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CAREER HISTORY

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF INDIANAPOLIS,

Lead Curator, Natural Science and Paleontology

2014-2016

- Working to bring iconic objects, distinguished scientists, explorers, researchers, and real scientific adventures to life in multiple mediums including exhibits, programs and media presentations.
- Translating scientific and historical concepts, research processes, stories, and objects into compelling narratives.
- Creating a strategic planning process and guiding the development of research and revenue-generating programs. Personally engaging in stewardship, cultivation and maintaining a high level of visibility with donors.
- Leveraging and expanding collaborations with world-class scientific institutions/museums and scientists that can help foster the mission of the museum and expand the museum's audience.
- Working to create new science exhibits, articulating the rationale and narrative, and identifying objects appropriate to the concept and to the mission, scale and resources of the museum.
- Lead curator for exhibit ***Dinosphere, Now You're In Their World***, a 24,000 square foot gallery space dedicated to science of paleontology and exhibiting dinosaurs from the Late Cretaceous. This space has a working paleontology lab, paleo art gallery and an acquisition budget of \$11 million.
- Experienced in the administration of budgets and personnel, including travel, training and metric reports.
- Analyze and manage allocation of the financial and human resource needs for the science curatorial and paleontology staff, develop, implement and monitor policies and practices to achieve objectives in the natural history collections.
- Supervision of Natural History curatorial staff and Paleontology Lab of 8 as well as over 30 interns, adult & youth volunteers.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF INDIANAPOLIS,

Educator Curator of Natural Science

2001-2014

- Served as the leading science curator to oversee, develop, create, implement, evaluate and document dynamic and world-class programs for extraordinary family learning experiences.
- Supported collaborations with interpretation, exhibitions, marketing, and public relations staff; building networks with museums for training in collections

management; and fostering collaborations between staff and communities, citizen scientists, members of the public, and other stakeholders.

- Lead science curator for exhibit *Treasures of the Earth*.
- Established museum natural history public dig site & programs at the remote *Ruth Mason Quarry* of South Dakota. Leading excavations as well as overseeing site management, staff oversight, safety and security, and working directly with families.
- Encouraged and directed independent and exhibition-related research, leading to presentations at professional meetings, publications, and collaborative projects with other institutions.
- Contributed to national, regional, and in-house publications as well as social media. Interacting with audiences across a variety of platforms.
- Supervision of staff, interns, and volunteers.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF INDIANAPOLIS,

Curator of Natural Science

1995-2001

- Played a full curatorial role in the development and delivery of high quality and creative exhibitions and displays. Served as the science expert on new exhibit development teams to provide content, develop curriculum, and produce programs.
- Planned and executed natural history exhibitions with the exhibits team—including specimen collecting, loan coordination and transportation, exhibit design and installation, didactic label information and essays for collateral publications.
- Developed and maintained partnerships with organizations and institutions throughout the region.
- Development and maintenance of the annual budget for the natural history collection.
- Organized and prepared documentation necessary for specimen accession, including state, national and international permits and associated documentation.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF INDIANAPOLIS,

Associate Curator of Natural Science

1993-1995

- Participate in the museum's public programming by providing information and specimens and assisting in exhibit design; assist in museum public functions. Led collections based classes and programs for Natural History.
- Conduct tours for visiting scholars, students, and the public. Training and supervision of students and volunteers.
- Duties included specimen sorting, labeling, preparation, accessioning and databasing new acquisitions; systematic arrangement, storage and organization of the collection.
- Maintain and organize records of science collection activity, use, and status for annual reports, grant submissions, and other documentation.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SERVICE. (Muncie, IN)

Crew Chief & Technician

1988-1991

- Performed professional and administrative work in archaeology and responsible for assessment of development projects for potential impact to archaeological sites.

- Project inventory reports were created describing inventory techniques, archeological sites found, and potential impacts to those sites.
- Specific tasks involved the inventory of identified land parcels for both prehistoric and historic archeological sites. The inventory required that the archeological sites were accurately located and recorded on state site forms with associated detailed narrative descriptions. Site maps were also created indicating site features and measurements.
 - Ensured object handling procedures were recorded, enforced, and maintained up to current archaeological standards.
 - Lab analysis and identification of archaeological material retrieved from projects as well as identifying and authenticating objects for the general public.

EDUCATION

Graduate Studies (ABT) Anthropology, Ball State University, Muncie, IN

B.A. Anthropology, Geology, Ball State University, Muncie, IN

MEMBERSHIPS, CONSULTING & VOLUNTEER WORK

- Falls of the Ohio State Park – Community Leadership Council Member
- Institute of Museum and Library Services – Grant Reviewer
- Shanghai Museum of Natural History – Acquisitions Advisor
- American Association of Museums
- Association of Indiana Museums
- Association for Materials and Methods in Paleontology
- Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
- Geological Society of America

SELECTED FIELDWORK

- **RUTH MASON QUARRY** **2016-2003**
Leading public excavations at a duck-billed dinosaur, *Edmontosaurus annectens*, bone bed in the Hell Creek Formation of South Dakota
- **BIG HORN BASIN** **2016**
A survey of Late Jurassic Morrison Formation sites along the Big Horn Basin of Wyoming
- **BONE CABIN QUARRY & STEGO 99** **2015**
A survey of two Late Jurassic Morrison Formation sites that were originally discovered & excavated in the late 1800s, Albany Co., Wyoming
- **HELL CREEK SURVEY** **2015-2008**
Prospecting sites of the Hell Creek Formation in Perkins Co., South Dakota
- **FIELD RANCH SITE** **2014-2008**

