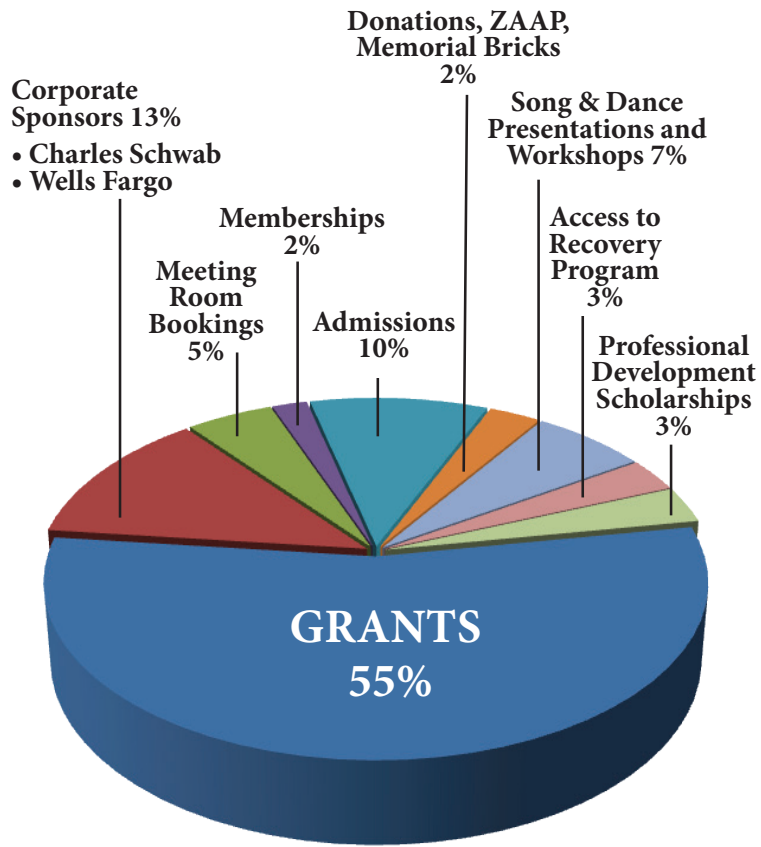


## Financials - External Revenue \$246,786



### YOUR SUPPORT

Your continued support is vital to us as it provides essential funding for:

- Free admission to Ziiwing Center exhibits for members of all North American Indian tribes
- Discounted admission to military personnel, school children, college students, and educators
- Funding for outreach programs which take our teachings and collections into schools throughout Michigan
- Preservation of our artifacts and collections, ensuring that our culture will be preserved for future generations
- Maintenance and promotion of our exhibits so that our heritage and culture can be enjoyed by everyone



THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM  
6650 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858  
989.775.4750 • www.sagchip.org/ziiwing  
www.nativedirect.com

## Reach for the Art in the Sky Native Skywatchers Exhibit March-September 2015

by William Wilson      by Annette S. Lee

Art in the Sky Workshop Artists

### ZIIWING CULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT

October 2014 -  
September 2015

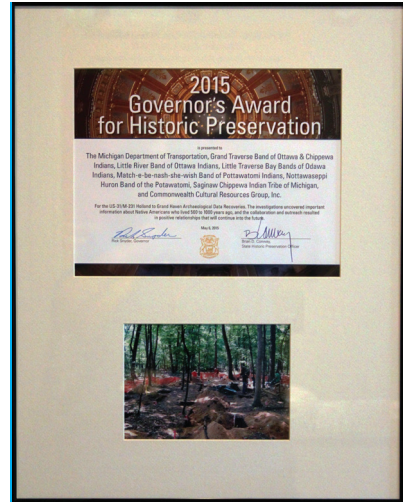
"Working Together for our Future"

## OUR YEAR

The Board of Directors for the Ziiwing Cultural Society/Ziiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways is proud to recognize the organization's many accomplishments and its staff within this Annual Report.

From guided tours for school children, Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School archaeological Field Schools, *Artist-in-Residence* Programs and ancestral repatriations to fun family events like *NativeFest*, the Ziiwing Cultural Society continues to be a vital and progressive organization for the Tribe.

On May 6, 2015, State of Michigan Governor Rick Snyder and State Historic Preservation Officer Brian D. Conway recognized the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe with a *2015 Governor's Award for Historic Preservation* for the historic preservation work accomplished through the efforts of the Ziiwing Center and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office.



The Governor applauded the "great work that takes place across the state" and recognizes "the people who preserve these places for all Michiganders."

