On the cover: A close-up of Máximo’s massive skeletal frame. His placement in the renovated Stanley Field Hall invites guests to get up-close and personal. Visitors can walk under the titanosaur’s massive legs and sit at his feet.

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Dear Friends,

In its historic 125th anniversary year, the Field Museum achieved a new level of accomplishment in science, public engagement, and philanthropy. We are grateful to all donors and members for championing our mission to fuel a journey of discovery across time to enable solutions for a brighter future rich in nature and culture.

In September 2018, the Museum’s Board of Trustees launched the public phase of an ambitious fundraising initiative. Because Earth. The Campaign for the Field Museum will raise $250 million dollars for our scientific enterprises, exhibitions, programs, and endowment.

Our dedication to Earth’s future is strengthened by a new mission and brand that reinforce our commitment to global scientific leadership. Over the past six years, the Museum has transformed more than 25 percent of its public spaces, culminating in 2018 with renovations of Stanley Field Hall and the unveiling of the Griffin Dinosaur Experience. We are deeply grateful to the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund for an extraordinary commitment to dinosaur programs at the Field.

In 2018, we also announced a three-year renovation of the Native North America Hall and unveiled the Rice Native Gardens with a land dedication ceremony in October. The new exhibition will pair a team of Museum professionals with Native American community partners. It will draw from the Museum’s rich collections and contemporary Native American stories.

The Field Museum is an idea factory, constantly changing and closing the gap between research and the public. All the dynamism of 2018 and the years to come are products of the people who love the Field Museum. The accomplishments of our 125th year would not have been possible without your generous support.

Thank you,

Wilbur H. Gantz III  
Board Chair

Richard W. Lariviere, PhD  
President and CEO
In late 2018, SUE was moved to a new gallery in the Griffin Halls of Evolving Planet. Field scientists and exhibitions staff designed SUE’s new space to reflect the latest discoveries about T. rex.

In 2018, the Field Museum cemented its claim as home to the world’s greatest dinosaur exhibitions with the opening of the Griffin Dinosaur Experience. Made possible by the generous support of the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund, this inspiring new suite of exhibitions and education outreach programs showcases the Museum’s impressive paleontology collections and research—and delights visitors.
After 18 months of planning, in February 2018, the Field’s iconic T. rex, SUE, was removed from Stanley Field Hall and installed in a new home in the Griffin Halls of Evolving Planet. There, scientists re-configured SUE’s skeleton and posture to reflect current science about T. rex. Designers created a virtual Cretaceous forest like the one SUE ruled 67 million years ago. The SUE suite features a specially commissioned projection show that points out key elements on the specimen to illustrate the latest science. The new gallery opened in December 2018 and was seen by nearly 50,000 visitors over the holiday season.

As SUE was being prepared, the Museum introduced other elements of the Griffin Dinosaur Experience. In May 2018, the Field welcomed Máximo the Titanosaur. At 122 feet long, this cast of the largest species of dinosaur ever discovered now greets visitors in Stanley Field Hall. Máximo, a plant-eater, was discovered in the Patagonia region of Argentina.

The installation of Máximo presented an opportunity to renovate Stanley Field Hall. Massive, hydroponic hanging gardens, a flock of pterosaurs, and improved wayfinding were part of an essential update to the Museum’s main hall.

In June, a new traveling exhibition—Antarctic Dinosaurs—opened, featuring the fieldwork of Museum scientists. The exhibition was experienced by 200,000 visitors during its six-month run, and then began a five-year tour across the country to museums such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the Natural History Museum of Utah, and Discovery Place in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Field Museum is grateful to the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund for investing in a dinosaur experience that sets a new standard for natural history museums—and sparks curiosity in visitors of all ages.

A dinosaur experience that sets a new standard for natural history museums.
The Field Museum’s collection of Native American cultural materials is one of the largest and most important in the world. A dramatic new visitor experience about North American communities, both past and present, was launched at the beginning of 2018. The exhibition is a central priority of the $250-million Because Earth Campaign, which calls for a new emphasis on collections as the centerpiece of Museum programs.

Museum staff are in the process of engaging scholars, tribal authorities, artists, and museum professionals from across the United States and Canada, working side by side to identify themes and ensure the final exhibition is accurate, inclusive, and compelling. A 12-member advisory committee met quarterly in 2018 to guide the formulation of the exhibition. This multi-voice, inclusive approach will combine historical and anthropological documentation, knowledge from Native tradition-bearers, and Native American scholarship.

While the exhibition will occupy a permanent space in the Museum, it will feature flexible modules for content to rotate. This ensures that the hall remains current, more of the collection is displayed over time, and the vibrancy of Native American cultural practices is emphasized. Each module will be co-curated with Native American partners and staff.

“This is a new era of cooperation between the Field Museum and Native American peoples, and we envision a visitor experience unlike any other,” said President Richard W. Lariviere, PhD.
We envision a visitor experience unlike any other.

