



2023  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

HOUSTON MUSEUM  
*of* NATURAL SCIENCE



*“The mission of the Houston Museum of Natural Science shall be to preserve and advance the general knowledge of natural science; to enhance in individuals the knowledge of and delight in natural science and related subjects; and to maintain and promote a museum of the first class.”*

# Table of Contents

<b><sup>1</sup> Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
President's Message	2
Leadership	3
<b><sup>2</sup> Year in Review</b>	<b>4</b>
<b><sup>3</sup> Education</b>	<b>6</b>
<b><sup>4</sup> Accessibility</b>	<b>10</b>
<b><sup>5</sup> Exhibits &amp; Collections</b>	<b>12</b>
Special Exhibitions	12
Collections	22
<b><sup>6</sup> Venues</b>	<b>26</b>
<b><sup>7</sup> HMNS at Sugar Land &amp; The George Observatory</b>	<b>28</b>
<b><sup>8</sup> Membership</b>	<b>30</b>
<b><sup>9</sup> Financial Report</b>	<b>32</b>
<b><sup>9</sup> Development</b>	<b>34</b>
<b><sup>10</sup> Our Supporters</b>	<b>36</b>
<b><sup>11</sup> Museum Store</b>	<b>40</b>
<b><sup>12</sup> Ways to Give</b>	<b>42</b>

[HMNS.ORG](http://HMNS.ORG)

**HMNS AT HERMANN PARK**

5555 Hermann Park Dr.  
Houston, Texas 77030  
713-639-4629

**HMNS AT SUGAR LAND**

13016 University Blvd.  
Sugar Land, Texas 77479  
281-313-2277

**GEORGE OBSERVATORY**

21901 FM 762 Rd.  
Needville, Texas 77461  
979-553-3400

# President's Message

As we reflect on 2023, I am reminded that diligence in the everyday produces the extraordinary.

It has been a tremendously busy and productive year here at the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

We have celebrated the opening of our special exhibition, *Sharks! The Meg, The Monsters & the Myths*, which was entirely conceptualized, designed, and built in-house.

We have seen an unprecedented uptick in our member households through strategic initiatives.

We have refined and expanded our education programs, including the launch of the Glasscock Outreach Program tailored specifically for middle schoolers.

And, we have been putting the finishing touches on what will be the most dynamic, innovative, state-of-the-art chemistry and physics hall in the world: The Welch Hall: Matter & Motion, presented by the Ting Tsung and Wei Fong Chao Foundation, scheduled to open in March 2024.

*Diligence in the every day produces character for the extraordinary.*

As the fourth-most visited museum in the country, we continue to produce world-class special exhibitions; prioritize the engagement of an ever-growing member and donor base; consistently assess and modify our vast array of education programs to meet the evolving needs of our students; and, revitalize—and construct—permanent halls to ensure their relevance for generations to come.

I am deeply inspired by all that has been accomplished this year and by the exciting projects set in motion for next year and the years to come. I hope you are, too.

Thank you to the wonderfully talented staff, our devoted members, and, especially our loyal and generous donors. Because of your consistent, unwavering support, the Museum of Natural Science is achieving the extraordinary.



Joel A. Bartsch  
HMNS President and CEO

# Board of Trustees

## OFFICERS

Randa Duncan Williams, *Chairman*

S. Reed Morian, *Vice Chairman*

Matthew J. Assiff, *Treasurer*

Tim Cejka, *Secretary*

Al Walker, *Immediate Past Chair*

## ELECTED TRUSTEES

Neil W. Duffin

Douglas C. Elliott

Jeff B. Gustavson

Randall B. Hale

Marie Fondren Hall

Anne Hamman Brollier

Tracey Henderson

Maynard Holt

Michael Holthouse

Sippi K. Khurana, M.D.

Joella Mach

Sean M. Maher

Derrick Mitchell

Michael K. Mithoff

William E. Pritchard, III

Jason Sabat

Christopher G. Stavros

Lias J. Steen

Samuel E. Stubbs

Garry Tanner

Kelli Ann Weinzierl

Harry P. Weitzel

John P. Wilkirson

David W. Williams

James Wu

## TRUSTEES EMERITI

F. Fox Benton, III

Brady F. Carruth

Ernest H. Cockrell

Carolyn Davis

George R. Farris

Jason L. Fertitta

Alfred C. Glassell, III

Henry Hamman\*

Peter D. Huddleston

John W. Johnson

T. Mark Kelly

Truett Latimer

George Lindahl, III

Ronald N. McMillan

William C. Montgomery

Laurie N. Morian

Carroll R. Ray

George W. Strake, III

Rusty Walter, III

James D. Weaver

Eugene Werlin, Jr.

William M. Wheless, III

Jeanie Kilroy Wilson

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Joel A. Bartsch

*HMNS President and CEO*

Kristiann Rushton

*Junior League Representative*

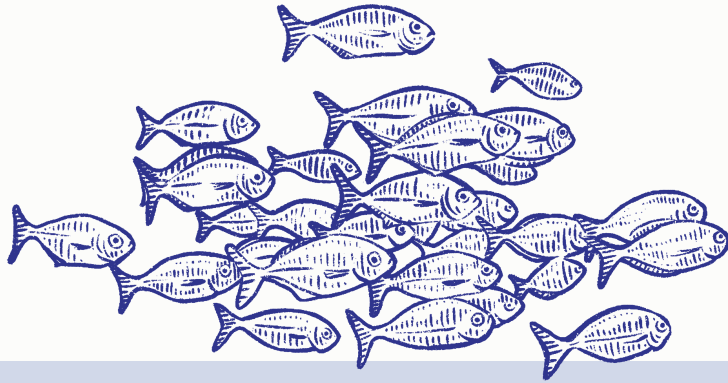
Larry Scott

*HMNS Guild President*

*\*Individuals who passed in 2023*

# Year in Review

1,902,802  
OVERALL ATTENDANCE

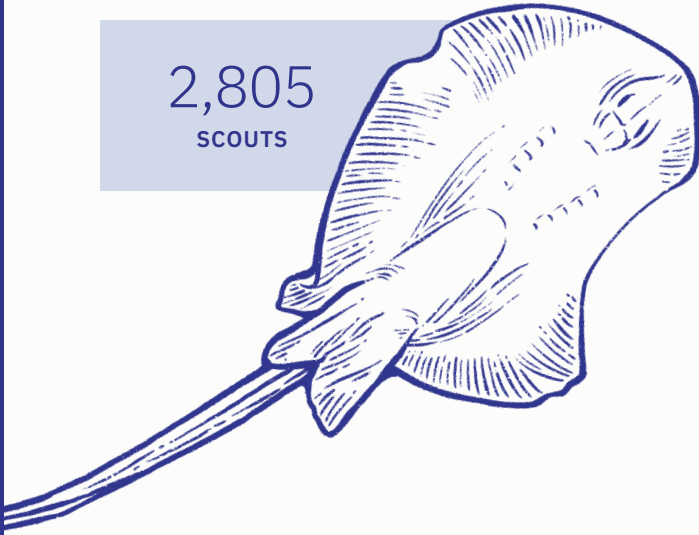


1,807,052  
HERMANN PARK

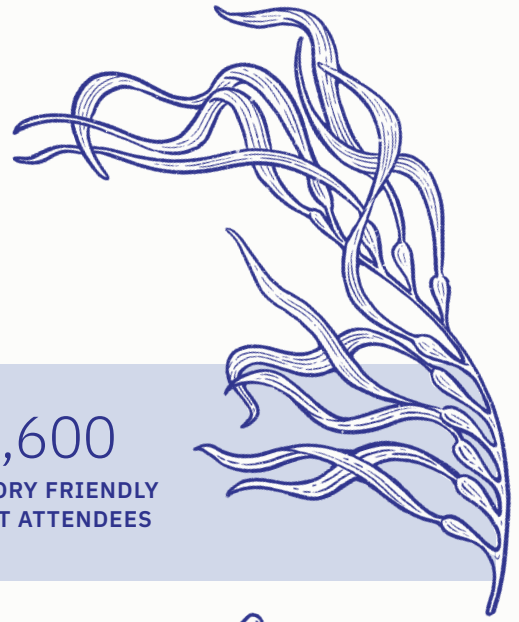
85,631  
SUGAR LAND

10,119  
THE GEORGE OBSERVATORY

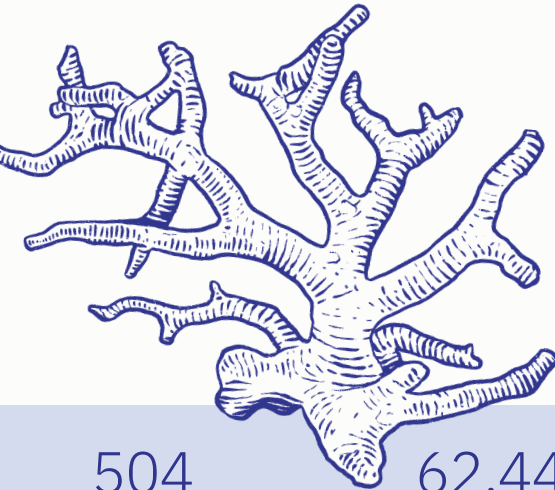
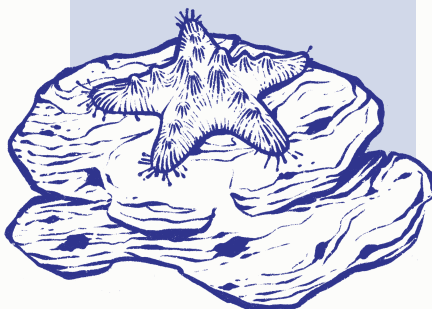
2,805  
SCOUTS



