



2018

GRATITUDE
REPORT



MISSION

BE A CATALYST! IGNITE
OUR COMMUNITY'S PASSION
FOR NATURE AND SCIENCE.

VISION

AN EMPOWERED COMMUNITY
THAT LOVES, UNDERSTANDS, AND
PROTECTS OUR NATURAL WORLD.



Cuban painted snails
(*Polymita picta*)
ZC.29125
and ZC.15926





FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE CHAIRMAN

DEAR FRIENDS,

THANK **YOU** FOR MAKING
2018 A REMARKABLE YEAR FOR
CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND ADULTS
WHO TAPPED INTO THEIR
NATURAL CURIOSITIES INSIDE
AND OUTSIDE THE MUSEUM.
THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS
REFLECT THE TRULY AMAZING
IMPACT YOU HAVE ON OUR
COMMUNITY.

- The Museum served more than 2 million people in a year for the first time! Recently, our dynamic community has invited us into their hearts and minds in new ways. These relationships are shaping the future of the Museum and connecting more people to nature and science in ways that are meaningful to them.

- For both *Dead Sea Scrolls* and *iCUBA!*, many local citizens generously gave us their time to provide important insights, enhancing the experiences for our guests. The response was extraordinary as together these exhibitions drew more than 375,000 people, including many first-time visitors.

- Trustee Ed Warner and his wife, Jackie, have had a passion for this Museum for decades. In an incredible act of generosity, Ed and Jackie gave \$10 million, our largest gift to date, to support the *Everyone, Everywhere* strategic plan. Our deepest gratitude goes to them for this special investment that will empower our community to love, understand, and protect the natural world.



Monty Cleworth and George Sparks

Everyone, Everywhere is our next chapter. Coloradans have an affinity for nature and science, and the ways in which people connect to our world is as varied as our community itself. We are responding with initiatives that encourage all ages to explore and discover from every angle, in the Museum and out where people live, work, play, and learn.

Inside, we are in the process of transforming key areas of the first floor. We are reimagining *Space Odyssey* into a wildly creative environment for boundless adventure. Through the *Future First* project, previous collections storage areas—approximately 22,000 square feet in the heart of the Museum—will become experiences that will engage guests in magical and unexpected ways.

Another new initiative is the Institute for Science & Policy, established in 2018 to create an environment in which science becomes a second nature consideration in all public discourse and policy making.

Outside our walls, we're on the move—providing Curiosity Kits and Wonder Workshops for classrooms, designing two Museum on Wheels vehicles to connect with communities across the state, engaging the public in science at Magic Mountain, and developing a space-themed play area at Colorado Mills mall. We also are pleased to have launched a partnership with Denver Parks and Recreation to bring a nature play area to City Park.

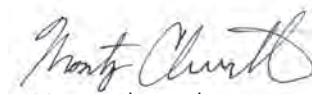
Together, through these exciting initiatives, we will catalyze a generation of innovators, explorers, problem solvers, and critical thinkers, and create a strong and vibrant future for Colorado.



Previous page:
A guest in *Creatures of Light*. Above: Trustee Happy Haynes at the Magic Mountain archaeological site.

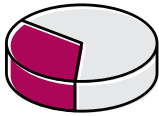
Last summer, we received a lovely message from a Colorado native now living in another state. She expressed her gratitude for the inspiration and multitude of memories she received at the Museum over the years. She is thanking you too. You give the joy of discovery and learning, every day.


George Sparks
President & CEO


Monty Cleworth
Chairman of the Board,
2018

Learn more about *Everyone, Everywhere* at dmns.org/E2.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS | 2 MILLION PEOPLE SERVED IN A YEAR - A RECORD!