We are delighted to be a part of the revitalization of the museum’s campus to expand the connection to active work in studying and celebrating the cultural and biological diversity of the Chicago Region.

Native Gardens

Unveiling the Rice Native Gardens

Above: “Maternal Journey” by Rhonda Holy Bear

This piece is a homage to the strength and dignity of the Plains mother. She metaphorically carries the culture and history of her people as she literally carries her children.

“We envision a

visitors will experience the

environment and the education of visitors.”

— Richard W. Lariviere, PhD

President and CEO

Above: “Maternal Journey” by Rhonda Holy Bear.

Unveiling the Rice Native Gardens

Visitors will experience the Native North America Hall in concert with the recently developed Rice Native Gardens. Begun in 2016, the historic transformation of the museum’s grounds was realized in 2018 with the completion of the last remaining terrace. Designed and planted in collaboration with members of Chicago’s native American community, the Rice Native Gardens are linked with exhibitions and programs at the museum.

Signage in the gardens explains the connection to active work in studying and celebrating the rich cultural and biological diversity of the Chicago Region.

Thanks to the generosity of the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation and the hard work of volunteers, visitors to the museum are greeted with serene gardens of native plants and provide nesting space for native bats. “We are delighted to be a part of the revitalization of a Museum space for the betterment of the environment and the experience of visitors,” said Peter Nolan, President of the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation.

Below: “Maternal Journey” by Rhonda Holy Bear.

“We envision a visitor experience unlike any other.”

— Richard W. Lariviere, PhD
The Field Museum reached a historic milestone in 2018: 125 years of discovery and service. What began as a collection of objects and specimens displayed at the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition has evolved into a renowned research institution and public museum. And in those 125 years, the Museum has revolutionized the study of natural science, conserved millions of acres of land, and inspired seven generations of visitors.

To celebrate this milestone, the Board of Trustees launched the most ambitious fundraising initiative in its history: *Because Earth. The Campaign for the Field Museum.*

More than 400 Trustees and friends gathered on September 13 to celebrate 125 years of philanthropy and launch the public phase of *Because Earth.* The event began with a reception in the newly installed Rice Native Gardens,
a program in James Simpson Theatre, and a celebratory dinner in Stanley Field Hall. Trustees and Campaign Co-Chairs Marshall Field V and Robert W. Crawford, Jr., recognized early campaign donors whose support generated initial momentum. They announced $201 million had been raised as of that date.

"The $250-million Because Earth Campaign will fuel new endowments to expand our impact in four areas where the Field can drive meaningful advances," said President Richard Lariviere.

**Environmental Change**
Biological diversity is essential to the health of our planet and the Field is one of the only institutions with a large and old enough collection to study this topic in depth. With new discoveries derived from the collection, Field scientists, together with community partners, will be able to conserve millions more acres of land across the world.

**Cooperation and Conflict**
Trustee Jessica Sarowitz introduced the topic of Cooperation and Conflict: “For the first time in human history, more than half the world’s population lives in urban areas. Field scholars will explore the evolution and environmental impact of cities to shape efforts to sustain Chicago’s environmental and cultural diversity.”

**Access and Inclusion**
The Field believes every visitor should feel welcome and inspired to learn. “In the coming years, updates to some of our beloved exhibitions and the creation of new experiences and programs will transform the visitor experience into a journey of discovery,” said Trustee and Exhibitions Committee Chair Dawn Solomon.

**Fueling Our Mission**
“The Field is your Museum,” said Trustee Marshall Field V. “New endowment funds will protect and sustain its greatest treasures—a collection of 40 million objects, a community of exceptional scholars and educators, and our landmark building.”
Rapid Inventory 30 in Colombia

Since 1999, the Field Museum has carried out 30 rapid inventories designed to safeguard the world’s most diverse wilderesses. This year’s focus was a monumental 2.4-million acre expanse of Amazonian forest nestled between two national parks in southern Colombia and never before visited by scientists. The collaborative effort required a team of 50 biologists, geologists, and social scientists, and the backing of 21 local communities and 14 institutional partners.

Over 18 days, the team met with Indigenous and campesino residents to understand their vision for conserving these forests and surveyed mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and plants at four campsites. The result was a broad consensus on the need for a regional conservation area that will allow both natural environments and human settlements to thrive. With the inventory results published in May 2019, the Museum will engage with decision-makers in Colombia to ensure the conservation of this vibrant Amazonian corridor.