3,600  
SENSORY FRIENDLY  
EVENT ATTENDEES



32,524  
NEW MEMBER  
HOUSEHOLDS



504 — for — 62,444  
OUTREACH PROGRAMS — PEOPLE

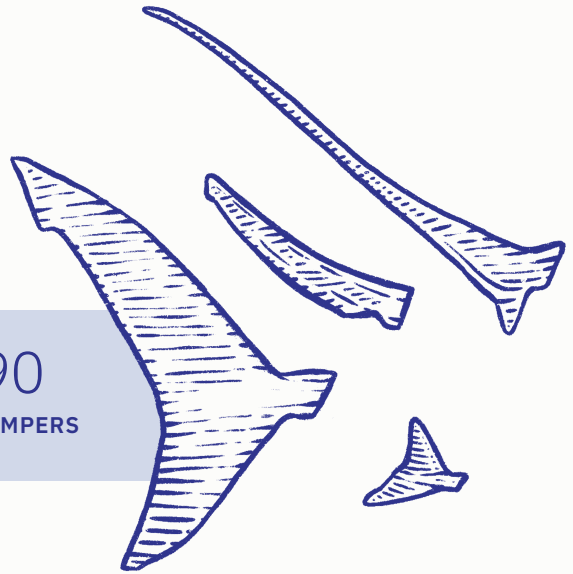
90,587

FREE THURSDAY VISITORS



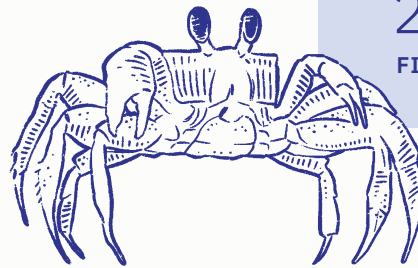
4,890

SUMMER CAMPERS



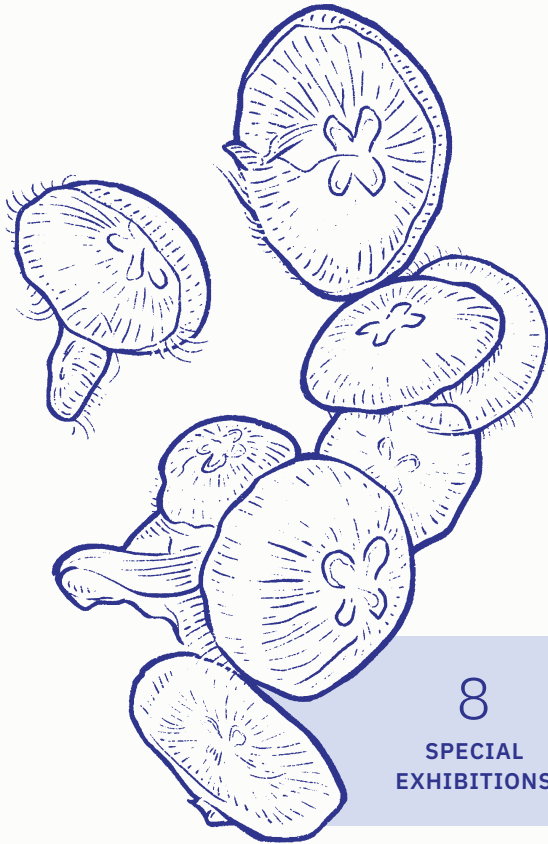
2,696

FIELD TRIPS



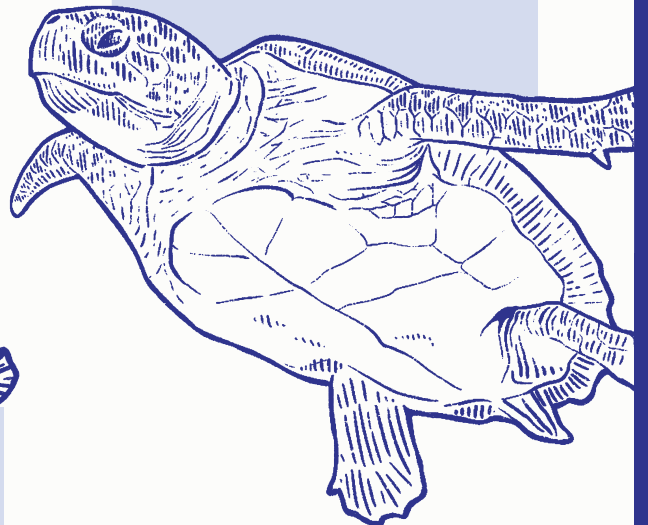
8

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS



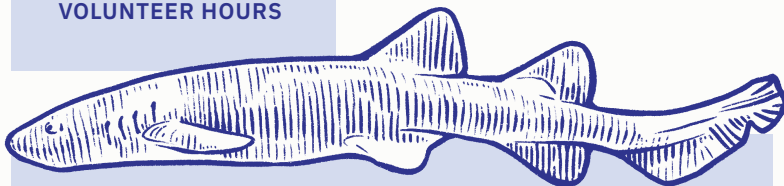
446,595

TOTAL EDUCATION REACH



52,730

VOLUNTEER HOURS



632

VOLUNTEERS

including

154

MORAN ECOTEEN VOLUNTEERS



Field trips offer students a chance to connect with dinosaurs in the Morian Hall of Palaeontology.

# Education

Education programs at HMNS are designed to engage and empower students, teachers, and lifelong learners. These transformative experiences are consistently evaluated and redeveloped in conjunction with school needs, scientific discoveries, and emerging technologies. In 2023, more than 445,000 people were served through our hands-on, science-focused programming.

## YOUTH EDUCATION

### FIELD TRIPS

For students across the Houston-area, a field trip to HMNS is a milestone experience. In 2023, the Museum welcomed a monumental 315,000 young scholars for a day of discovery outside of the classroom. The Museum is proud to partner with teachers to reinforce and build upon the curriculum they teach with hands-on experiences.



**315,893**  
FIELD TRIP VISITORS

### HISD PROGRAM

*Supported by Transocean and Sempra Infrastructure*

The Museum’s goal is to provide a half-day science learning experience for 4th grade students, including a visit to the Burke Baker Planetarium, special tours of the exhibit halls, and time exploring a science lab, all of which aim to bolster the District’s academic objectives and classroom principles.

**11,523**

HISD PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



### EARTH SCIENCE ON WHEELS

*Supported by Southwestern Energy*

Outreach programs like Earth Science on Wheels provide TEKS-aligned presentations developed for all grades and audience sizes and offer a unique opportunity to learn firsthand from Museum experts, featuring encounters with real specimens and artifacts.



### GLASSCOCK OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Glasscock Outreach Program was established in March 2023 to expand HMNS Outreach to middle school students. HMNS delivered 72 outreach presentations to 13 different locations across Houston in 2023, exciting 1,803 children about the wonders of the natural world and providing new pathways to understand the STEM-objectives taught in the classroom. Participating locations are after-school programs for children in need who, more often than not, have never heard of HMNS nor visited the Museum District. Participating students also receive complimentary Museum tickets and one-year family memberships, so that they can visit HMNS following their outreach experience to fully immerse themselves in the lessons learned.



*Museum educator James "Jurassic James" Washington brings science to life for students from their classroom seats.*

*“The in-class activities are always incredible. Super well thought out, done at a level that my kids can understand but also complicated enough to hold their attention and surprise them. My kids always feel like they have learned—and then tried themselves—cool new things.”*

–CAMP PARENT

### SUMMER CAMPS

Summer is cool at HMNS—in 2023, the Museum registered 4,823 campers for a season filled with discovery and adventure against the backdrop of authentic dinosaur fossils, Egyptian mummies, and an array of the finest specimens and artifacts in the world. Summer Camps at HMNS aim to inspire the next generation of engineers and scientists by providing STEM-focused instruction using curricula developed by our in-house content specialists.

### SCOUTS@HMNS

*Supported by Oxy*

The Museum provided badge classes and enrichment events to 2,805 scouts in 2023, including 318 "Badges on Demand." Classes on subjects such as the history and development of ciphers and codes, the science of photography, and space exploration provide Scouts an opportunity to explore the natural world while working toward their goals. In 2023, noteworthy badges like "First Aid" and "Uncovering the Past" were added to the catalog of courses offered at HMNS.



*Summer Camps offer young scientists a chance to explore everyday science, including the photographic process!*

### GEMS

The annual *Girls Exploring Math and Science* (GEMS) event, in collaboration with the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council, aims to narrow the STEM gender gap and inspire young women. Girls of all ages are welcomed to engage with industry professionals, participate in captivating demonstrations, and immerse themselves in hands-on activities. Exceptional participants have the chance to showcase their science projects, competing for prizes that benefit their classrooms, science labs, or Scout troops.

1,476  
GEMS PARTICIPANTS




*Docents enrich the Museum experience with insights gained from extensive training and their own unique stories.*


### EXPEDITION CENTER / EXXONMOBIL CAREER CHALLENGE

For over three decades, the HMNS Expedition Center has been taking countless hopeful astronauts on thrilling journeys to the Moon and Mars. These immersive, team-building simulations require participants to apply their problem-solving prowess to complete exhilarating space missions, mirroring real NASA training programs.

The ExxonMobil Career Challenge program extends this experience to every 6th grader in HISD, offering them the chance to engage in an Expedition Center mission. Alongside, students delve into additional learning activities focused on contemporary STEM careers.

350 

STUDENTS  
TOOK PART IN  
THE CAREER  
CHALLENGE  
PROGRAM

165 

EXPEDITION  
CENTER  
MISSIONS

### MORAN ECOTEENS

*Supported by The W.T. and Louise J. Moran Foundation*

Moran Ecoteens are an impressive cohort of high school-aged scholars who dedicate their time to supporting—and exploring – HMNS. In their roles, Moran Ecoteens are able to acquire skills that help shape their professional outlooks and provide insight into future careers while enjoying the camaraderie of fellow teens passionate about natural science. As volunteers, they primarily aid teachers and interact with enthusiastic young campers in the Museum’s summer science camp sessions. Additionally, they deliver engaging exhibit hall presentations using Museum specimens and artifacts. In 2023, the Museum trained 154 Moran Ecoteen Volunteers who provided more than 13,800 volunteer hours of service to the Museum.