"The sites contribute to Michigan's uniqueness, teach us about the people who lived here in the past, and are important to a vibrant future."

*We hope that you find in this Annual Report a clear demonstration of the dedication and respect exemplified by our entire organization for the mission, work and growth of the Ziiwing Cultural Society. We are extremely grateful for your continued support and trust in our very important work.*

# Accomplishments

- 28,432 visitors experienced all the Center has to offer - an additional 10,250 were provided educational services offsite by the Ziibiwing Center staff
- Implemented 159 special events and cultural programs for the Tribal community and general public
- Research Center served 2,201 patrons
- \$7,323,789 in total sales for Ziibiwing Commercial Services – up \$895,812 from fiscal year 2014
- Maintained 8 Tribal cemeteries, in addition to the Ziibiwing Center's 3-acre lawn (14.41 acres per week)
- Provided 159 tours for 4,508 guests, 58 K-12 tours and 101 adult tours, including complimentary SCIT, Migizi, SECR and Retail Employees Orientation Tours
- 9,698 individual contacts were logged by our team
- NativeFest, our annual 3-day celebration of American Indian culture, attracted 705 people
- Continued to provide cultural and educational services 2-3 times per week to clients of the Tribe's Residential Treatment Center and Access to Recovery Program
- Awarded 4 of the 5 Federal grants submitted: Historic Preservation Fund, 2 NAGPRA Repatriation Grants and Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant for a total of \$134,641 awarded in Federal grant funding
- ZC Commercial Services online sales for 2015 totaled \$690,145 - up \$59,396 from 2014
- ZC Commercial Services implemented Merchant Fulfilled Prime for Amazon (online) customers and expanded Fulfilled by Amazon (FBA) merchandise by 15% - inventory is sent to Amazon to handle these orders and returns
- ZC Commercial Services sold approximately 29,000 items on Amazon and our Native Direct website in 2015
- ZC Commercial Services began selling on eBay in June
- ZC Commercial Services added over 12,000 new products and product lines to the gift shops and the online businesses in 2015
- ZC Commercial Services continued to operate at 100% self-sufficiency and is currently subsidizing the wages of 5 Ziibiwing Center staff positions



Photography by Niibing Giizis Studio

**SCIT member, Suzanne L. Cross, LMSW, PhD, LLC (Bneshiink kwe-Birdwoman) wearing a shawl from her Healing Through Culture and Art Shawl Collection exhibited at the Ziibiwing Center November, 2014 to February, 2015**

- 85 items were accepted for our Permanent Collection in 2015 (books, photographs, postcards, historical documents, baskets, Boarding School items, newspaper clippings, 2 hand-crafted brooms)
- Partnered with Human Resources to offer 54 SCIT Summer Youth Workers orientation and career skills including Problem Solving with the Seven Grandfather Teachings and Dressing Professionally - the Ziibiwing Center hosted and mentored 5 Summer Youth Workers
- Cultural Resource Management team completed 236 cultural resource reviews – these reviews are required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and protect the cultural resources/traditional cultural properties of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
- ZC Commercial Services contracted with Plante Moran to develop an E-commerce Business Plan - the positive findings were presented to Tribal Council in September 2015 regarding the potential success with online expansion
- ZC Commercial Services updated the Native Direct website with new shopping cart and improved format/layout
- Repatriated and reburied the physical remains of 11 Native American individuals and 191 associated funerary objects from the Kline family property in Romeo, Michigan on October 17, 2014, 94 Native American individuals and 812 associated funerary objects from the Younge Site at the University of Michigan on November 19, 2014, 1 Native American individual from Gratiot County, Bethany Township at the Michigan State Police Post #64 on December 18, 2014, and 43 Native American individuals from Bay, Saginaw, Lapeer (Younge Site) and Wayne Counties at the American Museum of Natural History, Toledo Zoological Society and Dearborn Historical Museum on May 22, 2015
- Members of our team participated on 21 various Tribal and external boards/committees to support our strategic goal of Ensuring Organizational Sustainability
- ZC Commercial Services worked on various software programs and upgrades to improve Amazon selling and enter into new selling channels - examples are Ship Gear, Channel Advisor
- ZC Commercial Services added four additional computer shipping stations to increase productivity