1/3 of onsite guests visited for FREE

81,880
at SCFD Community Free Days & Nights



DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE

286,860 total school + youth group audience



97% of school audience SERVED FOR FREE OR AT REDUCED COST



66,645 SCHOLARSHIPS for education programs



33 RESEARCH FIELD EXCURSIONS over 333 Days



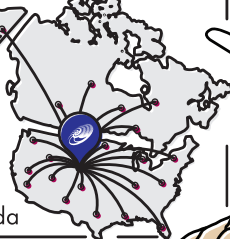
9,545 TEACHERS at professional events



26 TONS of compost diverted from the landfill

DISTANCE LEARNING reached

25 states & Canada



71,555 GUESTS RECEIVED BUS FUEL FUNDS



THE SABER-TOOTHED CAT ATE **\$10,100** IN COINS



2,100 EXPERIENCED MAGIC MOUNTAIN FIELD SITE



33,230 GUESTS = \$1 SNAP admission



1,805 VOLUNTEERS = 224,220 HOURS



5,440 AT CAMP-INS

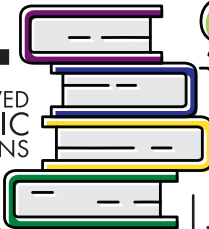


1,451 PARTICIPANTS IN SAVORY-SOUR TASTE STUDY



VISITORS TO **DEAD SEA SCROLLS** FROM ALL 50 STATES

24 PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS



8 LIVE FLUORESCENT SCORPIONS in *Creatures of Light*



MILESTONE: **40K** ARACHNIDS IN DATABASE

19,720 GUESTS BEHIND THE SCENES in the collections



34 TEEN SCIENCE SCHOLARS



64K MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS





2018 FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
AND TREASURER'S REPORT

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ending December 31, 2018 (in thousands)

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

	2018 Operations	2018 Initiatives	2018 All Museum
Admissions	12,039	-	12,039
SCFD	9,523	-	9,523
Gifts and grants	7,721	17,312	25,033
Memberships	5,887	-	5,887
Gift shop and food service (net)	2,377	-	2,377
City & County of Denver	1,985	955	2,940
Program	1,359	10	1,368
Other	538	-	538
Total support and revenue	41,429	18,277	59,705

EXPENDITURES

Program Activities

Exhibits/Visitor Experience	7,207	1,646	8,853
Physical Plant	7,112	4,448	11,560
Admissions	3,662	-	3,662
Collections & Research	5,462	(49)	5,413
Education	5,505	936	6,441
Total program activities	28,948	6,981	35,929

Supporting Activities

General and Administration	5,448	-	5,448
Marketing	2,465	-	2,465
Fundraising	1,881	116	1,997
Membership	1,485	-	1,485
Total supporting activities	11,279	116	11,395

Total expenditures	40,227	7,097	47,324
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Change in net assets from operations*	1,202	11,180	12,381
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* Excludes DMNS Foundation operating results

The Denver Museum of Nature & Science is pleased to report another successful year. In 2018, the Museum achieved operating revenues of \$41,428,938, exceeding our plan due to well-performing temporary exhibitions, successful fundraising efforts, and a sustained high number of membership households.

In addition, due to a stable and growing economy, revenue from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) increased 5.4 percent in 2018 from the previous year. The Museum’s portion of the revenue grew by less because of the revised funding formula that went into effect in 2018 after the 2016 SCFD renewal. We owe special recognition to the citizens of the seven-county metro region, the City and County of Denver, and the SCFD for ongoing operational support.

The Museum continued important capital projects, including improvements in the central atrium and some permanent exhibition halls. Progress also continued on projects in the *Everyone, Everywhere* strategic plan. This included design completion for “Space Odyssey Reimagined” and remodeling of office and storage areas to make way for a new 22,000-square-foot guest experience on Level 1, currently in feasibility. Work began on an \$18 million infrastructure project to improve HVAC, electrical, and life-safety systems, funded by general obligation bond proceeds provided by the Elevate Denver Bond Program.

We present our financial results with strategic activities detailed separately. With these planned projects, the year ended with an operating surplus of \$1,202,081.

The Museum received a clean audit opinion from our independent accounting firm.

Edward D. Scholz
 Edward D. Scholz, Vice President
 Finance and Business Operations