Ventral view of the fluorescent tree frog, *Boana punctata*, one of around 1,000 vertebrates in Colombia’s megadiverse Bajo Caguán-Caquetá region.
Early Activity of the Sun

The sun’s early activity has long been inferred from astronomical observations of other stars currently going through early phases of development. However, newly extracted hibonite crystals from the famous Murchison meteorite—a treasure of the Field’s collections—offers new evidence about the Sun’s youth. Post-doctoral scholar Levke Kööp and Field scientists spent months extracting these crystals from the meteorite in a joint Field Museum-University of Chicago study. In her PhD research on the crystals, Kööp determined the hibonites formed before anything else in the solar system and were free-floating when the Sun was young and more active, which fully exposed them to the Sun’s nuclear energy.
New Dinosaur Species Discovered Had Iridescent Feathers

At the beginning of 2018, Field Museum Bass post-doctoral student scientist Chad Eliason co-authored a study in *Nature Communications* describing a new species of dinosaur that had a rainbow array of iridescent feathers. Named *Caihong juji*, “rainbow with the big crest” in Mandarin, this dinosaur lived 161 million years ago. It was about the size of a duck with a bony crest on its head and long, ribbon-like feathers. Examination of the feathers under powerful microscopes revealed imprints of melanosomes—the parts of cells that contain pigment. While most of the pigment was long gone, the physical structure of the melanosomes remained and the team was able to match them with those of birds alive today. Hummingbirds, which are known for their striking iridescent feathers, were the best match. Besides being the oldest known example of melanosomes typical of iridescent feathers, *Caihong* also underscores the importance of museum collections and big data analytics to carry out this kind of research.
Collections Managers Receive Grants for Digitization

In August and September 2018, McCarter Collections Manager and Head of Botanical Collections Matt Von Konrat, PhD, and Collections Manager Christine Niezgoda each received National Science Foundation grants as part of the Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC) program.

Von Konrat’s award is a multi-institution collaboration, led by UC-Berkeley. This grant brings together nine core institutions and data from 39 US museums to digitize data on 1.6 million fossil and modern ferns. The information will be available to researchers across the globe.

Niezgoda’s award is in collaboration with the New York Botanical Garden. The grant will support digitization of plant specimens to provide data necessary for understanding how plants have adapted to extreme habitats. This in turn will help predict how their distributions may change in the future.

Beetle Trapped in Amber Hints at Prehistoric Landmass Shifts

Field scientists recently found a remarkable Piestinae (rove beetle) fossil in mid-Cretaceous amber from northern Myanmar that is approximately 99 million years old. This specimen, named Propiestus archaicus, is not only a new species to science, but also the first discovery of this subfamily group in Mesozoic amber. The general body shape, including long and slender antennae, suggests it also lived in similar habitats to its modern cousins. In fact, this fossil is very similar to a group of Piestinae from Central and South America. Recent studies of Myanmar amber provided similar discoveries, implying a link between Myanmar and South America. These findings may hint that the earlier timing of landmass shifts occurred around Myanmar, contradicting some previously reported geological studies.
7,000 Fish Specimens from 15 Years of Rapid Inventories Come to the Field

In November 2018, scientists from the Gantz Family Collections Center and the Keller Science Action Center touched down at O’Hare with more than 7,000 fish specimens in their luggage—specimens collected on rapid inventories of the Peruvian Amazon between 1999 and 2016. The specimens’ arrival in the Field Museum capped a year of collaborative work by Conservation Scientist and Women In Science Co-Chair Lesley de Souza, Collections Manager of Fishes Caleb McMahan, and their colleagues from Peru. The new accessions include rare and never-before-described species from some of the most remote regions of the Amazon basin. The Museum has long boasted one of the most historically valuable collections of Neotropical fishes in the world, and this new material more than doubles its holding of Peruvian fishes. These specimens are not just a boon to scientists, but also a crucial tool to promote conservation efforts of the world’s most diverse fish fauna.

Major Addition to the Invertebrates Collection

Invertebrate Zoology received an estimated 7,000 specimens collected from 3,100-meter depth in Monterey Canyon by University of California, Berkeley PhD student Jenna Judge, with help from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institution. The specimens collected by Judge complement our invertebrate collection—many specimens of which were collected by Associate Curator Janet Voight—as they share the habitat of wood placed on the deep-sea seafloor and recovered years later. Sunken wood in the deep sea sustains diverse animal communities, notably wood-boring (and wood-eating) bivalves, little-known gastropods (such as this one of Dillwynella shown), limpets, and tanaids, small crustaceans that are rarely collected in the deep sea. The specimens were part of Dr. Judge’s dissertation and published research. They contributed to a paper on wood-boring bivalves due to be published by Voight in 2019.
Collections Team and IT Staff Collaborate on Database Revamp

The Field Museum uses a specialized software, EMu, to manage its 40 million objects and specimens in a shared database. New records are added frequently across all areas of the Museum. In December 2018, a total of 34,461 new records were added. That’s 150GB of new media files. The updated system will allow scholars to access collections information more efficiently. In 2018, the Technology, Science, and Education departments banded together to begin the process of overhauling and streamlining the Museum’s collections management system.

Interns help Field scientists digitize specimens from the plant collections into EMu.