In 2023, the Moran Teen Advisory Council (TAC) planned both in-person and virtual events to engage other teens with HMNS. This included Teen Night events focusing on the *King Tut’s Tomb* exhibit and the *Sharks!* exhibit. They also hosted and produced TAC Virtual Study Breaks, published on the HMNS Youtube channel to share with a wider audience.




*Moran Ecoteens engage with guests of all ages through their in-gallery training.*



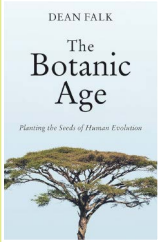
## ADULT EDUCATION

### DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

*Presented by Apache Corporation*  
 Twice monthly, the world's leading experts are invited to the Museum to present a robust lecture in their respective fields. Topics cover a variety of disciplines, including archaeology, paleontology, astronomy, and conservation.



*Shark Code: Lessons from Nature's Fiercest Predators*  
 Marine Biologist  
 Melissa Cristina Márquez

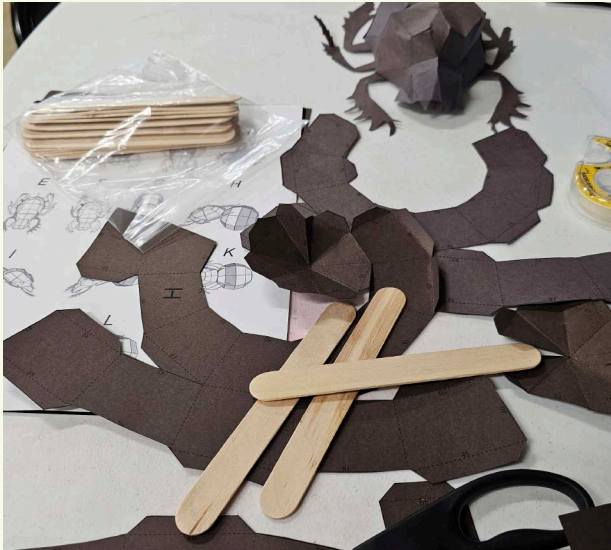


*The Botanic Age*  
 Evolutionary Anthropologist  
 Dean Falk, PhD  
*In partnership with The Leakey Foundation*

20 LECTURES    1,009 ATTENDEES    

### SHELL EDUCATORS' PREVIEWS

The Shell Educators' Preview invites Houston teachers to an exclusive evening at the Museum, where they can explore the newest exhibits and attend professional workshops. This biannual gathering not only fosters connections between HMNS and community educators, but also offers them valuable networking and career development opportunities. In 2023, more than 1,000 educators, representing more than 25 local school districts, participated.



*Hands-on learning opportunities offer students fresh perspectives on science.*

SPRING 2023 PREVIEW	FALL 2023 PREVIEW
800 ATTENDEES	203 ATTENDEES

19 SCHOOL DISTRICTS REPRESENTED

23 SCHOOL DISTRICTS REPRESENTED

# Accessibility

At HMNS, we foster inclusivity and provide a warm environment for everyone. We aim to make this evident in every facet of the Museum, spanning exhibits, programs, amenities, and accessibility points. Below are the 2023 highlights of accessibility initiatives:

## TOUCH TOURS

Touch Tours, distinctive tactile experiences designed for blind and low-vision visitors, are offered throughout the year. Specially trained educators lead these tours, providing detailed verbal descriptions and using tactile objects to enrich the exploration of exhibits.

On July 1, volunteers and Moran Ecoteens assisted six tour groups of 26 visitors who are blind and low vision, in coordination with the National Confederation of the Blind Convention in Houston. These groups went on special tactile tours through *King Tut's Tomb Discovery Experience* and The Laurie and Reed Morian Cabinet of Curiosities, and they also engaged with touch carts in the permanent exhibit halls. While a participant was exploring The Laurie and Reed Morian Cabinet of Curiosities with a Moran Ecoteen who was providing verbal description and assistance, the participant shared, *"This is the best museum experience I've ever had!"*



Volunteers share replica scarabs for Touch Tour participants to explore.



Tactile objects used to aid blind and low-vision visitors.

## SENSORY BACKPACKS

Starting in spring 2023, backpacks with sensory fidgets, magnifying glasses, Wiki Stix, ear defenders, and comfort items were made available to guests. These backpacks provide readily-available items to help students with low vision, blindness, intellectual disabilities, or other sensory sensitivities.



## SENSORY FRIENDLY EVENTS

*Supported by the Joan and Stanford Alexander Family Fund*  
Sensory Friendly Events are offered several times a year at Hermann Park and Sugar Land. Exhibit halls are adjusted to be as sensory neutral as possible, and guests are provided with exploration planners, visual vocabulary cards, and sensory backpacks.



*Participants from the Paving the Pathway to Success program through Texas Workforce Commission – Vocational Rehabilitation Services.*

## PARTNERSHIPS

HMNS partners with a number of community organizations to support young adults with disabilities and neurological differences. This year, staff participated in the Paving the Pathway to Success program through the Texas Workforce Commission and Vocational Rehabilitation Services. This program pairs a business mentor with a group of students with various disabilities, and the team works on a project together. The HMNS team chose to focus on creating a successful marketing campaign and correlating souvenirs to promote Autism Awareness Month at HMNS.

## FACILITIES

As the Museum strives to serve all people, facility upgrades were completed throughout the year, including automatic doors in Sugar Land; updating all public-use wheelchairs with anti-tip technology; and, continuing to prioritize digital accessibility by contracting with a company that works with organizations to ensure they are meeting the standard of Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).

*“I liked how the event was quiet due to the fact that there were not a lot of people around and I liked how there were stations set up for us to touch items and learn about each item.”*

**–TOUCH TOUR PARTICIPANT**



*Accessibility Programs Manager, Matti Wallin, shares a replica of King Tut's coffin with a Touch Tour participant.*

## STAFF TRAINING

In an effort to continually educate and excel, 148 Museum staff completed sensitivity training to prepare them to welcome guests of all abilities. This training included an overview of the types of various disabilities, detailed information regarding HMNS resources available to assist with learning differences, and instruction on inclusivity in the classroom for children with disabilities.



*Two volunteers, Marianne Sullivan and Pat Hazlett, lead a Touch Tour presentation centering on King Tutankhamun.*

# Special Exhibitions

## HERMANN PARK EXHIBITS

### *Dreher Masterworks*

JUNE 3, 2022 – MAY 29, 2023



This exhibition—showcasing 120 masterworks spanning four generations of the Dreher family—comprised one of the finest collections of lapidary art in the world. The lifelike sculptures, crafted with exquisite detail from gemstones and minerals such as ruby, sapphire, garnet, topaz, and agate, showcased the Dreher family's impeccable taste and skill of the time—many of which had never been displayed publicly.

### *King Tut's Tomb: Discovery Experience* OCTOBER 28, 2022 – ONGOING

*Supported by Woodforest Bank, the John P. McGovern Foundation, the Harriet and Truett Latimer Endowment Fund, and HMW Entertainment*

Through the *Discovery Experience*, guests time-travel to 1922 to witness the first glimpses of one of the most remarkable discoveries in archaeology: King Tutankhamun's tomb. In this state-of-the-art exhibition, guests are transported to the Valley of the Kings alongside archaeologist Howard Carter and immersed in the tomb's burial chambers, golden treasures, and floor-to-ceiling hieroglyphs. Every element is built to exact scale, with object reproductions and never-before-seen photos provided by the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities.



# The Art of Texas State Parks, a Centennial Art Exhibition

MAY 26 – OCTOBER 1, 2023

Organized by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, and the Houston Museum of Natural Science

Established in 1923, the Texas State Park System includes 89 sites that represent 640,000 acres of public land. These sites preserve Texas landscapes, provide refuge and habitat for native plants and animals, and offer an increasingly urban population places to connect to the natural world. To commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the State Parks of Texas, artists from across the State were invited to capture the spirit and unique beauty of the State parks on canvas. The paintings on view offered a snapshot of Texas's ecosystems and history.



# Trains Over Texas

NOVEMBER 17, 2023 – JANUARY 7, 2024

Supported by Glen Rosenbaum and Union Pacific Foundation

*Trains Over Texas* is an annual holiday exhibition that takes guests on a journey through our state's major cities and iconic landmarks with O scale model trains. Every year, guests experience the charm of oil country salt domes, expansive prairies and wetlands, and renowned national monuments for another year in this captivating exhibit.



## ***Sharks! The Meg, The Monsters & the Myths***

**MAY 26, 2023 – ONGOING**

*Organized by the Houston Museum of Natural Science.  
Supported by the John P. McGovern Foundation, Novum  
Energy, British International School of Houston, and the  
J.W. Couch Foundation*

*Sharks!* explores the incredible diversity of these unique predators and delves into their jaw-dropping adaptations and behaviors, which have continued to inspire scientific innovation on a global scale.

Making all ocean-lovers' dreams come true, *Sharks!* puts guests up close and personal with live sharks in the touch tank for a truly immersive experience. In this innovative exhibition, built in-house by HMNS staff, guests have a chance to touch a shark and discover what makes these creatures unique—from bait balls to bioluminescence.





