THANK YOU FOR TAPPING INTO SOME AMAZING SUPPORT!

The RMSC welcomed 500 guests to the sold-out, third annual, RMSC Uncorked & On Tap fundraiser on March 24. You helped raise nearly $30,000 to support the RMSC’s important programs that promote hands-on learning through open-ended inquiry. Support from our sponsors, vendors and guests enables the RMSC to provide exciting experiences to all visitors. Thank you to event chair Amy Coté, who, along with the events committee, staff and volunteers, helped to create a fantastic event.

Silver Sponsors
Bergmann Associates, PC
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The Eclipses 2017 and 2024 star show at the Strasenburgh Planetarium returns in July. Discover what makes eclipses happen, what to watch for and where to view the August 21, 2017 eclipse.

As seen from Rochester, 70 percent of the Sun will be covered. On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will occur. Join us for safe solar viewing at RMSC on August 21.

MAPLE SUGARING A SWEET SUCCESS

The results of the RMSC Cumming Nature Center (CNC) 39th annual Maple Sugaring event held on March 11, 12, 18 and 19 are something to celebrate. The CNC hosted more than 1,400 visitors with the help of 50 volunteers contributing more than 500 volunteer hours! Visitors learned about the art of maple syrup production through hands-on activities, representing multiple cultural and historical perspectives. More than 25 gallons of syrup were poured over nearly 6,000 pancakes, and 300 pounds of sausage were served. The event was sponsored by Wegmans and event partners included Finger Lakes Coffee Roasters, Red Jacket Orchards, New Hope Mills, Bostrom Farms and Upstate Dairy. School groups, scout troops and other community groups took advantage of CNC maple sugar programming. Next year, the CNC’s 40th annual Maple Sugaring event will celebrate local food, music, lore and community.
Dear Friends,

We have exciting news about a team leadership change at the Rochester Museum & Science Center. Dan Menelly, who has served as Chief Science Officer for two years, has added the role of RMSC President. This positions the RMSC to significantly improve its public engagement in the important fields of STEM. I have proudly served as President and CEO of the RMSC for more than 20 years, and I remain CEO. In this role, I am excited to concentrate on the strategic advancement of the RMSC. As a result of this team leadership, we have increased our capacity to elevate our strategic vision.

This transition started early in 2015 when Dan was recruited to oversee the Museum’s unique programs and overall guest experiences. Now, as both President and Chief Science Officer, Dan continues in his role with the additional responsibilities of day-to-day operations at the Museum, Strasenburgh Planetarium and Cumming Nature Center. By appointing our Chief Science Officer as President, we are further illustrating our commitment to STEM and the vital role these important fields play in our community’s future.

Please join us in our continued celebration of STEM through our many exhibits, programs and events and as always, visit RMSC.org for updates on our offerings for all ages.

Kate Bennett, RMSC President

GRIFFITH STAPPENBECK SELECTED AS DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES & BUILDING SERVICES

We welcome Griffith Stappenbeck to serve as Director of Facilities & Building Services, an important position leading the efforts of building services, maintenance, security and grounds operations. His efforts ensure that the Museum’s physical environment contributes to a positive visitor experience. Stappenbeck began his operations career as a maintenance technician, and through persistent work and facility management certifications, worked his way up through a variety of positions. He most recently served as Assistant Districtwide Supervisor for Facilities, Buildings and Grounds at Spencerport Central School District.

DID YOU KNOW? There are 15 miles of hiking, skiing, and snowshoeing trails at Cumming Nature Center.

COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT: WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE AND STEWARDSHIP

The RMSC collections department has a lot to celebrate in 2017.

Women’s Suffrage Centennial:

An exhibit marking the centennial of women’s suffrage in New York State is on display at the Central Library of Rochester now through October 14, 2017. Because of Women Like Her is a collaborative venture between key partners including Rochester Public Library, University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester Historical Society, Rochester City Historian’s Office, The National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House and the Rochester Museum & Science Center. The exhibit highlights local suffragists and women who championed equality for women in the workplace and society, including Kate Gleason, Ida Breiman and Martha Matilda Harper.

Harper is one of the most important entrepreneurs to Rochester. She was a self-made businesswoman and an inspiring innovator. Her vision changed modern business practices and even our lifestyles, yet she is not well-known like many of the male business leaders from the same era.

Harper came from very humble beginnings. She grew up in the mid-1800s in Canada, working as a household servant starting at seven years old. At age 25, she immigrated to the United States with only $60, a secret hair tonic formula she received from her former employer and the will to create a better life for herself. For several years, Harper worked as a servant in Rochester while refining her hair formula and making plans to open her own business. In 1888, with the help of an attorney, Harper rented a room in the luxurious Powers Building in Rochester and opened the city’s first public beauty parlor. At a time when proper women didn’t leave the house to get their hair done, Harper pioneered the concept of the modern hair salon.

Harper offered personalized customer service to retain clients. She even invented the first reclining shampoo chair to ensure customer comfort. Her emphasis on cleanliness, stimulating blood flow and natural hair and skin products ushered in a new industry of health and beauty for women. Harper’s salon catered to the city’s elite and also became a haven for suffragists, including Susan B. Anthony, who praised Harper as an example of women controlling their own destinies.

In addition to lending curatorial expertise to the exhibit, the RMSC also lent artifacts to illustrate the stories of women like Harper and Anthony. The Harper shampoo chair prototype, Harper Method hair and beauty products as well as Harper’s portrait are on display. The RMSC is proud to highlight the accomplishments of Harper and other influential individuals who helped shape history. Because these artifacts embody the ideas of innovation and social change, they are part of another important collections project ongoing at RMSC.