Shipwreck Collection Used to Reassess Date of Lost Cargo

A team of researchers, led by Boone Research Scientist Lisa Niziolek, PhD, and MacArthur Curator Gary Feinman, PhD, found evidence that the Java Sea Shipwreck vessel might have sailed almost 100 years earlier than initially thought—the second half of the 12th century instead of the mid to late 13th century. The team used a suite of datasets to re-evaluate when this Southeast Asian-built trading vessel laden with Chinese ceramics and iron, along with other natural and manufactured products, met its watery fate. Updated information includes new radiocarbon dates and an inscription that appears on the bases of two ceramic boxes in the cargo. Niziolek, Feinman, and their colleagues Jun Kimura (Tokai University), Amanda Respess (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor), and Lu Zhang (Art Institute of Chicago), reported their findings in “Revisiting the Date of the Java Sea Shipwreck from Indonesia,” which appeared in Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports.

Ceramic box base with a Chinese inscription that mentions a place, Jianning Fu, which dates from AD 1162 to 1278. This piece is one of many ceramics in the Museum’s Java Sea Shipwreck collection. (Catalog no. 344404).
Field Scientists Map Florida’s Coral Reef

Spearheaded by Curator Rüdiger Bieler, PhD, the Field Museum’s coral reef research program is analyzing the dramatic decline of reef corals in the Florida Keys over the past few decades. In fall 2017—the middle of reef restoration efforts—Hurricane Irma hit. Joining forces with colleagues from Mote Marine’s International Center for Coral Reef Research and Restoration and local diving businesses, Bieler spent much of 2018 removing storm debris from the living reef. While damage to the land-based laboratories and culturing facilities could readily be assessed, he wondered about the impact to the underwater restoration sites. Fortunately, with Associate Curator Petra Sierwald, PhD, and colleagues from Miami’s Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, Bieler had completed an underwater photomosaic map of the site just before the hurricane. With support from the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation, the team repeated the imaging efforts to map the post-hurricane conditions in 2018. More than 8,000 images are now being electronically stitched together to allow for a detailed before-and-after comparison.
New Publication on Elephant Ivory in Museum Collections

A surge in African elephant poaching to supply global demand for ivory led the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to revise policies and regulations protecting African elephants. In 2014, commercial import of antique ivory was banned in compliance with the 1989 African Elephant Conservation Act, and non-commercial import was restricted. For museums, uncertainty over the interpretation of the regulations led to re-examination of acquisitions and loan policies. In 2018, Chief Conservator Stephanie Hornbeck and colleague Terry Drayman-Weisser wrote an article titled: "An Art Conservation Perspective: Saving the African Elephant and Ivory Cultural Heritage." It appeared in a special issue of Curator: The Museum Journal that was dedicated to elephant ivory. The article discusses the conservator’s role in working with ivory artifacts, reviews preservation issues for museums raised by the regulations, and shares the working group’s recommendations for preserving ivory artifacts and the African elephant.

Citizen Scientists Research Liverworts

In 2018, more than 11,000 volunteers and citizen scientists assisted McCarter Collections Manager and Head of Botanical Collections Matt Von Konrat with the analysis of liverworts. The eyelash-sized plants are so small they respond to climate change more quickly than bigger organisms, making them valuable to scientists. However, to view the intricacies of these plants, they must be observed under a microscope. Using a special tool adapted from the online platform Zooniverse, Von Konrat’s team of community scientists was able to analyze hundreds of thousands of microscopic images. The program was also used in classrooms ranging from kindergarten to college biology. Von Konrat and high school student Kalman Strauss co-authored a paper detailing the research. Beyond its contribution to science and scientific data, this project is notable for its large-scale engagement with the community and shows that everyone can contribute to scientific research.
Museum visitors observe a prop of an Egyptian mummy inside a CT scanner featured in Mummies. This special exhibition, which was at the Museum from March 2018 to April 2019, showcased how CT scanning and 3D imaging technology is used to study the individual histories of mummies in museum collections.
Digital Learning and Science Research Internship

High school students work directly with Field Museum scientists and digital educators to gain hands-on experience and create an interactive digital game based on their scientific work. Interns collaboratively built a mobile game for the Museum, and developed all of the assets—including writing code, drawing characters, developing the storyboard and script, and recording all of the voice overs. The games developed by the interns are available in the Plants of the World and Nature Walk exhibitions, and can be found through the TaleBlazer app on iOS and Google Play. Interns from two prior years were involved in mentoring the 2018 cohort, creating a cycle of learning. This internship is made possible through collaboration between the Learning Center and the Gantz Family Collections Center.

Digital Learning and Science Research Interns and Field digital educators test the mobile game on tablets in the Rice Native Garden.

Mummies

Mummies opened at the Field in March 2018 after touring the country over the last few years. This special exhibition was the culmination of years of study of the Field’s mummy specimens by Museum scientists. It revealed how the cutting-edge technology of CT scanners and 3D imaging enable researchers to see through ancient wrappings to learn about the personal histories of the individuals whose remains have lasted to this day. The exhibition included not only Egyptian mummies but Peruvian mummies as well, allowing visitors to learn more about the cultural practices of mummification as it was used around the world.