**931**  
Visitors  
PER DAY IN 2023

*The highest for an HMNS special exhibit  
since BODY WORLDS in 2009*

**25**  
Different  
Countries

REPRESENTED FROM VISITORS

**291**  
Field Trips  
IN 2023



*“Sharks are beautiful animals, and if you’re lucky enough to see lots of them, that means that you’re in a healthy ocean. You should be afraid if you are in the ocean and don’t see sharks.”*

–SYLVIA EARLE



## EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS



## Behemoth's Bite

### IN THE JAWS OF MEGALODON

Guests experience the primal dread of looking into the gaping maw of the ancient Megalodon, the largest shark ever known to have existed. They are invited to imagine the raw power behind those enormous, serrated teeth, some reaching up to seven inches long with the handcrafted scale model. This imposing beast, once ruling the prehistoric seas, could swallow a small car—a reminder of how mind-blowing nature can be.



## Evolving Predators

### JOURNEY THROUGH SHARK EVOLUTION

The history of sharks stretches back over 450 million years, far pre-dating dinosaurs. Guests engage with the evolution of these remarkable creatures, from primitive forms to the refined hunters of today. Fossils and animations bring this deep past to life, igniting curiosity and wonder in future paleontologists.





## Interactive Encounters

### HANDS-ON EXPLORATION OF MARINE LIFE

The touch tank brings an interactive dimension to marine exploration: seeing live sharks, feeling the surprising textures of manta rays, the armor-like surface of crabs, and the velvety resilience of starfish. This tactile experience serves as a compelling reminder of the variety and wonder of evolutionary adaptations in the aquatic world.





*Every shark tooth, fin, and tank was expertly crafted in-house.*

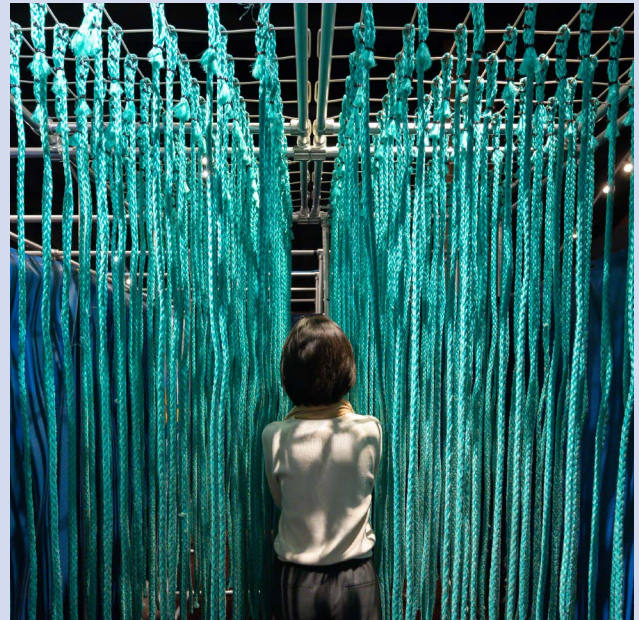
## SUGAR LAND EXHIBITS

### *Ocean Bound*

JANUARY 27 – MAY 15, 2023

*Supported by City of Sugar Land Public Works Department*

*Ocean Bound* made waves in Sugar Land, taking guests on a journey through watersheds to see how human's actions affect our oceans. Guests were invited to “make it rain” in a large 3-D watershed model; pilot a full-size two-station “submersible” from mountain stream to the ocean; and, explore eye-popping aquatic species and ecosystems along the way.



The City of Sugar Land Public Works Department won two awards at the annual state water conference, Texas Water, as a result of the partnership with the Museum: a Watermark Award for Community Outreach and Education, and a Water Conservation and Reuse Award.

## Tree Houses

MAY 26 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2023



In *Tree Houses*, visitors discovered the many habitats trees provide for animals large and small—and people, too. Guests uncovered fascinating facts about who actually lives in trees, discovered what kind of animal clues to look and listen for in the forest, and designed and built model treehouses. Fun activities like stomping on the Forest Sound Dance Floor to make woodpecker tapping sounds and turkey gobbles helped reinforce the importance of taking note of nature and the animals around them.



## Block Party, Too

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023 – JANUARY 15, 2024

*Block Party, Too* made its triumphant return to Sugar Land for another exciting year, featuring a specially designed toddler zone focused on early childhood development. Children embarked on stimulating adventures in architecture and construction, using their creativity to craft imaginative and innovative structures.



# Acquisitions



87  
ARTIFACTS



44  
SALVAGES

261 of the 753  
pieces added to the  
Collection in 2023  
were donated



622  
SPECIMENS

753

PIECES WERE ADDED TO THE  
PERMANENT COLLECTION IN 2023

Made possible, in large part, by generous gifts  
from the following donors:

*Adventures in Birds*  
*Fox Benton*  
*Tiffany Bridges*  
*Dan Brooks*  
*Janet Combes*  
*Richard Dalke*  
*Benjamin Gorman*  
*Gary and Trish Greaser*

*HMNS Guild*  
*Philip and Gayle Huffman*  
*Peter Lacovara*  
*Antonio La Pastina and Dale Rice*  
*George Lindahl, III*  
*Margaret Lozar*  
*Carolina McCord*

*Adam Mekler*  
*Jon Jay Mendlovitz*  
*Tina Petway*  
*Ben and Jackie Scardello*  
*Farrar Stockton*  
*USF&WS*  
*Kasey Zangeneh*  
*Houston Zoo*



## Anthropology

In 2023, the Anthropology Department focused on preparations and installation of the new Amazonia section of the McGovern Hall of the Americas. To ensure the preservation and longevity of the feather works, this particular section is reviewed and refreshed each year. This also provides an opportunity to highlight artifacts and information about different Tribes that populate the area.



The Kayapó people live along the Xingu River on both sides of the border of the Pará and Mato Grosso states, Brazil. With a population of about 6,000, the Kayapó utilize natural resources, such as feathers, as well as imported materials, such as beads, to make body adornments. Some of these are worn on special occasions. Others, like this colorful necklace, are worn daily. This necklace, a gift from Dr. La Pastina and Mr. Rice, is a welcome addition to the Museum's collection of ethnographic belongings from the Amazon rainforest.

---

**Beaded multi-strand Necklace** · Kayapó, Mato Grosso, Cuibá, Brazil

*Gift of Antonio La Pastina and Dale Rice*

## Egyptology

**PRE- AND EARLY DYNASTIC PERIODS (3,500 – 3,000 BC)**

The Egyptology Department prioritized conservation of the permanent collection in 2023. Ron Harvey, Objects Conservator, spent a week at the Museum conserving several pieces, including a wooden stela acquired in 2012. The removal of the stela from its frame also permitted a new discovery to be made on the reverse, which had been hidden for nearly 170 years.



HMNS has built a small, but choice, collection of stone vessels spanning ancient Egyptian history. This example is of note not just for the multi-colored stone but also for its provenance: it is recorded in the stock of Joseph Brummer, the noted Hungarian-American dealer and tastemaker in the 1930s. Not only can it be seen on his stock card, but the vessel itself preserves a rare survival of one of his inventory labels, a fascinating link between his age and ours.

---

**Ovoid hardstone vessel** · Egypt

## Entomology

In 2023, the Entomology Department prepared for the upcoming re-design of the Entomology collection in the Cockrell Butterfly Center. To enhance and complement the existing permanent collection, this reinstallation will include locating and acquiring dozens of specimens from known vendors, as well as collecting field samples.



As the largest moth in North America, the inclusion of *Hyalophora cecropia* into the collection is vital. These specimens are becoming increasingly important as Cecropia moth populations have steadily declined in Houston in the last 20 years. The defining characteristic are the striking eyespots on the tip of each wing, which function as a snake mimic to fool predators. Upon closer inspection, males have larger antennae, while females have larger abdomens. Oddly enough, neither gender have the required mouthparts to eat as an adult, primarily because they have very short life spans, during which they focus solely on mating.

---

***Hyalophora cecropia*** · “Cecropia moth” specimens

*Gift of Farrar Stockton*

## Malacology

The Malacology Department is the proud permanent repository of the Guido Poppe Collection of Mollusks and Marine Invertebrates, a collection constantly being studied by Malacology experts around the world. In 2023, some samples within the collection—previously termed “unknown”—were studied, identified, and subsequently re-catalogued as 14 Holotypes and 40 Paratypes. These exciting discoveries are very important in the Malacology world, as researchers now have the opportunity to further study these newly described species.



This amazing *Harpa cabriti* is the most outstanding example of this color variation for this species of the Family HARPIDAE. The species is widely spread throughout most of the South Pacific Island nations and has several color variations. However, this red specimen is currently the only one of its kind. The fact that the red color covers the entire specimen indicates that the color was genetically produced, as opposed to being a result of environmental or habit-dwelling factors. Other specimens are regularly found by divers near Toliara, Madagascar, but they do not bear this overall vibrant color.

---

***Harpa cabriti*** · Toliara, Madagascar · 45.1 mm.

## Paleontology

In 2023, the Paleontology Department was excited to partner with Dr. Cliff Jeremiah and Sam Houston State University, working together to create a 3D printed cast of a baby Meg jaw, based on Dr. Jeremiah's research. This was based on Dr. Jeremiah's research and involved scanning and 3D printing the replica. Additionally, the Department received an impressive bone bed and completed the mount and casing design for installation in the Morian Hall of Paleontology.



This large bone block quarried from the massive Marchant bed consists mostly of *Edmontosaurus annectens* fossils with several other species present, including turtles, crocodiles, gar fish, and Triceratops. Mixed in among the other fossils are eight shed T-rex teeth, evidence that the apex predator was feeding in the area where these animals died, perhaps even on the remains of the herbivorous dinosaurs. The Marchant Block gives visitors a rare opportunity to see how dinosaur fossils are sometimes discovered in the field.

---

**Marchant Bone Block** · Late Cretaceous,  
Lance Formation, Wyoming · 99.5 x 53 x 15 in.  
*Gift of Gary and Trish Greaser*

## Vertebrate Zoology

The Department of Vertebrate Zoology continues to collaborate with Buffalo Bayou Partnership to analyze camera-trap data on mammals and birds living along Buffalo Bayou. In 2023, the collaboration produced interesting preliminary results, including capturing images of a small pack of Coyotes that live very close to Downtown and recording important ecological information for the little-known Swamp Rabbit that is endemic to our region.



