

Area 1: Petroglyphs

Petroglyphs are very powerful places of learning and spirituality for Anishinabek people. You will see an interpretation of the Sanilac petroglyph site, which is located near Cass City, Michigan.

Area 2: Introduction to Anishinabe Creation Story and Creation Theater

Our teachings tell us that in Creation there is balance between all things: men & women, fire & water, day & night, good & bad.

Area 3: Teaching Lodge (1st Prophecy)

Our ancestors used what was available to them in very ingenious ways. The birchbark panels provided protection from wind and rain, yet they could be rolled-up for easy transportation. Like our ancestors, we still gather in teaching lodges to learn and celebrate our songs, stories, and spirituality.

Area 4: Where We Come From (2nd & 3rd Prophecies)

Our ancestors lived through the seasons in a sustainable way for thousands of years before the arrival of the Light-Skinned people. Maple sugar, one of the oldest agricultural products in the world, was a valuable commodity. Maple sugar was traded extensively with tribes as far away as the Gulf of Mexico. Look for teachings on the Anishinabek Great Walk and Three Fires Confederacy.

Area 5: Winter Lodge

We congregated in larger groups in the spring, summer, and fall. In the winter, we would spread out into smaller family groups to minimize competition for game during the long, cold months.

Area 6: Contact & Co-Existence (4th Prophecy)

The first Light-Skinned people to arrive in Anishinabek territory were the French. The French learned our language and customs and many Frenchmen married Anishinabe women. Trading was our mutual interest and we lived together well during this time.

Area 8: Environmental Changes (6th Prophecy)

Just as we were harmed as a people, the plants, water, and animals of this land were also devastated. The landscape of this area was once dominated by towering white pines, measuring 150 feet in height and 500 years in age.

Area 10: Language

Our sacred language, Anishinabemowin, expresses our philosophy and relationships with all of Creation.

Area 11: Anishinabe Strengths

Our commitment to our families, our resilience and adaptability, the respect we have for the young and old, and the wisdom of our teachings have enabled us to endure many hard times.

Area 12: Introduction to Sovereignty

Encroachments by the Light-Skinned people on our inherent right to sovereignty disrupted our traditional social systems. We were forced to adapt to new styles of governance.

Area 13: Identity Theater

We have overcome great obstacles to be where we are today. Our tribal identity is very important to us.

Area 14: Spirit of Sovereignty

The struggle for our sovereignty continues today. We honor all those who have personally sacrificed to stand up for the rights of our people.

Area 15: Continuing the Journey (7th Prophecy, Part 2)