The Gilded Lady, an intact, carefully preserved mummy from Roman-era Egypt (30 BC–646 AD) has a gilded headdress made of cartonnage (glued layers of papyrus or linen). Ancient Egyptians believed gold would preserve a person’s nose, mouth, and eyes in the afterlife.
Brightening Up Lurie Children’s Hospital with Field Science

The Field Museum’s Learning Center and the Exhibitions Department collaborated to bring color and creativity to the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago’s Cardiac Care Unit with the installment of 13 miniature dioramas and collaborative animal storytelling games. Partnering with hospital staff and the Lurie Children’s Kids and Family Advisory Boards, Field artists created the dioramas, 16 large-scale photographs, and a nine-screen video installation to brighten the new Regenstein Cardiac Care Unit for the children and their families. In tandem with these installations, the Learning Center created an educational activity for children aged 3–18, encouraging patients in the unit to get physical exercise by walking around the floor. They made “Find the Animal,” a memory-style game for younger children, and “Once Upon a Tail,” a creative storytelling game for older children. Both games use a deck of illustrated animal cards that are comprised of animals that live or would have lived in the different environments displayed in the dioramas.

From the Everyday to the Extraordinary: Extending Knowledge of the Museum’s East Asian Collections and Exhibitions

The companion book to the Cyrus Tang Hall of China, entitled *China: Visions through the Ages*, edited by Museum scientists Lisa Niziolek, Deborah Bekken, and Gary Feinman, with Thomas Skwerski, enables readers to explore in greater depth both artifacts from the Museum’s renowned collections and historical themes from the exhibition. More than 30,000 objects comprise the Museum’s East Asian holdings—close to 350 of these are on display in the Tang Hall. *China: Visions through the Ages* features the contributions from 21 scholars from around the world. The book’s five sections include essays and short highlights about the Paleolithic and Neolithic periods; the Bronze Age, the first dynasties, and early writing; the imperial system and power; religion and performance; and interregional overland and maritime trade.
Distilled in World’s Fair
History: Journeyman’s Field Gin, Vodka, and Rye

The Field Museum collaborated with Journeyman Distillery—based in Three Oaks, Michigan—to create a historically inspired gin and vodka in celebration of the Museum’s 125th anniversary. This first-time endeavor took inspiration from the wide array of botanical specimens found in the Field’s botany collection. With more than 2.5 million specimens on hand, the Museum’s Botany Collections Manager Christine Niezgoda helped guide the process. A unique collaboration, it reflects the remarkable origins of the Field Museum and its continued efforts to celebrate history and science. Field Gin, Vodka, and Rye are available at select bars, restaurants and retailers throughout Illinois, as well as at the Field Museum and in Journeyman’s tasting room.

WeDigBio

Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio) is a global event that engages participants online and onsite in digitizing natural history collections. Volunteers joined museums around the world as part of a four-day effort to digitize centuries of data about life on Earth.

To build support for natural history collections and increase digitization rates, the Gantz Family Collections Center invited members of the public, including more than 100 Chicago Public High School students, to participate in a “transcription party” from October 18–21, 2018. 665 people registered with the Field Museum to work on 16,247 physical objects, specimens, or digital records. The Field has participated in this global event for the past four years. Enlisting the public’s help in transforming historic data labels—often handwritten or typewritten—into an open, globally accessible, digital resource is unlocking valuable information that can help scientists accelerate the process of biodiversity discovery.
Brewing Up Chicago

Through January 2020, the Field Museum is hosting *Brewing Up Chicago: How Beer Transformed a City* from the Chicago Brewseum. The exhibition tells the story of beer’s historic role in shaping Chicago from its earliest years through immigration, prejudice, politics, labor, and industry. Visitors will learn how beer was disdained in the mid-19th century not only due to the Temperance Movement, but also because it was associated with German immigrants. They will learn how Midwestern agriculture influenced beer recipes across the globe and how Chicago’s Siebel Institute of Technology pioneered brewing techniques still used today.

Artifacts from the 1893 World’s Fair Inspire 2018 Artists

Artist and Harvard University Professor Karthik Pandian and choreographer Andros Zins-Browne teamed up with teens from the Design Apprenticeship Program II at the University of Chicago for a new exhibition. The group recently visited the Field Museum’s collections to study and sketch a mashrabiya balcony that was part of the Streets of Cairo display at the 1893 World’s Fair. A mashrabiya is an enclosed, projecting window popular in traditional Arabic architecture. The teens drew inspiration from the historic piece for a sculpture in collaboration with the artists. The sculpture inspired by the balcony was featured in *Atlas Unlimited Acts V-VI*, which was at the Logan Center for the Arts in February and March 2019. The exhibition also featured another Field Museum object, a tiny sculpture fragment from the ancient city of Kish, in present-day Iraq.
Fifth Annual ID Day

The Field Museum’s fifth annual ID Day coincided with its 125th anniversary. Visitors were invited to bring non-living specimens and photographs of unidentified animals and fossils to be examined by scientists in Stanley Field Hall. Due to ID Day’s growing popularity, even more scientists were on hand to help identify and answer visitor questions ranging from paleontology to zoology. Scientists also brought out their own research specimens for a hands-on experience for visitors. The public event gives visitors the opportunity to come face-to-face with the Museum’s active research and foster journeys of discovery.