In 2023, we received a taxidermized female Yellow-Backed Duiker (*Cephalophus silvicultor*), a specimen very rarely—if at all—showcased in any museum. This species of Duiker gets its name from the yellow fur on its back, and the name "Duiker" is based on the Afrikaans word for "Diver," known for its habit of diving into nearby bushes when danger is lurking. This is one of the largest species of Duiker endemic to the West African tropical forest and considered to be "Near Threatened" status and decreasing in population, due to poaching and deforestation.

---

***Cephalophus silvicultor*** (Yellow-Backed Duiker) · Africa  
*Gift of Houston Zoo*

# Venues



## COCKRELL BUTTERFLY CENTER

*Supported by The Cockrell Foundation and The Garden Club of Houston*

In March 2023, Phase I of a comprehensive two-phase renovation to the Cockrell Butterfly Center focused on essential repairs and enhancements to the tropical conservancy was completed. This included replacing exterior glass panels, expanding and refining pathways, revitalizing the central kapok tree, and implementing safety and structural upgrades.

The Butterfly Center's outreach program, Bugs on Wheels, conducted 70 engaging presentations for 8,765 individuals. These initiatives play a crucial role in enriching the educational aspect of the immersive Butterfly Center experience.

**315,433 CBC VISITORS**

## BURKE BAKER PLANETARIUM AND THE WORTHAM GIANT SCREEN THEATRE

The Wortham Giant Screen Theatre and Burke Baker Planetarium attracted over 300,000 visitors in 2023, offering captivating experiences that brought science to life through the art of visual and aural storytelling

At the Burke Baker Planetarium, the *Totality Over Texas* program marked the beginning of a series of solar phenomena, starting with the annular solar eclipse crossing Texas. This program, shared with planetariums statewide, educated and prepared audiences for these rare celestial events.

198,156 BBP VISITORS



111,577 GST VISITORS



On October 14, 2023, Houstonians gathered at the Museum to witness the moon's journey across the sun. The event featured a range of engaging activities including telescope viewing, pinhole viewers, UV bead experiments, wood burning demonstrations, solar cooking displays, a pinhole pergola, and numerous other opportunities for observation and exploration.

# HMNS at Sugar Land

HMNS at Sugar Land remains a vibrant hub of natural science exploration in Fort Bend County, offering enriching experiences for families and hosting the largest number of Sensory Friendly Morning visitors to date.

Throughout the year, staff welcomed 1,450 guests for Saturday nature programming. These enriching activities, included with general admission, are part of a fruitful collaboration with the esteemed Texas Master Naturalist – Coastal Prairie Chapter. These Saturdays further highlight the captivating Insect Zoo and enchanting Pollinator Garden, which exist in tandem to offer hands-on experiences that bring guests closer to nature.

*Jingle Tree 2023*, Sugar Land’s annual holiday fundraising event, shattered prior records with 926 guests and \$126,626 in funds raised for operating support. We thank co-chairs Stacy Dunn Borgfeldt and Pam Duggan Gray, as well as presenting sponsor Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, for their generous support.





## The George Observatory

The George Observatory celebrated another year of astronomical success. The Observatory unveiled new exhibits and updated interfaces with telescopes to enhance the guest experience. Of particular note in 2023 was the celestial celebration for the Annular Eclipse in October, with the Observatory offering a variety of related programs that attracted many eager participants.

There was a significant increase in field trips and private group bookings for stargazing events, showcasing the Observatory's growing appeal and educational value. As the year concluded, the George Observatory stood as a beacon of astronomical wonder, drawing in curious minds and passionate explorers.

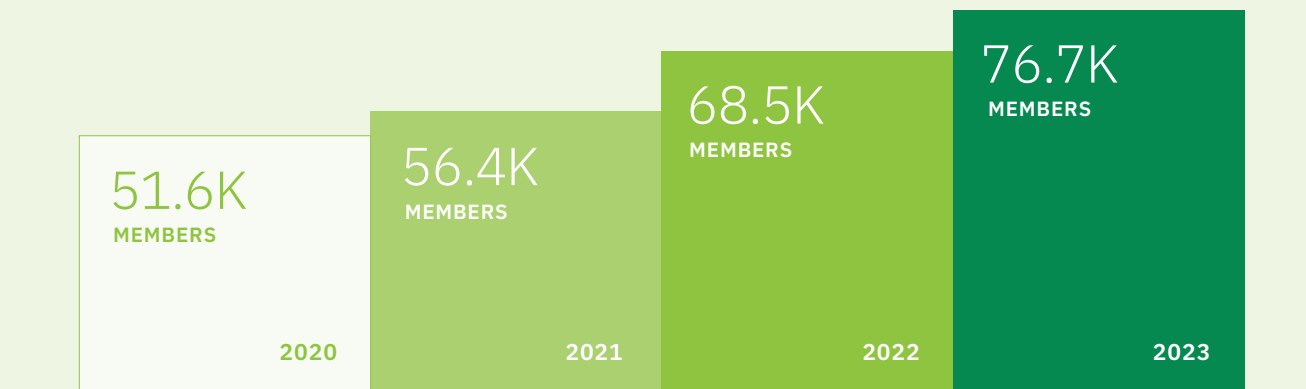


# Membership

The HMNS Membership community continued to grow in 2023, closing the year with an all-time high of 76,730 households, a 12% increase over 2022. Members' sustained support and continued interest is an integral part of the success of the Museum.

The Membership Department hosts a diverse range of exclusive events and promotions. In the summer, on Member Mornings, members are given complimentary access to ticketed venues across

the Museum including the Burke Baker Planetarium, the Cockrell Butterfly Center, and the Sugar Land special exhibition: *Tree Houses*. In 2023, more than 1,500 members enjoyed the exhibits, a 12% increase from summer 2022. Additionally, every September is Member Appreciation Month (MAM), which features special offers, Museum Store discounts, and access to exclusive education programming. This year's response was remarkable with 1,340 tickets purchased during the MAM time frame.







During the 4th annual Educator Buy One, Give One (BOGO) campaign, 2,286 memberships were donated to educators in our community. The beloved BOGO Campaign continues to help the Museum serve new audiences with 98.82% of 2023 BOGO recipients identified as new to the program. Among the various school districts in the Houston area, Houston ISD stood out as the year's largest recipient group.

The Corporate Membership program, which provides Family-level memberships for the employees of our Corporate Partners in Science, flourished in 2023. From January to December, 8,002 corporate memberships were redeemed by employees, and participating members purchased 18,800 tickets.



# Financial Report

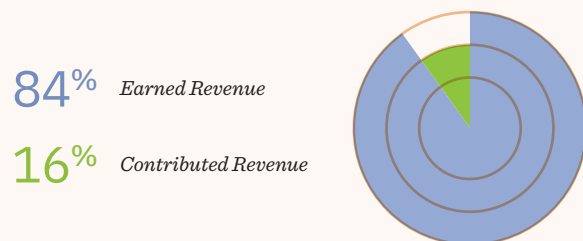
## Statement of Financial Position *as of December 31, 2023 and 2022*

Assets	2023	2022
Cash	16,022,842	19,644,801
Prepaid expenses and other receivables	2,306,714	1,222,320
Inventory and other assets	10,653,102	6,425,965
Operating contributions receivable, net	23,404,061	27,646,532
Cash restricted for capital and permanent exhibits	2,755,343	3,115,876
Contributions receivable restricted for capital and permanent exhibits, net	24,172,770	8,459,916
Property, net	148,588,999	141,260,346
Contributions receivable restricted for endowments, net	2,059,761	331,787
Investments	78,265,251	69,424,418
Collections	-	-
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>308,228,843</b>	<b>277,531,961</b>

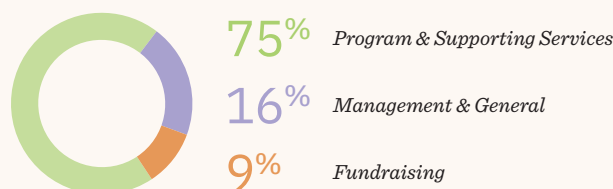
## Liabilities and Net Assets

LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	2,248,054	2,512,089
Construction payable	306,989	212,357
Accrued interest expense	2,068,246	533,597
Accrued payroll and related benefits expenses	728,505	607,780
Deferred fees and program revenue	2,721,082	2,602,416
Refundable advances for special events	780,455	674,325
Notes payable	47,402,600	37,985,634
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>56,255,931</b>	<b>45,128,198</b>
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	126,098,883	129,146,787
With donor restrictions	125,874,029	103,256,976
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>251,972,912</b>	<b>232,403,763</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>308,228,843</b>	<b>277,531,961</b>