Steven C. Halsted
 Steven C. Halsted, Chair
 Finance and Audit Committee

**2018 SUPPORT & REVENUE
 (ALL MUSEUM)**



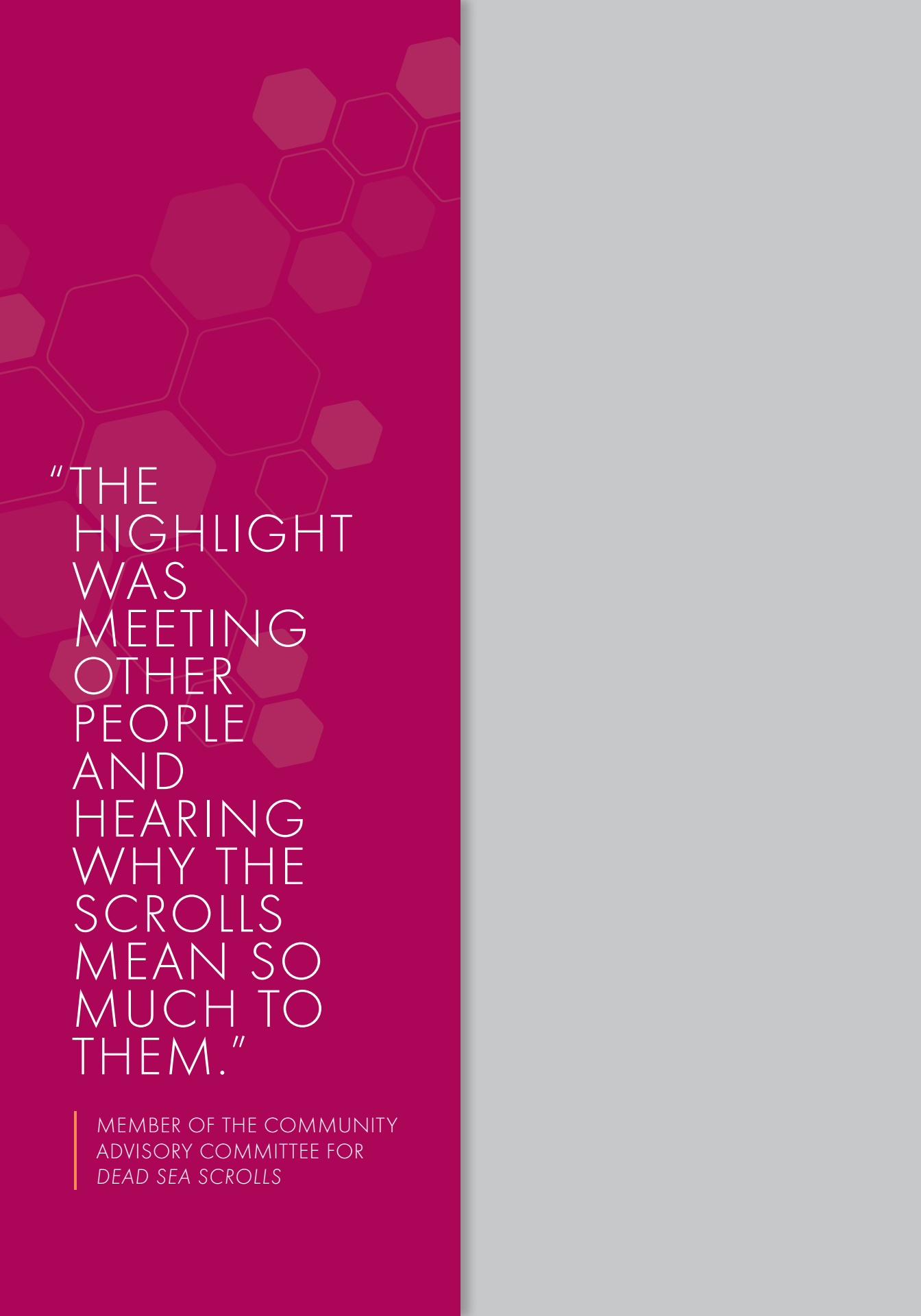
- SCFD
- Admissions
- Gifts & Grants
- Memberships
- City & County of Denver
- Gift Shop & Food Service
- Program
- Other

**2018 EXPENDITURES
 (ALL MUSEUM)**



- Exhibits/Visitor Experience
- Physical Plant
- Admissions
- Collections & Research
- Education
- General & Administration
- Marketing
- Fundraising
- Membership





"THE
HIGHLIGHT
WAS
MEETING
OTHER
PEOPLE
AND
HEARING
WHY THE
SCROLLS
MEAN SO
MUCH TO
THEM."


MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR
DEAD SEA SCROLLS





Hosting one of the 20th century's greatest archaeological discoveries was a true privilege for the Museum. More than 250,000 people from all 50 states attended the *Dead Sea Scrolls* exhibition, presented in Denver by the Sturm Family Foundation. Many guests described it as a deeply personal, reverential experience. Thirty leaders from various faith and academic communities in the Denver area graciously offered important perspectives as we prepared for the exhibition, helping to create even deeper meaning. Later in the year, the Museum had a chance to better know Denver's Cuban community, thanks to Elaine Gantz Berman, Maria Garcia Berry, Kristy Socarrás Bigelow, and Guillermo Vidal, who shared their stories for the ¡CUBA! exhibition. The Museum has a passion for "bringing the world to Denver," and support and enthusiasm from you and the rest of the community makes it even more special.