Youth Conservation Action

The Field Museum’s Youth Conservation Action (YCA) programs energize community-based conservation in the Chicago region by giving thousands of young people hands-on experiences in Chicago’s rich natural area. This is supplemented with classroom learning rooted in the region’s ecology and local environmental issues. In 2018, the YCA team worked directly with more than 1,500 3rd-12th grade Chicago Public School students. The program reached nearly ten times as many young people across the four-state Chicago Wilderness region via the Mighty Acorns and Calumet Is My Backyard partnerships.

In 2018, YCA also provided 10 workshops and worked with over 60 educators to support them in carrying out environmental education at local natural areas. The combination of capacity building with empowering youth programs is helping the Museum cultivate conservation leaders of the future.

Right: A fifth grade student from Southeast Area Elementary makes scientific drawings with items from the Harris Learning Collection during a Mighty Acorns field experience.
Women in Science Luncheon 2018

The Women’s Board of the Field Museum hosted Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and UN Messenger of Peace, as its Women in Science Luncheon speaker on April 3. The day began with Dr. Goodall meeting 40 young women from Chicago Public Schools in a private conversation, followed by a keynote address for more than 1,000 luncheon attendees. The 2018 Women in Science Luncheon was co-chaired by Women’s Board members Julie Goff and Tonja Hall.

Proceeds from the day supported opportunities for young women aspiring to STEM careers through the Field Museum Women in Science Program. The program provides annual summer internships for high school and college students, and one annual graduate fellowship. In 2018, a new post-doctoral research position was added. The program also advocates for the participation of women in science through 50 activities per year, including a lecture and symposium series, networking events, and learning activities for more than 1,000 members. Through the Women in Science Luncheon, the Women’s Board is the primary funder and the Museum’s lead partner in these efforts.

Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE, and Field President and CEO Richard W. Lariviere unveil a sculpture by artist Marla Friedman to honor Goodall’s scientific research and conservation work.
Poet-In-Residence

The Museum welcomed Eric Elshtain as its first poet-in-residence. Elshtain believes the intersection of poetry and science helps deepen understandings of—and relationships with—the natural world. Along with writing his own poems about the Field’s objects, specimens, and exhibitions, he guides visitors through writing their poems about their visit to the Field. Elshtain can be found every Wednesday in Stanley Field Hall and other locations around the Museum behind a small desk with his typewriter, ready to talk and write about dinosaurs, ancient pottery, genetics, and everything beyond and in between.

Poet-in-residence Eric Elshtain greets young visitors at a poetry pop-up in Stanley Field Hall.

Mr. Akeley’s Movie Camera

Mr. Akeley’s Movie Camera opened in the T. Kimball and Nancy N. Brooker Gallery in July 2018. It told the story of why the Museum’s chief taxidermist, Carl Akeley, invented a new kind of motion picture camera in 1915. The flexible and portable camera helped Akeley in his lifelong quest to faithfully capture animals in the natural world. However, at the time of its invention, Akeley had no idea of the role his camera would play in representing much of the early 20th century.

While scientists quickly adopted it for fieldwork, including Field Museum expeditions to Ethiopia and the Pacific islands, the Akeley Camera was first exclusively used by the US Army during World War I. It also became standard equipment for Hollywood action films and newsreels in the 1920s through the 1940s. To Akeley, however, the camera was always a tool to understand animal locomotion and habitats—informing his taxidermy, sculpture, and conservation efforts.

Named in the Chicago Tribune’s “top ten list” of 2018 museum exhibitions, this project was made possible by a group of generous supporters who funded the purchase of a still-operational Akeley Camera for the Museum.
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Adnaan Hamid
Field Museum members and donors helped make the Museum’s 4th annual Giving Day (October 10th) a success. Gifts from more than 500 donors helped raise $211,600 in just 24 hours. The theme—Drive Discovery—challenged supporters to be champions of science to ensure the health of the planet. Events were held to engage community members and demonstrate how they can participate to make a difference. These events brought together dedicated individuals who helped package 1,200 botanical specimens; transcribe 171 anthropology labels; and plant 54 milkweed plants.

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In Memory of Richard Elden

The Field Museum was saddened by the death of Trustee Richard Elden, who passed away on June 27, 2018. He was elected Field Museum Trustee in 2003 and made enormous contributions through his service on the Investment Committee. Elden and his wife Gail made generous philanthropic gifts including frequent support of the Museum’s annual gala hosted by the Women’s Board.