## 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>January</b> Vendor Workshop Lecture on the Cranbrook Institute of Science (CIS) Great Lakes Native American Collection	January 26  January 30
<b>February</b> Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class (Classes every Tuesday until May 3 except Spring Break) Collection Showing Sundance Institute Film Screenings & Workshop Wilderness Skills of Our Ancestors Workshop	February 2  February 6-13 February 19-20 February 20
<b>March</b> 2016 Native American Critical Issues Conference Performance Circle Spring Break: No Classes on March 29	March 10-12
<b>April</b> Atlatl Competition CIS Exhibit closes Walking With Our Sisters Exhibit Opens Mother Earth Week	April 9 April 9 April 23 April 25-29
<b>May</b> Performance Circle Graduation Ziibiwing's 12 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Sale Walking With Our Sisters Exhibit Closes Bird Day Celebration Collection Showing	May 3 May 5-6 May 7 May 14 May 14-21
<b>June</b> MIIBS* "Honoring, Healing & Remembering" (at the MIIBS) Community Cultural Teaching (at Sanilac Petroglyphs)	June 6 June 25
<b>July</b> American Indian Dances NativeFest - Collection Showing NativeFest - Car Bingo NativeFest - Music & Comedy Night	July 2, 9, 16, 23 July 25-30 July 26 July 27
<b>August</b> Cradleboard Workshop World Indigenous People's Day Art Walk Central begins Vendor Workshop	August 1-5 August 9 August 19 August 23
<b>September</b> Art Walk Central ends Grandparent's Day Monarch Butterfly Celebration Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class (Classes every Tuesday until Dec.13) Museum Day Live! Heritage Special (September thru November)	September 10 September 10 September 17 September 20  September 24 (Call for Details)
<b>October</b> Indigenous People's Day Eagle Feather Cleansing Eagle Feather Honoring Eagle Feather Feast Heritage Special (September thru November)	October 12 October 19 October 20-21 October 21 (Call for Details)
<b>November</b> Spirit Feast Collection Showing Circle of Indigenous Arts Heritage Special (September thru November)	November 4 November 12-19 November 17-19 (Call for Details)
<b>December</b> Annual Appreciation Dinner (By invitation) Performance Circle Graduation Community Cultural Teaching	December 8 December 13 December 17
2 Artists-in-Residence 2016 Workshops	**TBD

\* Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School \*\* TBD (Exact date to be determined later)  
• All events subject to change or cancellation.  
• Visit [www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing](http://www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing) or call 989.775.4750 for current info

## OUR MEMBERS

American Indian Services Avery, Adam Bennett, Iliana Bigford, Susan Brauker, Shirley Burke, Charles & Peggy Christy, Dennis Sr. Cleland-Host Family Coen, Pat Corbiere, Brian Cross, Dr. Suzanne Cummins, Charla Davis, Dustin & Jenna Day, Alexa Dolley, Diane Douglas, Judge Ronald & Sharon Ederer, Eric Ervin, Joyce Falcon, Ronald & Audrey Fisher, Edward & Nedra Funmaker, Alexa Gates, Pamela Greco, Joy Grills, Gary Guerrero Jr., Joaquin Guerrero Sr., Joaquin Hadden, Marcella Heard Museum Helms, Esther Henry Shipman, Thelma High, Roger Jackson, Angel Jackson, Delmar Jr. Johns, Russell & Merida Kaiser, Burt Kellner, Ralph Kennedy, Lisa Kequom, Phyllis Kimewon, Elizabeth King, Lisa Klymyshyn, Ulana Leaureaux, Sheila	Leaureaux, Tonia Lewis, Jason & Amanda Listerman, Angela Madigan, Steve Martin, George & Sydney Martin, Shannon McCoonse, Kevin Michener, David & Will Strickland Mitchell, Autumn O'Brien, Terrill Pamp, Judy Paquette, Carol & Andrew Peters, Alstyn Peters, Angela "Cricket" Pohrt Jr., Richard Porter, Deb Powell, Mark & Jane Queen, Elizabeth Quigno, Jason Raslich, Frank & Nicole Raslich, Bill & Rose Marie Ricketts, Alice Jo Shananaquet, Dave Shawana, Joseph & Charmaine Sheperdigian, Barbara Shier, Quita Skene, Julie Slifco, Pamela & Daniel Sova, Marlene Spencer, Bernard Spencer, Robin Sprague, Jeff Squanda, Clarence Stevens, Paul & Evonna Sweet, Margaret Syndergaard, Larry Vasher, Dan & Colleen Wagner, Colleen Waiess, Elizabeth Waynee, Craig Wickerham, Floyd & Sue Zocher, Virginia
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## Ziibiwing Cultural Society Mission

**The Ziibiwing Center is a distinctive treasure created to provide an enriched, diversified, and culturally relevant educational experience. This promotes the Society's belief that the culture, diversity, and spirit of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and other Great Lakes Anishinabek must be recognized, perpetuated, communicated, and supported.**