"I WANT TO BE A
PALEONTOLOGIST
OR A BIOLOGIST
THAT STUDIES
ANIMALS."

DYLAN, AGE 10,
DAVA STUDENT





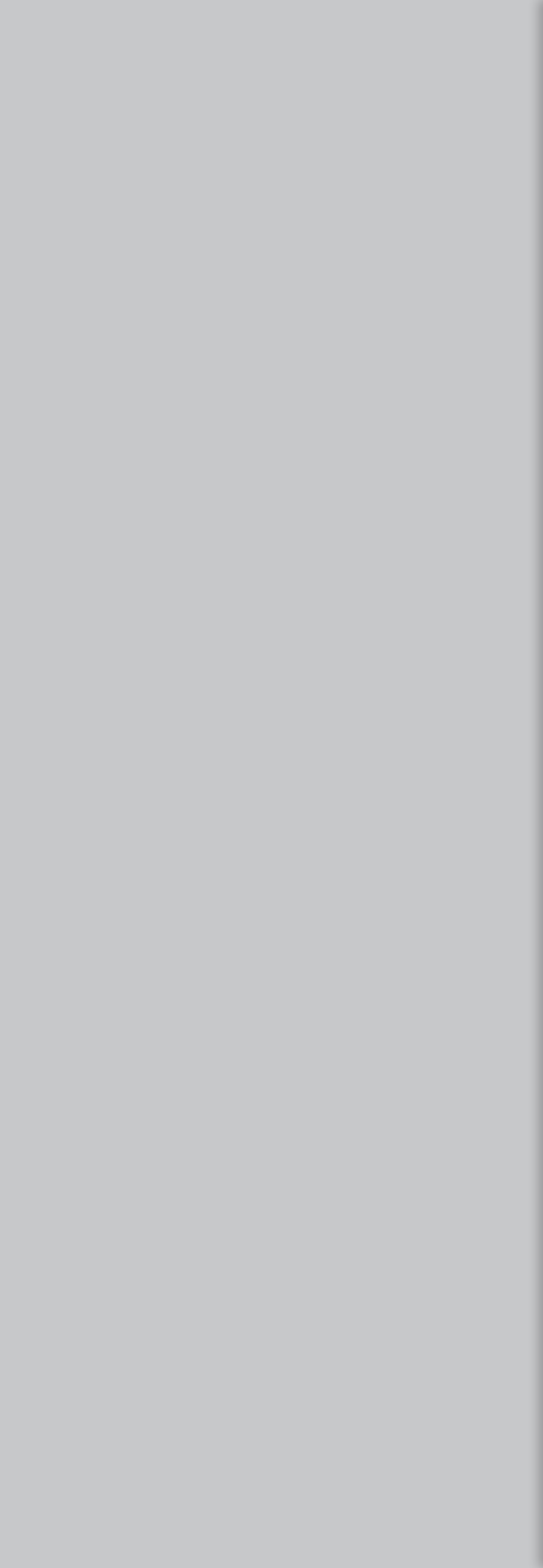
Imagine opening a box and out spills an exhilarating adventure ... and perhaps the key to your future. When a group of students from Downtown Aurora Visual Arts (DAVA) unpacked one of the Museum's Curiosity Kits in summer 2018, they were transported to a prehistoric world filled with possibility. They integrated art and science to produce a 13-foot papier-mâché *Diplodocus*. Their work wowed Dr. Ian Miller, curator of paleontology, who toured them through the collections and opened their eyes to how cool science is. Curiosity Kits and Wonder Workshops are two new offerings in the suite of ExciteEd! science programs, reaching young learners, right where they are. More than 34,000 students enjoyed these experiences in 2018. "We are so thankful to have the Museum connect to our Aurora community," said DAVA teacher, Krista Robinson. "The kids all talked about growing up to be scientists." Your support helps us transform classrooms into wonderlands of discovery!





"IT'S NOT JUST
A SANDBOX
WITH SOME
ARTIFICIAL
STUFF
THROWN IN
FOR VISITORS;
IT'S REAL, REAL,
REAL! WE
WERE VERY
WELCOME.
THANK YOU
SO MUCH."