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2018 Annual Report to Donors
Field Museum Gala 2018

The Field Museum’s annual fundraising Gala, chaired by Women’s Board members Beth Kauffman and Laura Podjasek, raised $2.18 million on October 20, 2018. In celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Museum, the funds raised by the event supported Museum operations.

The event celebrated milestones over the Museum’s first 125 years and showed its vision for the future. It also honored The Grainger Foundation and Juli Plant Grainger with the Marshall Field V Award for Distinguished Leadership, in recognition of more than 50 years of exemplary service and philanthropy.

The gala included a reception, seated dinner, and dancing for Women’s Board members, Trustees, and civic and corporate leaders—a total of 560 guests. The Field Associates—the Museum’s young professionals group—joined the Gala After-Party for dancing.
The Grainger Foundation

The Grainger Foundation has supported the Field Museum for more than 50 years. During this long partnership, the Foundation has funded several landmark projects, including the creation and renovation of the Grainger Hall of Gems; sponsorship of Treasures of the Titans; Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years; Nature of Diamonds; creation of the Grainger Science Hub; and support of the Grainger Digital Initiative. Together, these exhibitions and programs have impacted more than 35 million people worldwide.

The Grainger Foundation has also helped the Field greatly expand its research capabilities through innovative programs and strategic investments in research technology. In 2018, The Grainger Foundation again partnered with the Museum to create the Bioinformatics Center. This unique, new research program will focus on using large sets of data to uncover hidden patterns in nature, helping scientists better understand how our planet works and what we can do to improve ecosystem health.
The Parker/Gentry Award

Since 1996, the Museum has hosted the annual Parker/Gentry Award, which honors an outstanding individual, team, or organization in the field of conservation biology. In 2018, the award was given to Instituto del Bien Común, a Peruvian non-governmental organization that works closely with rural and Indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazon to defend their land rights and the natural resources on which they rely.

The Instituto has collaborated with the Keller Science Action Center on multiple rapid inventories, and was instrumental in securing the declaration of the 2.1-million acre Yaguas National Park in February 2018. The Parker/Gentry Award bears the names of the late Theodore A. Parker III and Alwyn Gentry, outstanding scientists who were killed in an accident while exploring and conserving tropical biodiversity.

María Rosa Montes, Richard Chase Smith, and Margarita Benavides of the Instituto del Bien Común receive the 2018 Parker/Gentry Award from President Richard Lariviere.
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In Memory of John E. McGovern, III

The Field Museum was deeply saddened by the death of John E. McGovern, III who passed away unexpectedly in July 2018. John was a cherished friend and valued leader as a past chair of the President’s Leadership Council, a member of the Founders’ Council Leadership Committee, and of the Board of Trustees’ Government Relations Committee. A member of the Armour Family, he was instrumental to the Museum’s efforts in 2013 to engage other World’s Fair Founding Families. John’s keen mind, kind smile, and thoughtful manner are missed.
67th Annual Members’ Nights

On May 10 and 11, the Field Museum hosted its Members’ Nights. Nearly 7,000 members and guests enjoyed special viewing opportunities. Museum members were able to see a sneak peek of SUE’s new gallery and all of the updates in Stanley Field Hall. Among many other demonstrations and activities, guests also learned about mammal and bird specimen preparation, participated in owl pellet dissections, and were able to visit the production set for The Brain Scoop.
In Memory of Barbara Huth West

Barbara Huth West, philanthropist, passed away on May 10, 2018. A Women's Board member for many years, Ms. West gave generously to the Field Museum throughout her life. Inspired by her uncle, Frank Huth, she provided for a generous gift to the Field upon her death to strengthen the Museum's endowment. Having graduated from Bradford Junior College and then from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Science in Education, she committed much of her philanthropy to organizations promoting cultural and educational access to the children of Chicago.
EVOLVE 2018

EVOLVE 2018, the Field Associates’ annual fundraiser, was a success generating $55,000 in revenue—a 15% increase from 2017. The event continues to grow every year, thanks to significant support from Trustees through sponsorships, ticket purchases, and in-kind contributions for the event’s silent auction.

Some of Chicago’s favorite local establishments provided appetizers and refreshments for hundreds of young professionals who attended EVOLVE. They enjoyed a night in iconic Stanley Field Hall, filled with dinos, dancing, live music, networking, science, and a live-art demonstration by acclaimed Chicago street-artist, leftyOUTthere.

