

Zaagibagaa-Giizis (Moon When Buds Come Out) May, 2017

ZIIBIWING turns 13! Mno Dbshko!

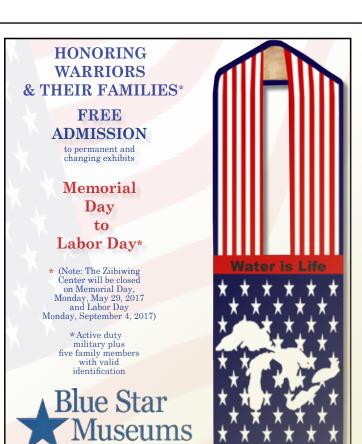
TIME magazine did an article in 2005 (which seems a century ago in this fast-paced world) entitled **What Does it Mean to be 13?** It describes 13 as the age where magical childhood turns into teenage mystery. Some famous names mentioned, who were believed to be age 13 at the time of their historical attention, were; Little Red Riding Hood with a cape symbolic of menstruation, Shakespeare's Juliette, Tom Sawyer as he got "engaged" to Becky Thatcher, Anne Frank when she received her diary, Bobby Fischer when he became the youngest player ever to win the US Junior Chess Championship - 2 years before becoming an international grand master. Add to this list, conjectured by some, Pocahontas.

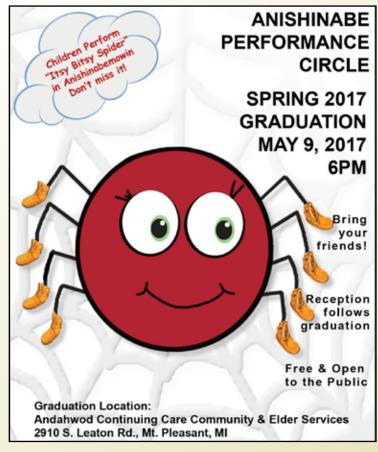
Age 13 is the entrée into the teenage years-no debate. Is it also the accurate time for coming-of-age? Cultures vary, setting the age between 12 and 21. Attitudes vary as well, from nervous parents fearing lifelong results associated with immature experimentation or headstrong demands for premature adult freedoms, to those parents who joyously and excitedly witness the development of their children into burgeoning adults, greeting all the new and adventurous paths opening before them.

And so our family member, the Ziibiwing Center, reaches age 13. Truly a family member to those who anxiously planned and prepared for her arrival and to those who spent their childhood years with her; learning and sharing cultural traditions, having fun, experiencing, and developing right alongside Ziibiwing.

Whether the appropriate coming-of-age is 13, 18, 21, or something in between, it is a good time to stop and reflect on the roads of the past and contemplate the paths of the future. Looking back, Ziibiwing began with a firm and noble start and has grown, expanded and matured with the nurturing, knowledgeable and caring hands of the Tribal community. Accessing the present, Ziibiwing's Mission Statement, "...to provide an enriched, diversified and culturally relevant educational experience, which 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," is still appropriate, accurate and relevant. Looking forward, is there evidence that Ziibiwing will continue to be in-step with the topics of the day that are relevant to Indigenous people? Considering the current changing exhibit, Standing Rock Solid, and the recent Water Symposium event, with their focus on the hot button topics of the day-protecting our water and environment-the answer appears to be a resounding YES! Yet another forward-facing question for contemplation is, "Might there be value in adding to the number of exhibits rated PG13 or older to recognize and further engage our mature community audience?" Time will tell, direct, and remember how Ziibiwing expresses its coming-of-age. In this ever-changing world, it's hard to say where the path will lead, but it is reassuring to know that Ziibiwing will be here to assist in holding the memory and being a place for teaching Anishinabek lifeways.

At this significant moment, a "Chi Miigwetch" is in order for everyone who supports and participates in the activities and goals of the Ziibiwing Center, along with a hearty "Mno dbshko" (Happy Birthday) Ziibiwing! Many happy returns of the day.







Co-Sponsored by the Isabella Conservation District,

the Chippewa Valley Audubon Club and the Ziibiwing Center.

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· Information/Activities by:

CMU Museum of Cultural and Natural History

MSU Extension Office, Isabella County

Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum

COLLECTION SHOWING MINIATURES May 13, 2017 • 10am - 3pm May 15 - May 20, 2017 • 10am - 6pm Free & Open to the Public "The Ziibiwing Center is home to an awe inspiring collection of miniature artwork. These miniscule objects attest to the patience, steady hand and creativity of the artist. Horsehair baskets by the Antone, Juan and Miguel families of the Tohono O'odham, black ash baskets by the Crampton and Red Arrow families of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, and dental pictographs by Kelly Church of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians will be on display. Witness the delicate beauty of these remarkable pieces of art." William Johnson, Ziibiwing Curator "Miniatures" Collection Showing will be moderated by the Ziibiwing Curator, William Johnson, on Saturday, May 13, 2017 Objects remain on display May 15-20

Ziibiwing Center • 6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 • Open Mon-Sat • 10am-6pm

· Give-Aways

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For more information call (989) 775-4750 or visit us at www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing

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