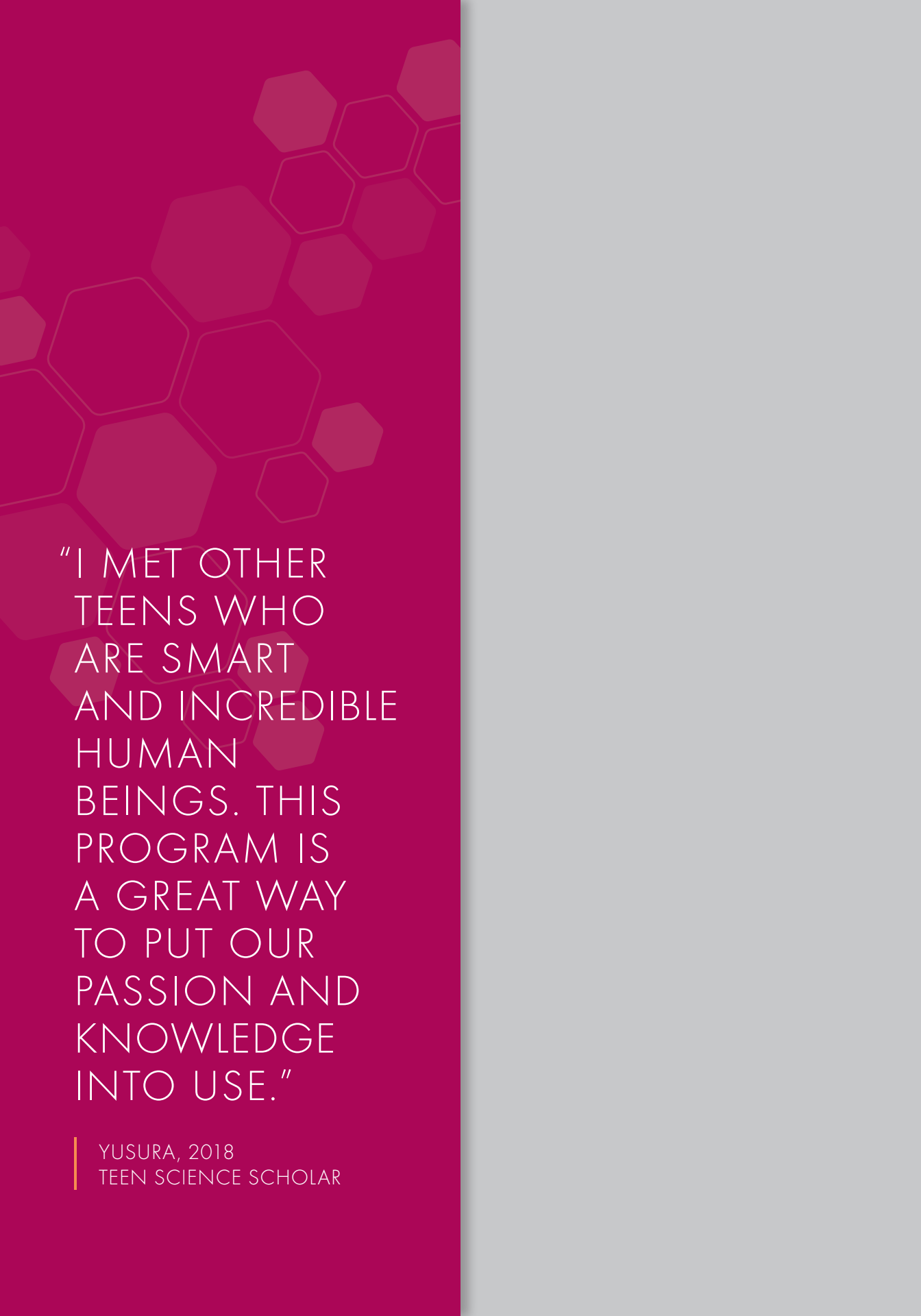
MAGIC MOUNTAIN
CITIZEN SCIENTIST





Magic Mountain in Golden, Colorado, has been a gathering place for millennia. It still is, but people are now together to do science! The Museum and the Paleocultural Research Group are digging into the story of this archaeological site, once home to nomadic hunter-gatherers. The community has a unique role in the Magic Mountain project—during the 2018 field season, 2,100 people were onsite for tours and to participate in authentic research. The results are already exciting: new radiocarbon dating dates the site to roughly 9,000 calendar years ago, about 4,000 years earlier than previously understood. The Museum has long conducted research alongside trained citizen scientists, and your support helps projects like Magic Mountain and the Genetics of Taste Lab in *Expedition Health* place science into the hands of even more people in our community, instilling a sense of ownership and furthering human understanding of our amazing world.