Collections Storage Project

Funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Endowment for the Humanities has made possible a collections stewardship project to transform four storage vaults in the basement of the Museum building. Objects from these vaults are currently stored off-site while staff and interns clean and prepare them to return to the renovated spaces. Objects in the RMSC technology, zoology, social innovation, ethnology, art and household textiles collections are undergoing examination and preparation for their new homes.

Women like Harper and Anthony. The Harper shampoo chair prototype, Harper Method hair and beauty products as well as Harper’s portrait are on display.

Top: Collections Manager Sarah LaCloutier cleans brushes from the Martha Matilda Harper Collection
Bottom: Collections Planning Specialist Lauren Tagliaferro cleans hair product bottles from the Martha Matilda Harper Collection
VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT – BEN SLOMOVIC

Volunteer photographer Ben Slomovic has captured countless valuable venue and guest photos at various RMSC events throughout the past couple of years. Events include RMSC After Dark, RMSC STEM Awards and RMSC Uncorked & On Tap among other museum experiences.

After receiving an undergraduate degree from SUNY Fredonia and an MFA in media arts from the City College of New York, Ben worked as a videographer covering fashion shows and other fashion-related events in New York City for more than seven years. His current work as a professional photographer includes real estate, weddings, portraits and events.

“Taking photos for the RMSC is a great way to use my skills and interests to give something back to the community,” said Ben when asked why he reached out to the RMSC to take photos. “My background is in the arts and sciences, so I feel at home here.” Ben wants guests to relive their excitement at RMSC events through his photos and wants others to realize the fun and enlightenment they could have by attending the same functions. “I want my photos to bring attention to this institution in a positive way,” added Ben. A fan of fine food and drink, Ben finds RMSC Uncorked & On Tap to be his favorite RMSC event.

Ben is originally from the Rochester area, and the RMSC is grateful that he chose to move back and share his photography skills with the RMSC. His photos have been used in various RMSC publications and have recently appeared in the Rochester Business Journal and VisitRochester Explore Greater Rochester guide – a Rochester Business Journal supplement available to the community all year long.

CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: G.W. LISK COMPANY, INC.

G.W. Lisk has been a generous RMSC supporter since 2014. The local manufacturing organization recognizes the importance of educating our community’s youth on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills and supports the RMSC in its efforts to provide visitors with unique learning experiences. Recently, G.W. Lisk provided support for RMSC’s Inventor Center makerspace and the 2016 RMSC STEM Awards. The company employs more than 190 engineers, technicians and machinists at its Clifton Springs location. The RMSC provides exhibits such as Inventor Center, Erie Canal Lock and How Things Work to introduce and develop engineering skills in curious museum visitors, making RMSC a pertinent partner for G.W. Lisk.

G.W. Lisk’s presenting sponsorship of the RMSC STEM Awards contributed to a successful night of fundraising. More than 200 guests were enlightened about the importance of STEM learning at the inaugural event. Check back with us for details on the 2017 RMSC STEM Awards ceremony honoring our community’s educators and organizations that are making a difference.

DID YOU KNOW? The RMSC Serves 60,000 school-age children in groups annually.

RMSC WOMEN’S COUNCIL EVENTS

Proceeds benefit the RMSC

Fantastic Findings Sale
Eisenhart Auditorium
Thursday, September 21: 9am-4pm
Friday, September 22: 9am-4pm
Saturday, September 23: 9am-2pm

A “next to new” sale, Fantastic Findings features china, elegant glass, silver, lamps, jewelry, linens, art, furniture, toys, tools and other fantastic treasures and collectibles. To donate items, call Joan Gayford at 585.415.2941 to make arrangements.

SAVE THE DATE!

Innovation Celebration - Saturday, September 23, 2017

Join us for an evening of exciting entertainment, sensational science and amazing auction items as you support the RMSC’s efforts to manufacture inquisitive minds! To purchase tickets, visit RMSC.org or contact Kim Osur at 585.697.1985 or kosur@rmsc.org

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Katie Mackey at 585.697.1973 or kmackey@rmsc.org
Your membership supports the transformation and growth of the RMSC, and enables us to offer new hands-on, interactive experiences, present amazing star shows and spectacular giant-screen films at Strasenburgh Planetarium, and provide hours of outdoor recreation at Cumming Nature Center. We thank you!

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bausch Society has been an integral part of Rochester’s history. Edward Bausch offered his home grounds for a new museum in 1930. The four-floor Bausch building houses some of our greatest collections and our finest exhibition experiences. On the grounds of his home, the Strasenburgh Planetarium now stands. We are proud of the legacy of Edward Bausch and delighted to use the name Bausch to identify this very important future for the RMSC.

As a Bausch Society member, you will be:
• acknowledged in publications and on the RMSC Donor Recognition exhibit (with permission)
• invited to special Bausch Society events
• acknowledged in publications and on the

Help us find solutions and advancements in the fields of science and education. Supporting the Rochester Museum of Science means you are proud of the legacy of Edward Bausch and delighted to use the name Bausch to identify this very important future for the RMSC.

If your bequest intention or planned gift information has not been shared with the RMSC, please contact Jessica Stadt, Director of Planned Giving and Major Gifts at 585.697.1944 or jstadt@rmsc.org to be identified as a Bausch Society member.