his band of living-history interpreters continued to offer their popular public programming with themed reenactments each quarter on the courthouse lawn. Executive Director Kevin Matthew Pazour hosted a public tour of Old City Cemetery and a downtown fire-history walking tour. For PoCo Muse supporters, he offered two behind-the-scenes museum tours. History Happy Hour, a quarterly local-history social gathering at a neighborhood pub, began in July. •



## COLLECTIONS

### Responsible Stewardship

We uphold the collection and history of our institution with integrity and accountability.



344	New Accessions
2.74%	Of Collection Newly Accessioned
695	Objects Inventoried
7	Artifacts Loaned Out
12	Artifacts Loaned In

The Iota Chapter of Tri Kappa awarded a \$1,100 grant to the PoCo Muse to make improvements in our art storage facilities. The museum now has a much-enhanced capability to provide safe storage for its collection and has extra capacity for new acquisitions.

Sarah Berndt, PoCo Muse Collection Manager, continued to spearhead an ongoing deaccession and inventory project following the collection's move into its new storage facility in 2021.

Kaelie Eberhart ended her tenure as Collection Assistant on August 24 to pursue a Master of Arts degree at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge, England. •



## SUPPORTERS IN 2023

### Collaboration

We work together with people and organizations aligned with our mission and vision.

#### Founders

Indiana Dunes Tourism  
Stewart & Kathryn  
McMillan  
Porter County  
Government  
Joanne & Dan Urschel

#### Benefactors

John W. Anderson  
Foundation  
Emily Remster

#### Champions

Charles P. Welter &  
Donna Howell  
Ronald A. Trigg

#### Advocates

Anonymous  
Walt & Cynthia  
Breitinger  
Jeffrey Neeley &  
Virginia Cheung  
Patricia S. Crise  
Sharon & Jim Hubbard  
Paul & Monica Miles  
Elena Urschel

#### Supporters

Barbara Brandt  
Gretchen & John  
Buggeln  
Ruth & Ralph Johnston  
Kevin Kerr  
Edgar Luecke  
Jane Maxwell  
Kevin & Gabrielle  
Pazour  
Carlos Rivero  
James D. Ruge  
Shive-Hattery  
Architecture +  
Engineering  
Steven & Mary Shook  
M. E. Simpson  
Company, Inc.  
Jan & Harley Snyder  
Jacki Stutzman  
Thorgren Tool &  
Molding  
Iota Chapter, Tri Kappa  
Timothy Johnston &  
Anne Marie Windle

#### Friends

Anonymous  
Terry Abner  
Scott & Lynn Bayman  
Kathleen & Donald  
Evans

Kathleen Hart  
Laura Harting  
Karen & Bill Higbie  
James & Melodee  
Kalinke  
Anna & Jonathan Kraft  
Gerald "Bo" Bowman  
& Marilyn Hanson  
Lawrence & Patricia  
McAfee  
Sharon Mortensen  
Frances A. Saar

#### Patrons

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Walter Ailes  
Bonnie & Eugene  
Albert  
1st Source Bank  
Sandra Bowman  
Scott Cvelbar  
Phil Deters  
C. Bernard Doyle  
Kathleen & Donald  
Evans  
Susan C. Fraley  
Minakshi Ghuman  
Philip Hahn  
Wyckoff Hybrids, Inc.  
Steve & Pat Ingram  
Paul & Connie Knauff  
Jessica & Paul Kroenke  
Steven & Diana Langer  
Todd & Cheryl Leeth  
Tom & Sandy Linkimer  
Alice Harrington & Tom  
Ludwig  
Gayle Shauer & Daniel  
Nicoletto  
Ray Sonnenberg  
& Karen Pazour-  
Sonnenberg  
John Poertner  
Jeffrey Schultz  
Maureen A. Stombaugh  
Stuart & Megan  
Summers  
Matt & Sami Welter

#### Contributors

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
James & Joanne Albers  
Trent & Mary Albert  
Barth Anderson  
Michael & Nancy Anton  
Michael & Dolores  
Aylesworth  
Jean Bargeron  
Sharon Beach  
Mara & John Becking  
Grant Bell

Richard Bender  
Carol Bertrand  
Heather Bessler  
David & Roz Besterman  
Scott Bocock  
Tacy & Peter Borgman  
BoyConn Printers  
Roger & Mary Bradford  
Eva K. Brady  
Richard Brauer  
Steve & Jill Buck  
Warren & Pat Buckler  
Carol Buhman  
Dave & Kathy  
Butterfield  
Linda Canfield  
Joyce Cavan  
Michael Chez  
John Christos  
Gary & Sue Connors  
Robert Cotton  
Larry Dankoff  
Duane & Frieda  
Davison  
Debra Denslaw  
Jan & Marian Dick  
Ron Dillon  
Carlos Arambula  
Chapter 102, Disabled  
American Veterans  
Herb Douglas  
Thomas Drake  
Kaelie Eberhart's  
Birthday Fundraiser  
Lucas & Sally Ecklund-  
Baker  
Gerald & Vivian Fagen  
Elizabeth Gingerich  
Olga Granat  
Robert & Teri Gray  
Michelle & Paul  
Grossnickle  
Ruth & John Gruel  
Carrie Hanks  
Jesse & Dina Harper  
Vic & Sue Heinold  
Garland & Joyce Hicks  
Martha Highland  
Kenneth & Mary Hill  
Elizabeth Hinele  
Weldy  
Larry & Heather Hitz  
Arthur & Linda Just  
Lucas & Emma Kelley  
Nancy Kickbush  
Todd & Cheryl Leeth  
Joel & Christine  
Lehmann  
William Luecke  
Hugo E. Martz  
Mathesis Club of Porter  
County  
Mark McColley  
Carol McCreery