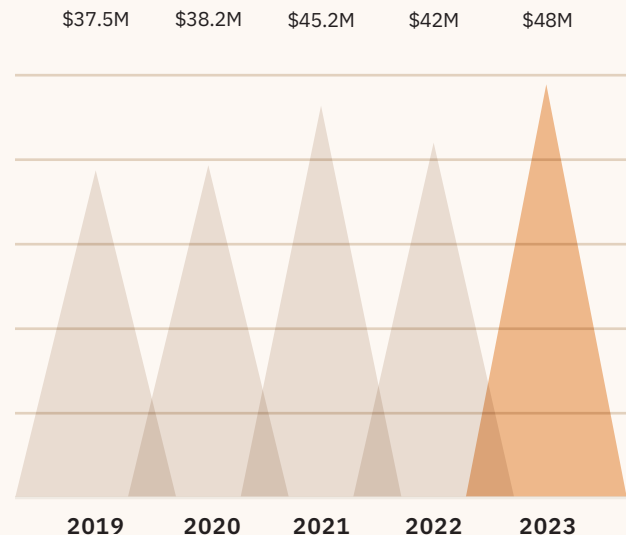
### OPERATING REVENUE



### OPERATING EXPENSES



### ENDOWMENT FUND



## Statement of Activities *for the year ended December 31, 2023*

Operating Revenue	W/OUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	W/DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
<b>FEES AND PROGRAM REVENUE</b>			
Admission fees	21,357,369	-	21,357,369
Membership fees	4,566,906	-	4,566,906
Gift shop sales	4,602,448	-	4,602,448
Cost of goods sold	(2,021,966)	-	(2,021,966)
Educational program fees	2,445,813	-	2,445,813
Parking fees	2,376,310	-	2,376,310
Facility rental, food services, and exhibit participation fees	2,399,262	-	2,339,262
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>3,598,552</b>	<b>2,771,978</b>	<b>6,370,530</b>
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS</b>	<b>2,336,632</b>	-	<b>2,336,632</b>
<b>COST OF BENEFITS PROVIDED TO DONORS</b>	<b>(1,141,016)</b>	-	<b>(1,141,016)</b>
<b>NET INVESTMENT RETURN</b>	<b>2,135,024</b>	-	<b>2,135,024</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>1,486,174</b>	-	<b>1,486,174</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>44,081,508</b>	<b>2,771,978</b>	<b>46,853,486</b>
<b>NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS</b>			
Program expenditures	3,081,476	(3,081,476)	-
Expiration of time restrictions	4,691,677	(4,691,677)	-
Investment earnings distributed from endowments	1,857,802	-	1,857,802
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53,712,463</b>	<b>(5,001,175)</b>	<b>48,711,288</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
<b>PROGRAM SERVICES</b>			
Museum collections and exhibits	14,539,512	-	14,539,512
Admissions and visitor services	10,327,294	-	10,327,294
Educational programs	3,964,414	-	3,964,414
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES</b>	<b>28,831,220</b>	-	<b>28,831,220</b>
Management and general	8,018,929	-	8,018,929
Advertising and public relations	5,018,348	-	5,018,348
Fundraising	3,468,120	-	3,468,120
Gift shop	2,123,873	-	2,123,873
Membership development	697,783	-	697,783
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>48,158,273</b>	-	<b>48,158,273</b>
<b>Changes in Net Assets from Operations</b>	<b>5,554,190</b>	<b>(5,001,175)</b>	<b>553,015</b>
<b>OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</b>			
Non-operating contributions	-	37,275,839	37,275,839
Net endowment investment return	-	3,777,901	3,777,901
Collection purchases	(20,179,804)	-	(20,179,804)
<b>NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS</b>			
Endowment distributions	-	(1,857,802)	(1,857,802)
Collection purchases	11,577,710	(11,577,710)	-
<b>CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(3,047,904)</b>	<b>22,617,053</b>	<b>19,569,149</b>
Net assets, <i>beginning of year</i>	129,146,787	103,256,976	232,403,763
Net assets, <i>end of year</i>	126,098,883	125,874,029	251,972,912

# Development

Thanks to the unwavering support of our donor community, the Museum raised a staggering \$43.7 million in the 2023 fiscal year: \$7.7 million for general operating support, \$4.6 million for restricted endowment funds, and \$36 million for capital projects.

A strong focus continues on the ambitious capital initiatives designed to renovate some of the Museum's most popular spaces. The Education Center will undergo a complete revitalization, introducing redesigned public

areas that feature updated educational dioramas and biomes, enhanced wayfinding, and a state-of-the-art Early Childhood Learning Center, allowing HMNS to better serve young children during this vital stage of their development. Looking ahead, the Cullen Hall of Gems and Minerals is poised for transformation, which will double the exhibit space, modern displays, and new world-class specimens, and further reinforce its reputation as home to one of the finest collections of natural mineral crystals in the world.



*Morian Hall of Paleontology all dressed up for the Sunset Soirée*

## 2023 Gala: Sunset Soirée

Transported to an island getaway, 500 of HMNS's most fervent supporters traded their black-tie attire for vibrant spring blazers, flowing silk caftans, and tropical prints, creating a colorful paradise. Chaired by Stephanie and Frank Tsuru, the evening showcased coveted items in the silent auction, including rare gems and fossils curated by President and CEO Joel A. Bartsch, as well as an iconic 1961 Generation 1 Chevrolet Corvette, generously donated by Stephanie and Frank Tsuru. The event was a remarkable success, raising more than \$2.3 million for general operations and helping to ensure the Museum's ability to promote science education to nearly 2 million visitors and 500,000 students annually.



*Chairs: Frank and Stephanie Tsuru*

## Critter Crawl: A Paleo Glow

This family-focused Museum bash, chaired by Anne and Walker Kahle, Allie and HD Pappas, and Katherine and John Plumb, was a blast of science-fueled fun for all ages. *Critter Crawl: A Paleo Glow* lit up the minds of more than 750 curious paleontologists and social butterflies with a dino-mite scavenger hunt, an insect petting zoo, and a “glow room” featuring light-up fossils, minerals, and even glowing treats. The event raised \$109,850. All proceeds are used to keep the Museum buzzing with exciting education programs, fueling the imaginations of young science enthusiasts.



*Chairs: Anne and Walker Kahle, Allie and HD Pappas, and Katherine and John Plumb and their families*

## Excellence in Science Luncheon

The *Excellence in Science Luncheon* celebrates exceptional STEM education in the Houston area. With great thanks to The Cockrell Foundation, a Museum fund was established in 1990 to grant annual scholarships to local students and teachers who have excelled in the areas of math and science. In addition to honoring their accomplishments, the *Luncheon* also features a keynote speaker, whose topic focuses on a given subject within the field of science and natural history. In 2023, with chairs Carolyn and Jake Sabat leading the charge, the Museum welcomed over 250 guests and had the opportunity to hear from internationally acclaimed neuroscientist, Dr. Hannah Critchlow. Dr. Critchlow explored the “Science of Fate” and took guests on a journey explaining how some answers to fundamental questions related to fate and free will may actually lie in our understanding of the human brain. A remarkable \$351,651 was raised to support the Museum’s educational programming, including school tours, outreach programs, teacher workshops, and educator open houses.



*Excellence in Science Luncheon Speaker, Dr. Hannah Critchlow*



*Award winners Tatum Dixon, Selene Verhofstad, Keira Boone, and Hailey Burgower with President and CEO Joel A. Bartsch*



*Chairs Carolyn and Jake Sabat with President and CEO Joel A. Bartsch and featured speaker Dr. Hannah Critchlow*

# Our Supporters

Mr. and Mrs. Mark B. Abendshein	Mr. James J. Braniff, III	CITGO Petroleum Corporation
AIG	Reagan and Alex Bregman	City of Sugar Land
Forbes and Jenna Alcott	Mary and Clinton Brisco	Dr. Virginia Clark
The Joan and Stanford Alexander Family Fund	Mr. and Mrs. David A. Bristol, Jr.	Mr. Robert Clay
Mrs. Nancy C. Allen <sup>+</sup>	British International School of Houston	The Cockrell Foundation
AmCap	Brivic Media Group	Janet and Ernie H. Cockrell <sup>+</sup>
Amegy Bank	Todd Brock Family Foundation	Mr. and Mrs. Gregory M. Cokinos
Apache Corporation	Anne and Stephen Brollier	Dru and Scott Cone
Aramco	Claire and Dick Brooks	ConocoPhillips
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Ardell	The Brown Foundation, Inc.	The Cooney Family
Mr. and Mrs. John Arensdorf	Mr. and Mrs. Mike Brown	Mr. and Mrs. Roy Cordes
Mr. and Mrs. Shubi Arora	Eric Brueggeman	The Crain Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Awe	Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Brueggeman	Adrienne and Jared Crane
Mary Catherine and Bailey Jones	Dr. and Mrs. Bill Bryan	<i>in honor of Carlos Davila</i>
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baillie	Buc-ee's®	Mr. and Mrs. Gary T. Crum
Dr. Carol J. Baker	The Bunchberry Foundation	Cuenod Families / Freedom CNG
Estate of Lewis E. Ball	Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Burch	The Cullen Foundation
Bank of America, Houston	Mr. and Mrs. Drew Burgoyne	John Czach
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Banks	Mr. William D. Burton, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Dominio Dai
Barn Road Foundation	Elizabeth and Phillip Butler	Mr. and Mrs. Platt W. Davis
Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Barr	Caldwell Companies	Mrs. Lois Davis
Brett Ashley and Andrew Barth	Mr. Richard J. Callaway*	Margaret and Warren Davis
Mr. and Mrs. Joel A. Bartsch <sup>+</sup>	Raul Camba and Sasha Martinez	Margot and Zach Davis
Mr. Kyle Bartsch	Harry S. & Isabel C. Cameron Foundation	The James C. and Teresa K. Day Foundation
Harry W. Bass, Jr. Foundation	Mr. and Mrs. Patrick M. Cannon	Andrew Delaney Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Brent Bechtol	David and Rosangela Capobianco	The Design Source
Brian and Norelle Becker	Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Cappel	Mr. David DeVido
Mr. and Mrs. Victor G. Beghini	Dr. Robert J. Card and Ms. Karol Kreymer	Mr. and Mrs. Dan O. Dinges
Benton Family Foundation	Mr. and Mrs. Carl P. Carlucci	Ms. Carol E. Dinkins
Monica and Fox Benton	The Carruth Foundation	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dishberger
Kristen and John Berger	Maris and Jason Castro	The DMC Group LLC
Jessica and Michael Bertuccio / Wincoram Asset Management	Deb and Tim Cejka	Neil and Marianne Duffin
Sudha and Ajay Bidani	CenterPoint Energy	Mr. and Mrs. Marshall E. Dujka
Ashley and Steven Birdwell	Century Fine Arts Music School	Dan L. Duncan Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Mike W. Bloesch	CEO Foundation	Anne S. Duncan
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Blount	CFP Foundation	Jimmy Dunne
BNY Mellon Private Wealth Management	Ting Tsung and Wei Fong Chao Foundation	Celia* and Cornelius Dupre, II <sup>+</sup>
Mrs. Betsy C. Bolin* <sup>+</sup>	Anne and Albert Chao	Dr. A. G. Dworkin and Dr. R. J. Dworkin
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Borgfeldt	David and Skye Chao	Mary and John Eads
Julie and Brian Borque	Mr. Chris Cheng	Pam and Bruce Earthman
Sarah and Bradley Bracewell	Chevron	Sydney and Robert Eifler
Kristy Bradshaw	Chiang Law Firm PLLC	Benjamin Eldred and Nina Webster
	The Chuchla Family	Mr. and Mrs. Mark Elias