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In Memory of Edward Jerkey

Edward C. Jerkey, 90, passed away peacefully on February 5, 2019. He worked as a pipefitter at the Fair Company on State Street and he was married to his beloved Theresa for more than 60 years. The couple manifested their love for the Field—a place Ed recalled visiting many times in his youth—through their philanthropy. He is survived by a brother Donald, two nieces, and their extended families.
In Memory of Nancy Torbet

Nancy Torbet was known for her love of nature and her passion for canines. A long-time member of the American Kennel Club and the Norwegian Elkhound Association, Ms. Torbet owned, bred, exhibited, and trained Norwegian Elkhounds for most of her life. After graduating from Wells College in 1945, she started a kennel, Eidsvold, in Skokie, IL, and became known over time as a judge for dog shows. A generous Chicago philanthropist, Ms. Torbet supported many natural science organizations, including the Field Museum. After she passed away in 2016, she provided for her estate to be distributed to several Chicago-area organizations, including the Field Museum.
In Memory of Imogene Powers Johnson

The Field Museum mourned the passing of Imogene “Gene” Powers Johnson, who died on March 3, 2018. She loved dinosaurs, birds, and meteorites, and advocated for Field Museum collections throughout her life. Her family’s partnership with the Field dates back to 1935, when Curator of Botany B. E. Dahlgren led the SC Johnson carnauba expedition to Brazil to bring back specimens that remain in the Museum’s collection to this day.

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In Memory of Nancy Waller Nadler

The Women’s Board remembers Nancy Waller Nadler, who passed away on July 4, 2018. Nancy was a long-time museum volunteer, and founding member and past president of the Field Museum Women’s Board. Trained in zoology, Nancy traveled to Iran twice to collect and study mountain sheep populations. She accompanied and assisted her husband Dr. Charles Nadler on research collecting trips to Alaska, Canada, and six times beyond the iron curtain to the USSR to study chromosomal evolution of arctic and subarctic mammals. In recognition for her involvement in these expeditions, Spermophilus mollis nancyae, a subspecies of ground squirrel, is named after her.
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Thomas Sanders, former Vice President of Development at the Field Museum, was a prominent force in the Chicago fundraising community, having represented various organizations such as the Chicago Heart Association, American Cancer Society, and Loyola University. Mr. Sanders joined the Field Museum staff in 1969 and remained at the Museum for the next 20 years until his retirement in 1989. The capstone of his career was launching the Museum’s first capital campaign. An article in the 1989 Bulletin announcing his retirement from the Museum stated, “More than any other person, he is the leader and the craftsman of, and the glue that held together the Field Museum’s fundraising effort over that period.” In 1986, he received the Benjamin Franklin Award from the Chicago Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and had served as its president as well. Mr. Sanders had been a member of the Field Museum since childhood and never tired of walking the endless galleries with his five children and many grandchildren.
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Field Museum’s 125th Anniversary
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Gifts to the Collections

The Field Museum's collections have grown to become an indispensable scientific resource for scholars around the world. The Museum acknowledges the following donors who made gifts of objects and specimens in 2018 to enhance the institution's collections.

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In Memory of Robert Inger

Field Museum Curator Emeritus Robert Inger, PhD, died on April 12, 2019, at age 98. His more than 75-year association with Field Museum began when he started volunteering at the Museum in the 1940s as an undergraduate student. After serving in World War II, he was hired at the Field in 1946. He joined the curatorial ranks as Assistant Curator of Fishes in 1949 and Curator of Amphibians and Reptiles in 1954. In 1970, he was named Chairman of Scientific Programs and Assistant Director of Science and Education, a position he held for eight years. Inger returned to his science and research roots as Curator thereafter, until his retirement in 1994. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Tan Fui Lian. The couple’s passion for the Museum’s mission was represented by their long-standing philanthropy to several programs. The Field Museum mourns the loss of this renowned scholar.
If you feel an error has been made in presenting this donor honor roll, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at annualreport@fieldmuseum.org.

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For a list of contributions of $250 to $499 and in-kind contributions to collections visit the digital edition of this report at fieldmuseum.org/about/annual-reports.
In April 2019, Dr. Debra Moskovits retired after 34 years of service at the Field Museum.

She began her career at the Museum as a research assistant in 1985. Four years later she joined the public side of the Museum, developing exhibitions on ecology, evolution, and conservation. In 1994, while the Museum was celebrating its centennial, Moskovits organized a unit to translate the Museum’s rigorous science into immediate action for conservation and the well being of people living in biologically rich areas—the Environmental and Conservation Programs. Moskovits built a team of conservation biologists and anthropologists that helped establish more than 30 million acres of protected rainforest in the Andes-Amazon region. Today, the Keller Science Action Center is a global leader in museum-based conservation efforts, working in both remote areas and in cities.

From 2013 to 2017 Moskovits served as Vice President for Science and Education, overseeing the Gantz Family Collections, Integrative Research, Keller Science Action, and Learning Centers. Moskovits championed community-led conservation programs, most recently represented by the completion of the Rice Native Gardens. We are grateful to her for exceptional leadership in advancing the Museum’s mission and for leaving it with the tools to enable solutions for a brighter future.
At nearly 100,000 square feet, the Rice Native Gardens are the Field Museum's largest and most ambitious experiment in exhibition learning. Native plantings; mature trees; Spirit Totems by musician and Trustee Herb Alpert; sustainable vegetable garden; benches and pathways all create a serene, beautiful space for 5 million annual visitors to the Museum Campus.
Thank you!
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