Hugh & Sandy  
McGuigan  
Dick & Joan Meister  
Gene Mellenthin  
Jan & Keith Meyers  
Mark & Susan Mihaló  
Jon & Joyce Miller  
Donna Mitzner  
Cory & Blair Muro  
Pat & Nancy Murphy  
Pam Murrow  
Myrna Newgent  
Mark & Mary Pallo  
Margaret Paris  
Barbara Parke  
Amy Parsons  
Mary Persyn  
David L. Pilz  
Paul & Diana Reed  
Lois Reiner  
Victor & Christy Ritter  
Rosemary Robbins  
G. A. Ronneau  
Stephen & Chandler  
Roskam  
Ronda & David  
Schelling  
Carol & Rob Schickel  
John & Connie  
Schoening  
Michael & Jill Schrage  
Edward & Karen  
Seykowski  
Bill Steinbrecher  
Miles Stipanovich  
Valparaiso Sunrise  
Kiwanis  
Spero Valavans  
Douglas Watkins  
Mary Stinchfield  
Wavering  
Ken & Tina Williams  
Kathryn Wiltfang  
Patricia & Jon Wong  
Samuel & Patricia Yount

#### Subscribers

Anonymous  
Amanda Angle  
Suzanne & Wesley Baker  
Melvin Bohlmann  
Margery Ciciora  
Gerald Clifford  
Susan Clouser  
Michael H. Corbett  
Barbara Gray Ellis  
Terri & Donald Ensign  
Louis & Ruth Foster  
Charles "Biff" &  
Barbara Geiss  
Phillip Griffith  
Ronald Hallberg  
Duneland Historical

Society  
Crawford County  
Historical Society  
Nancy Hokanson  
Sue Hord  
Joyce Ivey  
Christopher & Molly  
Joll  
Jake & Mica Just  
Mary K. Kaczka  
Ken & Dorothy Kehe  
John & Joyce Knauff  
Lynda & Art Krueger  
Jane Lohmeyer  
Kay Morris  
Ruth Nicholson  
Nikki Nixon  
John & Donna Oglesby  
Marion Osterhout  
John D. Peyton  
Marion Phillips  
Kevin & Linda Phillips  
Barbara E. Plampin  
John & Sarah Redmond  
Max Rehlander  
Margaret M. Rivers  
Jayni K. Rush  
Eugenia Sacopulos  
Christine Schrey  
Diane Schweitzer  
Joseph Scida  
Dennis & Suzy Seramur  
Marilynn A. Uehling  
Suzan & John Vigilante  
Sherry Walters  
Gary & Cheryl  
Wasemann  
Patricia Wisniewski  
Jodi & Jeff Zulich

#### Other Gifts

Danielle Adams  
Brandi Anstine  
Corey Baxter  
Catherine Carpenter  
Penelope Castor  
Pat Conway  
Alan & Wendy Coslet  
James E. Daly  
Fred Frey  
Susan Gleason  
Donna & Gary Gray  
Gidget Griffin  
Jon & Kathy Groth  
William Henry Harrison  
DAR Chapter  
Pamela J. Hay  
Martha Hoepfner  
Judith & Neil Hurdle  
Jeff Jacobs  
Ken & Caren Jankowski  
Casey King  
Nicole Littrell

John Lowenstine  
Bethany Malady  
Linda Mapes  
Tyler Mills  
Dennis J. Norman  
Melissa Osika  
John & Gloria Ruff  
Dan Ruggaber  
Jane Sanders  
David & Janet  
Schnurlein  
Gregg Sorrentino  
Deborah Stipanovich  
Deb Thinnis  
Jane Walsh-Brown  
Ken & Wilma Willard  
Chuck & Marian  
Worden

#### Remembrance Gifts

In honor of Cub Scout  
Pack 902  
In honor of James  
McGill  
In honor of Logan  
Albright  
In honor of Pat  
Cookson  
In honor of Paul Miles  
In honor of PoCo Muse  
Magazine  
In honor of Richard  
Brauer  
In honor of Ron Trigg  
In memory of Donna  
Draper Welter  
In memory of Dorcas  
Luecke  
In memory of Harry B.  
Miller, Sr.  
In memory of Joseph  
C. and Dora Belle  
Martz  
In memory of Kenneth  
Lowenstine  
In memory of Laurel  
Hahn  
In memory of Philip A.  
Maxwell  
In memory of Philip  
Brockington  
In memory of Richard  
Lohmeyer  
In memory of Robert  
Cain  
In memory of Thomas  
K. Turner  
In memory of Tom Hart  
In memory of William J.  
Welter  
In memory of Wilma  
Luther