Jenny Elkins  
*in memory of Dr. Stephen Dale Brown*  
Jane and Dale Embry  
C.C. and Duke Ensell  
EnVen Energy Corporation /  
Stacy and John Wilkison  
Elizabeth Esfahani and Robert Willey  
Mr. and Dr. Joe Espada  
Mr. C. Richard Everett  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Eversley  
Juliana Ewer and Ron Ewer  
ExxonMobil  
Fabergé  
Dr. Mary Farach-Carson and  
Dr. Daniel Carson  
Mr. and Mrs. George R. Farris  
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Field  
Carrie and Tom Field  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Finger  
Cherie and Jim Flores  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Fluor  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Foertsch  
Fort Bend Junior Service League  
Ann and Randy Fowler  
Fred W.R. Fass Trust  
The Friedkin Group  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fritz  
Frost Bank  
Fruehauf Foundation  
Jack and Kristin Fusco  
Ms. Kerry Ann Galvin  
Mr. and Mrs. John Gamble  
The Garden Club of Houston  
Florence and Frederic Gautier-Winther  
Mr. and Mrs. Dawson O. George, III  
Lauren and Conrad Gibbins  
Hannah and Ethan Gibson  
Kate and Steve Gibson  
Ms. Katherine Gideon  
The Melbern G. and Susanne M.  
Glasscock Foundation  
The Glassell Family Foundation, Inc.  
Marli Andrade and Alfred C. Glassell, III  
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Goff  
Glenda and Russell Gordy  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gorman  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Graham  
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Grandt

Blake and Matthew Gray  
Lauren and Rob Gray  
Dr. Milton Gray  
Ms. Pam Gray  
Adriana and Jeffrey Greene  
The Greentree Fund  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Gregory  
Garney and Janita Griggs  
GRITS Foundation  
Mrs. Harriet Grossman  
Brooke Bentley Gunst  
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff B. Gustavson  
Mr. and Mrs. Griffin Guthneck  
Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Halevy  
The Hamill Foundation  
Mr. Henry R. Hamman\* and  
Mrs. Ann H. Hamman  
Mr. Russell Harp  
William E. and Natoma Pyle Harvey  
Charitable Trust  
Barbara Hawthorn<sup>+</sup>  
Dr. and Mrs. W. Greg Hazlett  
Erin and Boyd Heath  
H-E-B  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher D. Heinson  
HEQ Deepwater  
Mr. and Mrs. Juan Herrera  
Albert and Ethel Herzstein  
Charitable Foundation  
Hildebrand Fund  
HMNS Guild  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill D. Holland  
Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Hollingsworth, Jr.  
Kay and Ned Holmes<sup>+</sup>  
The Holthouse Foundation for Kids  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Holthouse  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Horak  
The City of Houston through  
Houston Arts Alliance  
Houston Brain & Spine, LLC  
Cutter Howard  
Mr. Peter D. Huddleston  
Huff Family Foundation  
Huffington Foundation  
Jennie and Ralph Hull  
Ms. Veronica P. Hunt and  
Mr. John P. Stein  
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey W. Hutton

Dr. Lu-Yu Hwang  
Dr. Inda Immega and Dr. Neal Immega  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Isaac  
Takajiro Ishikawa  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry A. Jacobson  
Mr. Stewart Jacobson  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Janiszewski  
Jefferies LLC  
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Johnson  
Maria Hadjialexiou  
Tom and Tami Jordan  
Mr. and Mrs. Russell C. Joseph  
The Junior League of Houston, Inc.  
Cindy and Kent Kahle  
Tim and Patti Kaminski  
The Joan and Marvin Kaplan Family  
Charitable Foundation  
T. Mark and Patty Kelly  
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Kelly  
Dr. Sippi K. Khurana and  
Mr. Ajay Khurana  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Kiatta<sup>+</sup>  
Giles and Andrea Kibbe  
Kinder Morgan Foundation  
Ms. Anne L. Kinder  
Mr. Christopher King  
Kyle and John Kirksey  
Mr. Melvyn N. Klein  
Nick Koch  
Mr. and Mrs. Randall B. Lake  
Jennifer Laporte  
Latham & Watkins, LLP  
Mr. and Mrs. Truett Latimer<sup>+</sup>  
Mr. and Mrs. Rob Lavinsky  
Ms. Pamela F. Lea  
Liz and David Leiman  
Mrs. Yan Li  
George Lindahl, III  
Ms. Jenna A. Lindley  
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Lindley  
Shelli and Steve Lindley<sup>+</sup>  
David Linnard and  
Cassandra Bohne-Linnard  
Mr. Daniel Littlefield  
Locke Lord LLP  
Mrs. Cornelia C. Long  
Janiece Longoria  
Doris and Terry Looper

Mr. Robert J. Lorio  
 Kelley and Steve Lubanko  
 Mrs. Marilyn G. Lummis  
 Kristi and David Lumpkins  
 LyondellBasell Industries  
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Mach  
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. MacLean  
 Ms. Martha E. Magee  
 Magnolia Oil & Gas Corporation  
 Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Mahley  
 Marathon Oil Corporation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Margolis  
 Tracy and Ben Marmande  
 The Marshall Family  
 Ben and Meredith Marshall  
 Kim and Scott Martin  
 Artie and Dorothy McFerrin Foundation  
 April and Wells McGee  
 John P. McGovern Foundation  
 Mrs. Janet L. McNeill and  
 Mr. Frank O. Griffin  
 Dr. Diana H. McSherry and  
 Mr. Patrick H. Poe  
 M. D. Anderson Foundation  
 The Medallion Foundation, Inc.  
 Melcher Charitable Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Trey Melcher  
 Mrs. Anne Mendelsohn  
 Ms. Kristen E. Meneilly  
 Kathleen Mensing and Juliana Glass  
 Methodist Sugar Land Hospital  
 Ruthie and Adam Miller  
 Roslyn and Derrick Mitchell  
 Mrs. Julia Q. Mitchell  
 Mithoff Family Foundation /  
 Michael and Melissa Mithoff  
 Richard and Ginni Mithoff  
 Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas)  
 Diane and David Modesett  
 Kelly and Bill Montgomery  
 The W.T. and Louise J. Moran Foundation  
 Morgan Stanley  
 Laurie and Reed Morian  
 Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Terence Mullervy  
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Robert Mullins  
 Ms. Linda C. Murray  
 Bobbie Nau<sup>+</sup>

John L. Nau, III<sup>+</sup>  
 Dr. Mary and Ron Neal  
 Franci Neely  
 Mrs. Emily Nelson and Mr. Ryan Kelting  
 Michelle and Mitch New  
 Leslie and Randy Newcomer  
 Mrs. Mary Ann Newman  
 Ms. Paula Noble  
 Mr. and Mrs. David B. Noel  
 Novum Energy  
 OCuSOFT Inc.  
 Zadok Jewelers  
 Robert R. and  
 Kay M. Onstead Foundation  
 Opportune LLP  
 The John M. O'Quinn Foundation  
 Oxy  
 The Carl M. Padgett Family  
 Palmer Foundation  
 Evy Pappas  
 Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation  
 Ms. Elletra Parnell  
 Ron Pasadyn  
 PBExhibits  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Peper  
 Dr. Gail L. Peterkin and  
 Mr. John T. Peterkin  
 Mr. Gary R. Petersen  
 Phillips Family Foundation  
 Phillips 66  
 Leslie and John Pitts  
 Dr. and Mrs. James L. Pool  
*in memory of Dr. Stephen Dale Brown*  
 The Powell Foundation  
 PPG Foundation  
 Mr. D. M. Price  
 Mr. and Mrs. William E. Pritchard, III  
 Jay and Paula Pryor  
 Nancy and David Pustka  
 Elisa and Cris Pye  
 Quantum Capital Group  
 Radoff Family Foundation  
 The Ellen and Edward Randall, III  
 Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Ray<sup>+</sup>  
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Reckling, III<sup>+</sup>  
 Mrs. Lindsey Renfro  
 Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Richey

Mrs. Sandy Rushworth and  
 Mr. David L. Risch  
 Carol Ritter and Rachel Schmidt  
 Ms. Beth Robertson and  
 Mr. Steve Pearce  
*in honor of Dr. Carolyn Summers*  
 Barbara and Corbin J. Robertson, Jr.  
 Lillie T. Robertson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Alex Robinson  
 Mr. Glen A. Rosenbaum  
 Charles and Margot Rosson  
 Phyllis and Barrett Rouse  
 Mr. and Mrs. Mansel M. Rubenstein  
 Ms. June R. Russell and  
 Mr. Robert D. Ulrich  
 Ryan, LLC  
 Carolyn and Jake Sabat  
 Heather Safi  
 Brittany Sakowitz Kushner and  
 Kevin Kushner  
 Ms. Candice Sanchez and  
 Mr. Robert G. Gwin  
 Laurie and Bret Sanders  
 Sarah Frances Hawes\*  
 Mrs. Susan Sarofim  
 Mrs. Leslie Elkins Sasser and  
 Mr. Shannon Sasser  
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sauer, Jr.  
 The Savitz Family  
 Naseem and David Sawyer  
 Douglas and Rebecca Sayuk  
 Mrs. Alicia Scala  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Schmidt  
 Jonathan Schuette  
 Mr. and Mrs. Russ Schulze  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. Boone Schwartzel  
 ReNae Scott  
 Mrs. Clarruth A. Seaton-Barriault  
 and Mr. Arthur G. Barriault  
 The Seff Family  
 Leena Rivina and Daniel Seidner  
 Mandy Selber  
 Dr. Veronica Selinko-Curran and  
 Mr. Michael F. Curran  
 Sempra Infrastructure  
 Shackouls Family Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Bobby S. Shackouls<sup>+</sup>  
 Shell USA, Inc.