"I MET OTHER
TEENS WHO
ARE SMART
AND INCREDIBLE
HUMAN
BEINGS. THIS
PROGRAM IS
A GREAT WAY
TO PUT OUR
PASSION AND
KNOWLEDGE
INTO USE."


YUSURA, 2018
TEEN SCIENCE SCHOLAR





What a difference it makes in the lives of young people to be shown they can impact the world. Programs like Teen Science Scholars and Urban Advantage Denver empower students—including many from communities under-represented in STEM careers—with opportunities to do real science, learn life skills, and build new relationships. In summer 2018, 34 Teen Scholars interned in the Research and Collections Division. During the school year, 3,200 Urban Advantage students were immersed in creating their own research. All of these students received access to resources and professionals from the Museum and throughout the community. “Today, two of my most disenfranchised students had their lives changed,” said a teacher after an Urban Advantage event. As non-native English speakers, she said the students were nervous, but they presented with confidence and “left the event as different people.” You make it possible to energize the next generation of innovators, explorers, and problem solvers!





"YOUR 'THIS IS
YOUR MUSEUM'
RESPONSE TO
MY INQUIRY
RESONATED
DEEPLY
WITH ME."

MUSEUM GUEST, AFTER A
BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR





You can practically feel the pulse of human curiosity as cabinet drawers are opened and objects spread out on display. From microscopic insects to giant dinosaurs, the Museum is home to 4.3 million artifacts and specimens. The move to the Avenir Collections Center has made the collections more accessible than ever to both local citizens and scientists across the globe. In addition to their commitment to research and preservation, the Research and Collections staff has a passion for sharing these treasures, engaging with 37,000 guests during behind-the-scenes tours, open houses, and Science on the Spots in 2018. Who knows what scientific secrets have yet to be discovered? As one mom said after a tour, "You and all the work you do stretches our minds in the best way. And for my son, it will absolutely shape the person he becomes." *Your* support ensures the Museum is a leader in collections stewardship, preserving our world's natural and cultural history for generations to come.

Ed and Jackie Warner, longtime friends of the Museum, made history with their incredible gift of \$10 million, the largest ever received. Their act of generosity provides key support for the Future First initiative and inspires others to support all of the initiatives in *Everyone, Everywhere* through the Warner Leadership Challenge. We are grateful for their commitment and enthusiasm for investing in the Museum's future.





2018 DONORS

THE MUSEUM EXTENDS ITS
DEEPEST GRATITUDE FOR
YOUR SUPPORT, WHICH
MAKES SCIENCE ACCESSIBLE,
UNDERSTANDABLE, FUN,
AND MEANINGFUL, CREATING
A VIBRANT COLORADO
COMMUNITY TODAY
AND FAR INTO THE FUTURE.



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Hudson

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Leo Tilman

Edward Warner



The Board of Trustees in Botswana Africa Hall. Back row, from left: W. Hutchens, R. Ambrose, L. Tilman, T. Ryan, H. Logan, M. Cleworth, H. Gordon, J. Couzens, P. Dea, M. Burkett, B. Koelbel, S. McConahey. Front row, from left: J. Hausmann, C. Chavez, L. Appel, S. Halstedt, C. Marquez-Hudson, E. Warner, H. Haynes, S. McIntire

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Patricia Barela
Rivera

William Sinclair II

Eric Sipf

Thomas Swanson

Sondra Talley

Mike Wilfley

*Passed away in 2018

INDIVIDUALS

\$1,000,000+

Sue Anschutz-Rodgers
Ed & Jackie Warner

\$100,000-\$999,999

Lisa Levin Appel
Estate of Beth Archibald
Montgomery C. Cleworth
Estate of Elizabeth Kirkpatrick
M. Patrick Swingle
& Jo Ann C. Swingle
Estate of Janice Tucker
Robert Walker & Cristy Godwin

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& Merrill Shields
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\$5,000-\$9,999

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Estate of Alan Canter
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Steve & Kathy McConahey
John & Mary Nice
The Ponzio Family
John & Vivian Sabel
Dennis & Kathie Simpson
Nona Yakes
Bob & Linda Zaparanick



You helped us get our glow on! More than 800 guests sparkled at Museum After Dark: GLOW, raising \$580,000 to support getting students excited about science. Presented by The Burkett Family Foundation, the annual gala's new strolling party format was a hit as guests discovered new sights, sounds, scents, and tastes around every corner. The evening was capped by the After Dark Soiree, hosted by the Young Professionals. Thank you to our event co-chairs, pictured above from left, John and Katie Levisay and Priya and Matthew Burkett.