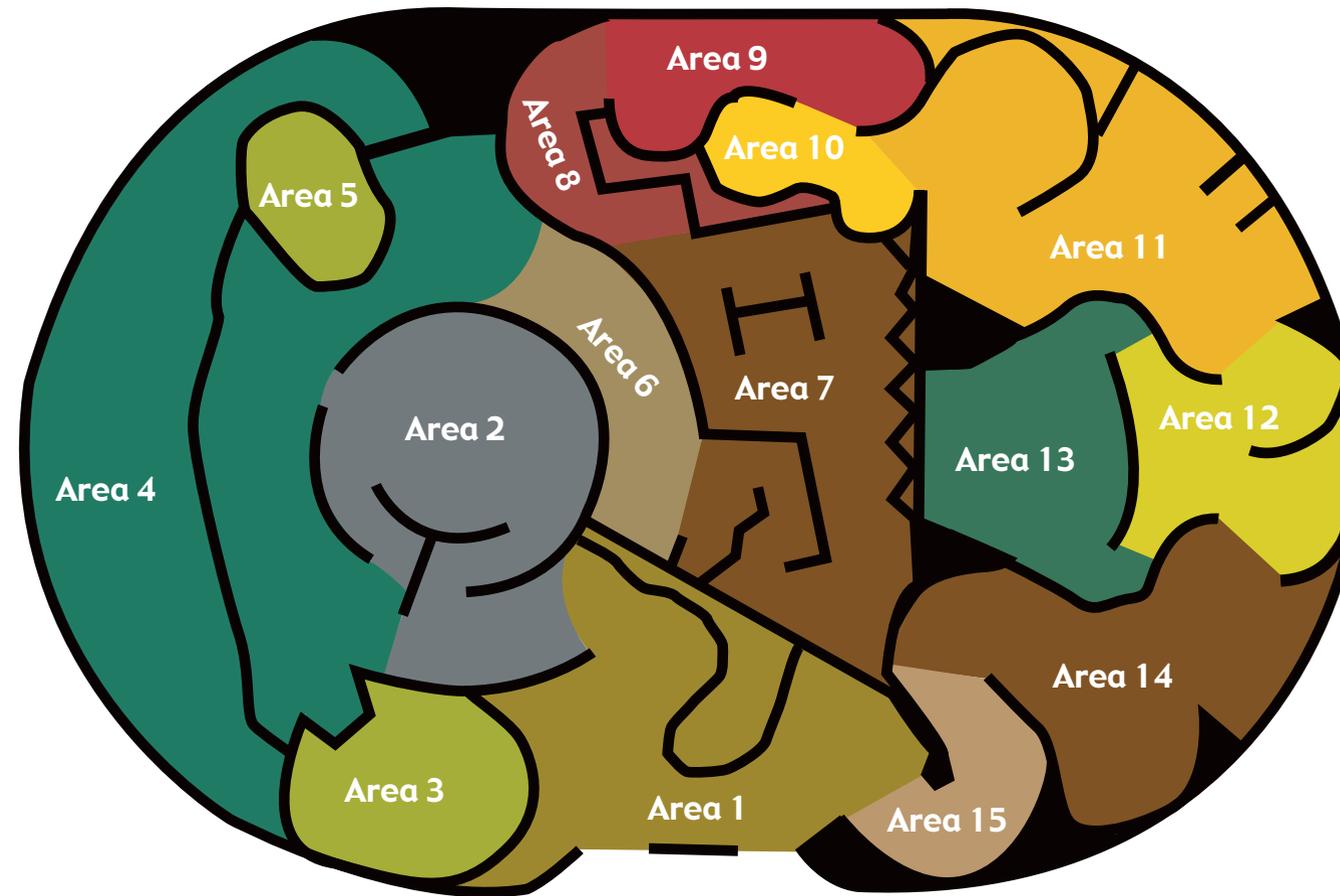
The Creator gave us the Seven Grandfather Teachings long ago to help us live peacefully with all of Creation. Through these teachings, we believe that we all can live more respectfully with every part of Creation.

Area 7: Effects of Colonization (5th Prophecy)

The effects of colonization were devastating diseases, harmful governmental policies, destruction of our traditional subsistence economies, and religious persecution. Learn about our loss of land, language, and life.

Area 9: Blood Memory (7th Prophecy, Part 1)

Blood memory is described as our ancestral (genetic) connection to our language, songs, spirituality, and teachings. It is the good feeling that we experience when we are near these things. Blood memory has been crucial to the survival of our culture.



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- Visitors are not allowed to touch any of the artworks within the Ziihiwing Center, unless designated interactive or hands-on area. All of the objects within the Ziihiwing Center are fragile and may be damaged by the oils in human skin.
- Food, drink, or gum is not allowed within the exhibit areas.
- Walk carefully throughout the Ziihiwing Center. If part of a group, always remain with the other members of your group. Make sure that you do not bump into cases, walls, or works of art. Running and horseplay are not allowed within the Ziihiwing Center.
- Keep voices at a minimal level within the exhibit areas. Be respectful of others who may be enjoying a tour/visit.
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- Taking photos is allowed for educational use only. Photos must be taken with a non-flash camera.

Following these simple rules will ensure a fun, safe, and informative visit for you and your group. Please help us protect the works of art within the Ziihiwing Center from harm.