Mr. and Mrs. John B. Shely  
 Ms. Amy Shen  
 Jerry and Kelly Siler  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom S. Simms  
 Judy and Chris Simon  
 Diana Skerl and Michael Karakasians  
 Ms. Melanie S. Slagle  
 Ashley Sloan  
 Vivian L. Smith Foundation  
 Michelle and Alan Smith  
 Terry and Thomas E. Smith  
 Mr. and Mrs. William A. Smith  
 Aimee and Wynne Snoots  
 Sodexo Live!  
 Southwestern Energy  
 Jeffrey Starke and Joan Shook  
 Allison and Spencer Stasney  
 Cynde and Chris Stavros  
 Steen Family Foundation<sup>+</sup>  
 Barbara and Jeff Steen  
 Elizabeth and Alan Stein  
 Stellar Bank  
 Sterling-Turner Foundation  
 Keith and Mattie Stevenson Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Wesley L. Story  
 Strake Foundation  
 Melinda and Sam Stubbs  
 Amber Sturrock and Cullene Schneider  
 Sofia Suarez and Agustin Izquierdo  
 Summus Industries, Inc.  
 Carolyn and Garry Tanner  
 The Tapeats Fund  
 Jerry Tardivo  
 Dr. and Mrs. Gary F. Teletzke  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ralph B. Thomas  
 Mr. Jim D. Thompson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Thompson  
 Mr. John F. Thorlin III  
 Thunder Exploration, Inc.  
 Thurlow Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Tindall  
 Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Inc.  
 TotalEnergies  
 Transocean  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Trevino  
 Mr. and Mrs. Clayton K. Trier  
 Stephanie and Frank Tsuru  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Tudor III

Pammy and Irfan Umatiya  
 Lynden Unger and Jacob Stein  
 Union Pacific Foundation  
 USI Southwest Services  
 David Waterbor Uthe  
 Drs. George and Lynette Van Buren  
 Hallie Vanderhider  
 Jennifer and Wil VanLoh  
 Susan Vaughan Foundation  
 The Village.LOVE  
 Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P.  
 Rachael and Jason Volz /  
 A Faire Extraordinaire  
 Al Walker  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Walker  
 Mr. and Mrs. John B. Walker  
 Shannon and Mark Wallace  
*in memory of Dr. Stephen Dale Brown*  
 Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Walter III /  
 Walter Oil and Gas Corporation  
 Mr. David Wang  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lou Waters  
 Waukesha-Pearce Industries, Inc<sup>+</sup>  
 Mr. R. Paul Wear, Jr. and  
 Mrs. Millicent Wear  
 Mr. and Mrs. James D. Weaver<sup>+</sup>  
 Mr. and Mrs. James W. Webb  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Weekley  
 Randa and K. C. Weiner  
 Kelli and John Weinzierl  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Weiss  
 Hap Weitzel  
 Jennifer and Ellis Welker  
 Allison Wen  
 Kay Lee and Gene Werlin<sup>+</sup>  
 Westlake Corporation  
 Laura and Bill Wheless  
 Frank Wick and Amanda Malkasian  
 Mrs. Sandra P. Wilkens  
 Nancy Wilkes  
 William S. and Lora Jean Kilroy  
 Foundation<sup>+</sup>  
 Mr. and Mrs. David W. Williams  
 Clay and Jenny Williams  
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Williams  
 Valerie Williams  
 Mr. Doug Wilson  
 Liz and Woody Woodard

Mr. Thomas M. Woodell  
 Woodforest National Bank  
 The Wortham Foundation, Inc.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Piotr Wozniak  
 Chris Wright<sup>+</sup>  
 Mr. James Wu  
 Missy and Ted Wurfel  
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wykoff  
 Kim and Chuck Yates  
 Ms. Bridget Yeung  
 Mr. and Mrs. John H. Young  
 Lisa Young and Matt Assiff  
 Zadok Jewelers  
 Zinn Petroleum Company

## HMNS LEGACY SOCIETY

Mr. and Mrs. Russell C. Andorka  
 Mr. Charles Asaud  
 Mr. Anthony P. Banham  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joel A. Bartsch  
 Mr. Carel Bosman  
 Mrs. Mary Callaway  
 Mr. William S. Donohue  
 Dr. Kathleen R. Gibson  
 Mr. Fred H. Gilmore  
 Sarah Frances Hawes\*  
 Ms. Marilyn Knight  
 Mrs. Diane Krobusek Perez  
 Mrs. Laurie Morian  
 Ms. Linda C. Murray  
 Mrs. Agnes M. Short, Jr.  
 Mr. Thomas E. Smith

*\*Individuals who passed  
 in 2023*

*<sup>+</sup> Donors who gave in memory  
 of Henry Hamman*

# Exit through the Museum Store

On your next visit, stop by the Museum Store and take a little piece of HMNS home with you. Choose from an array of curated merchandise including intricate mineral carvings, handcrafted jewelry, and artfully prepared fossils.



m u s e u m   s t o r e





# Ways to Give

Your generosity ensures that the Houston Museum of Natural Science may continue to advance its mission to serve the community as a leader in informal science education. Below are just some of the ways to give:

## ANNUAL FUND

Support the Museum's ongoing needs with a gift to the Annual Fund. Donors of \$2,500 or more are invited to join the H. P. Attwater Society. Members enjoy additional benefits, including private events and exhibition previews.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Become an underwriter or purchase tickets for the *HMNS Annual Gala, Excellence in Science Luncheon*, and *Critter Crawl*.

## CORPORATE GIVING

Join our Partners in Science program. Your company will receive a number of employee benefits and recognition, while supporting our education programs.

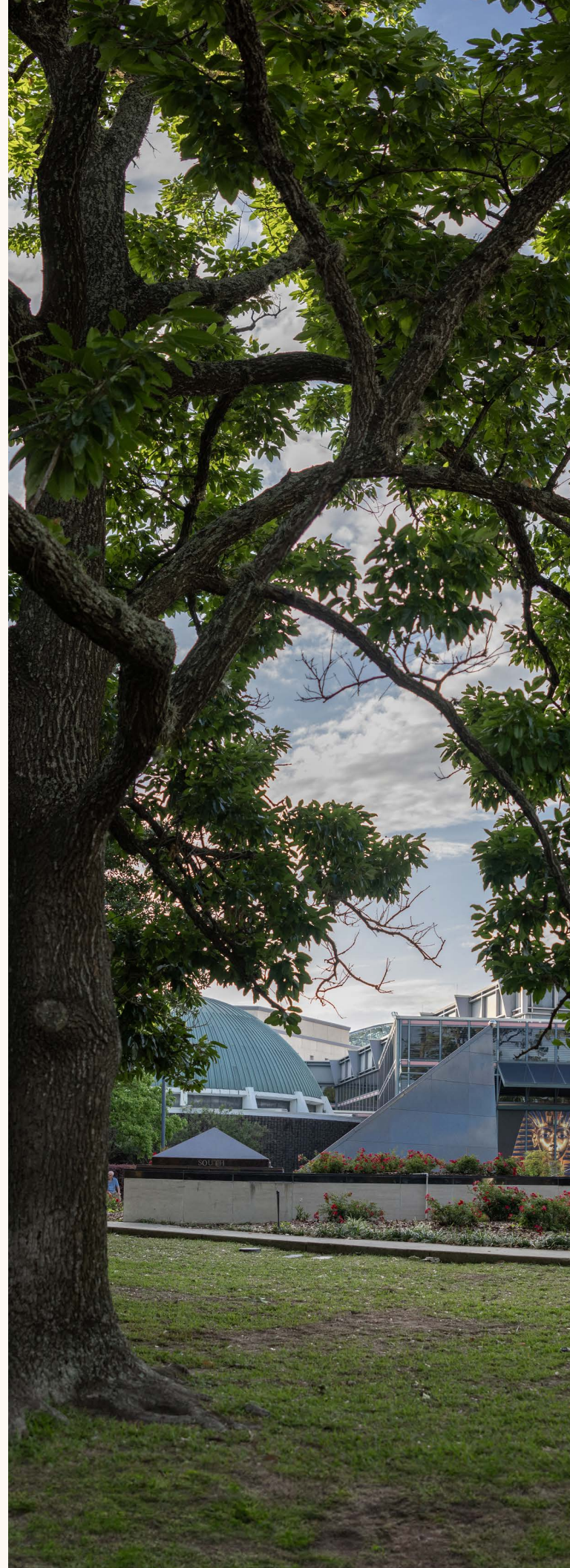
## PLANNED GIVING

Make a planned gift and join the Legacy Society. Sustain HMNS for generations.

## MATCHING GIFT

Double your support by donating through your company's matching gift program.

For more information, please visit [hmns.org/give](https://hmns.org/give), email [development@hmns.org](mailto:development@hmns.org), or call 713-639-4746.





The Houston Museum of Natural Science proudly acknowledges the remarkable dedication and steadfast commitment of our docents, volunteers, and staff, whose contributions make this work possible.