\$1,500–\$4,999

Anonymous

Adriana Abarca

Joseph Anderson & Tamara Ballou

Hartman Axley

Mr. & Mrs. William J. Barrett

Kenneth Behrens & Cynthia Wozniak-Behrens

Robert & Sarah Benson

Seth & Megan Bent

Ruth Benton & Tod Sedbrook

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Dr. Robert Breeze & Carol Foster-Breeze

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Shirley Nicholson

Mr. & Mrs. Will F. Nicholson Jr.

Collie Norman & Donna Webster

Canton & Ann O'Donnell

John & Mary Jo O'Donnell

Gregory Parmley

The Museum is grateful to the Sturm Family Foundation for being the presenting sponsor for the *Dead Sea Scrolls* exhibition, a once-in-a-lifetime experience for our community. Their commitment impacted more than 250,000 visitors. Pictured from left are Susan Sturm, President George Sparks, Don Sturm, Emily Sturm, and Stephen Sturm.



Gordon Peden
Lisa Peloso & Vikas Patel
Toby Pippin & Marty Tingelhoff
John D. & Rosemary Priester
Joseph & Alice Proietti
Melinda Quiat & Kevin Christensen
Gretchen Ray-Woitte
Mary Reisher & Barry Berlin
Robert & Myra Rich
Daniel Ritchie
Rick & Judy Schiff
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\$1,000,000+

The Citizens of the City & County of Denver
through the Elevate Denver Bond
The Citizens of the Scientific
& Cultural Facilities District
DMNS Foundation

\$100,000–\$999,999

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Sciences, National Institutes of Health
National Science Foundation
Sturm Family Foundation
Wenner-Gren Foundation

\$10,000–\$99,999

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Land Title Guarantee Company
National Endowment for the Humanities
National NAGPRA Program,
National Park Service
Old Republic Title Insurance Company
Ping Identity
Quinette Family Fund
Singer Family Foundation
Suncor
Swire Coca-Cola USA
Tetra Tech Inc.
TIAA
Transamerica
U.S. Bank Foundation
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
University of Denver
The Melvin & Elaine Wolf Foundation
Xcel Energy

\$5,000–\$9,999

BBVA Compass
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP
Burns & McDonnell
Colorado Christian University
Colorado School of Mines
Dea Family Foundation
Dorsey & Whitney LLP
EKS&H, now part of Plante Moran
El Pomar Foundation
Emerson Process Management
EOG Resources, Inc.
The Shauna M. & Kevin B. Flanigan
Family Foundation
The Jack Gantz Foundation
Glendorn Foundation

Ibotta, Inc.
JEWISHcolorado
Kaiser Permanente
The Lloyd J. & Eleanor R. King Foundation
Leo Hill Charitable Trust
McCullough Family Foundation
Mikkelson Education Fund
Prologis
Right Place Media
Saunders Construction, Inc.
Stantec
Sysco Denver
The Thomas & Beatrice Taplin Fund
Thomas Family Foundation
The Titus Foundation
Verdeam, LLC

\$1,500–\$4,999

Anonymous
William H. Anderson Foundation
Ball Corporation
BCER Engineering, Inc.
William S. & Cheryl S. Bennett Fund
Boulder County Parks and Open Space
Bradbury Companies
Frank & Marjorie Braisted Fund
Catalyst Foundation
Caulkins Family Foundation
Chaco Travel
Cherry Creek Shopping Center
City of Boulder Open Space
and Mountain Parks
Community First Foundation
The Sam & Beth Coyle
Family Charitable Fund
CRL Associates
Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP
Delta Dental of Colorado
Dobbins Foundation
Fairfield and Woods, P.C.
Fentress Architects

Science on Tap, the Young Professionals' premier event, had its best year yet, raising more than \$36,000, to support the new Museum on Wheels initiative.