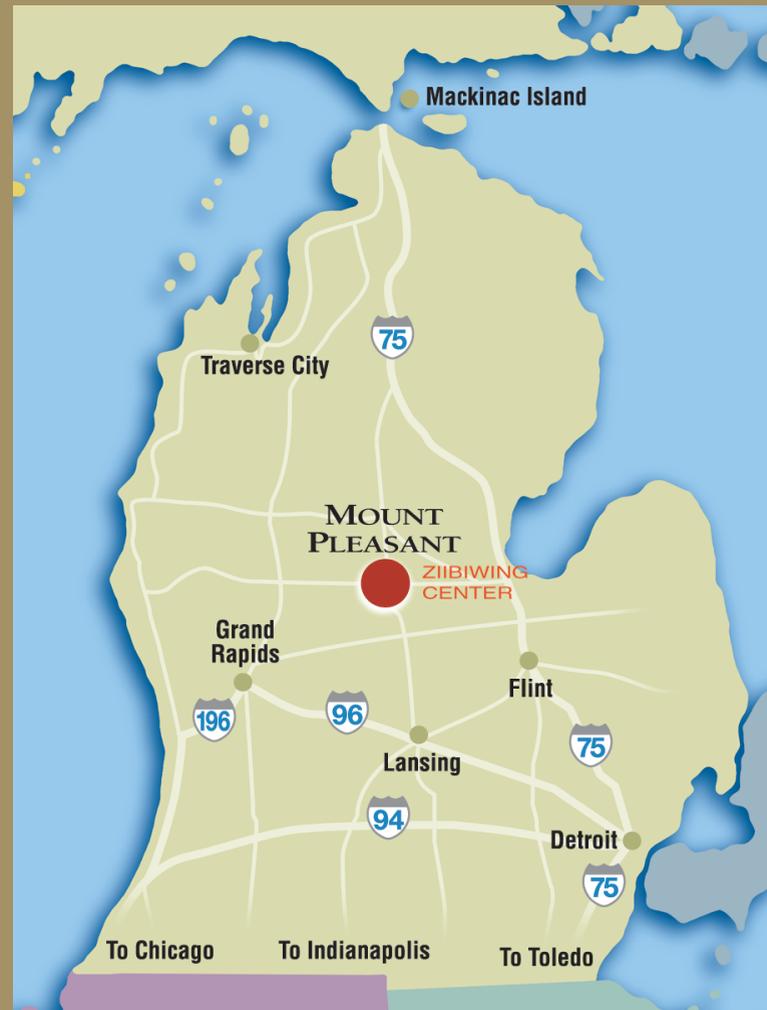
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DIBA JIMOORYUNG

“TELLING OUR STORY”

A guide to the Diba Jimooryung permanent exhibit



THE 7 PROPHECIES

Long before the Light-Skinned people arrived, prophets visited the Anishinabek when they were living a peaceful life on the East Coast of North America.

First Prophecy/First Fire

The Anishinabek were instructed to follow the direction of the setting sun for their survival. The megis (cowrie) shell will appear at seven places on the Great Walk and lead the people to a new home where food grows on the water.

Second Prophecy/Second Fire

The Anishinabek would camp by a large body of water. The path of the megis shell and the spiritual strength of the people will become lost. A special boy will be born to lead the people on the Great Walk.

Third Prophecy/Third Fire

Great hope and anticipation will arrive in the time of the Third Fire. The megis shell will lead the Anishinabek to their new home, to the places where food grows on the water.

Fourth Prophecy/Fourth Fire

During the time of the Fourth Fire, the prophets told the Anishinabek that Light-Skinned people will come over the Great Salt Water. They would travel in big trees pulled by billowing white clouds. The faces of the Light-Skinned people will tell the future. Some faces may show brotherhood, peace, and wonderful changes for many years. Others may wear false faces hiding their hunger for the land.

Fifth Prophecy/Fifth Fire

The Light-Skinned people will bring promises of joy and salvation. Those who accept the promises will abandon the old ways and each other for a new way of life.

Sixth Prophecy/Sixth Fire

Many Anishinabek will accept the promises that were brought in the time of the Fifth Fire. Turning their backs on the old ways, many will discourage their children from listening to the elders, speaking the language, and learning the traditions.

Seventh Prophecy/Seventh Fire

New People will rise up and the Anishinabek nation will be reborn. The New People will seek knowledge from the elders and rekindle the old ways. In the Seventh Fire, ALL people must choose between two paths - desecration or compassion.

What path will you choose?