GH Phipps Construction Companies
Gilman Family Foundation
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**Thank you to these individuals
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Dr. Joe Sertich (right) received the annual Giving Club Special Recognition Award for 2018. He is pictured with President George Sparks and Giving Club Council chair Lisa Levin Appel. Dr. Sertich, the Museum's curator of dinosaurs, grew up visiting the Museum, inspiring his lifelong passion. He arrived in 2010 and has since established one of the best dinosaur research programs in the country. The award is given annually to an individual or group that has displayed commitment, service, and leadership.



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Volunteer Ann O'Donnell, pictured surrounded by her family, received her 45-year service award in 2018. She was among more than 100 volunteers who were recognized for giving 10-plus years to the Museum. In 2018, more than 1,800 people of all ages and backgrounds contributed 224,220 hours of their time. Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers!

Mark & DonnaDale Turner
Bob Valerio
Robert Walker & Cristy Godwin
Susan K. Wallner
Mr. Richard Whipkey
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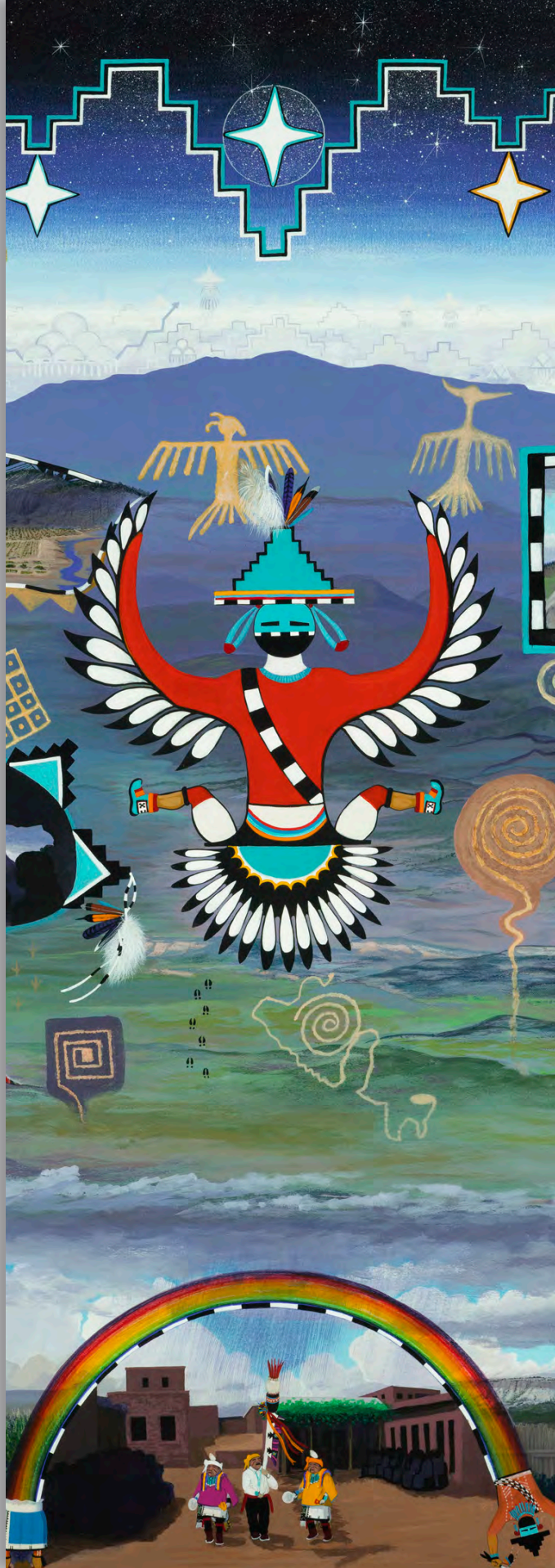
The National Science Foundation awarded the Museum and Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU) a \$1,034,240, four-year, collaborative research grant to study North American camel spiders. This grant is directed by Dr. Paula Cushing, curator of invertebrate zoology (pictured in the field), and co-principal investigator Dr. Matthew Graham of ECSU.





2018 SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

NAMES OF AUTHORS FROM THE DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE APPEAR IN BOLD. THESE ARE PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MUSEUM'S SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, VISIT DMNS.ORG/SCIENCE.



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Orange oakleaf
or Indian dead
leaf butterfly
(*Kallima inachus*)
ZE.2972

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Anavelle Hernandez, 2018 Teen Science Scholar: pp. 12, 13 (top)

Ted Stump, Museum volunteer: p. 24 (right)