- Led field collection of invertebrate marine material from the Late Cretaceous Pierre Shale Formation of Meade Co., South Dakota
- **PIPE CREEK SINKHOLE** 2014,
Excavations at a Pliocene Camel, Rhino and Short-faced Bear site
In an active limestone quarry near Swayzee in Grant Co., Indiana 1998-1996
 - **SHALIMAR RANCH SITE** 2013-2005
Investigation of fossil vertebrate deposition and environmental conditions during the Eocene-Oligocene transition of the Brule Formation.
 - **LEONARDO THE MUMMIFIED DINOSAUR** 2013
A survey of the original *Brachylophosaurus* excavation and surrounding sites in the Judith River Formation, near Malta, Montana
 - **RACEHORSE CREEK LANDSLIDE** 2012
Collection of Early Eocene paleobotanical specimens from a storm triggered debris flow in the Chuckanut Formation near Bellingham, Washington
 - **SLOTH SITE** 2011
Investigation of a Jefferson's Ground Sloth site, *Megalonyx jeffersoni*, a Late Pleistocene site in Gibson Co., Indiana
 - **DERFLINGER RANCH SITE** 2010
Led an crew of 8 people to excavate a Triceratops specimen from a Late Cretaceous Hell Creek Formation site in Perkins Co., South Dakota
 - **WALDRON SHALE SURVEY** 2010-2005
Collection of marine invertebrate fossils from the Silurian of southern Indiana
 - **FOX HILLS** 2009-2003
Marine invertebrate collecting in the Western Interior Seaway of South Dakota
 - **CARA MERCHANT** 2009
Survey of Captain Kidd's lost ship under 30' of water off the coast of Catalina Island, Dominican Republic. Exhibit research & photography.
 - **BENBROOK SITE** 2008
Invertebrate marine materials excavated from the Late Cretaceous Goodland Formation limestone, Tarrant Co., Texas
 - **BEAR BED CAVE** 2007-2005
Mapping of a Pleistocene bear bed site, Monroe Co., Indiana
 - **DAY MASTODON SITE** 2006
Excavation near Plymouth, Marshall Co., IN
 - **LEWIS MASTODON SITE** 2005
Excavation near Plymouth, Marshall Co., IN
 - **BOTHWELL MASTODON DIG** 2005
Excavation near Hebron, Porter Co., IN
 - **HERSHBERGER MAMMOTH SITE** 2004
Survey and excavation in LaGrange Co., IN
 - **INDIANA LOESS DEPOSITS** 2002
Collection of Pleistocene invertebrate material for the Indiana State Museum

- **ERENHOT BACTROSAURUS SITE** 2002
Collection of Late Cretaceous materials of the Iren Dabasu Formation with the Chinese Academy of Sciences
- **WHITE RIVER BADLANDS** 2002
Leptocheenia & *Hoplophoneus* site in Custer Co., South Dakota
- **WILKINSON GIANT BEAVER SITE** 2001
Excavations with the Indiana State Museum of a *Casteroides ohioensis* site in Marshall Co., Indiana
- **BUCKY SITE** 2001
A Hell Creek Formation, Late Cretaceous *Tyrannosaurus rex* site, in Perkins Co., South Dakota
- **GUMZ FARM SITE** 2000
A mastodon site excavated in LaPorte Co., Indiana with the Indiana State Museum
- **MEGENITY CAVE EXCAVATIONS** 1999-1989
A Late Pleistocene site with *Platygonus compressus* and *Canis dirus* from Crawford Co., IN
- **BEUSCHING MASTODON SITE** 1998
Investigation with the Indiana State Museum of a mastodon site in Allen Co., Indiana.
- **INDIANA WHETSTONE** 1997
Collecting large sections of Lepidodendron from a Hindostan whetstone quarry abandoned in the 1840s from Orange Co., Indiana.
- **SCHAFFER MASTODON DIG** 1995
A mastodon site excavated in Marshall Co., Indiana with the Indiana State Museum
- **ACRE MASTODON SITE** 1994
A mastodon site excavated in Marshall Co., Indiana with the Indiana State Museum
- **WILLIAM CONNER HOUSE** 1990
A 19th Century Rural Residence at the Conner Prairie Interactive History Park, Hamilton Co., Indiana
- **MISSISSINEWA CEMETERY** 1990
Salvage archaeology of a historic Miami Indiana cemetery from the early 1880's in Miami Co., Indiana
- **MIAMI RICHARDVILLE/LAFONTAINE HISTORIC HOMESTEAD** 1989
Research excavations at the history 1800s homes of Miami Chiefs Richardville and Fontaine
- **INDEPENDENCE RIVERSIDE** 1989
Excavations at a Multicomponent Prehistoric Native American habitation site, Fountain Co., Indiana
- **GENERAL LAND OFFICE SURVEY** 1988
A survey of archaeological and geological sites noted during the original township and range mapping of Indiana.
- **THE HESHER SITE** 1987

Salvage archaeology of a Late Woodland Native American mortuary site in Henry Co., Indiana

■ **MOUNDS STATE PARK**

1987

Cultural resource management excavations at a Middle Woodland earthwork site in Madison Co., Indiana

SELECTED FOSSIL PREPWORK

- **ICE AGE FAUNA**, Pleistocene – Indiana, Illinois
- **PUNGO RIVER FORMATION**, Miocene – North Carolina
- **CHUCKANUT FORMATION**, Eocene – Washington
- **GREEN RIVER FORMATION**, Eocene – Wyoming
- **WHITE RIVER FORMATION**, Oligocene – Nebraska, Wyoming, South Dakota
- **HELL CREEK FORMATION**, Cretaceous – South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana
- **LANCE FORMATION**, Cretaceous – Wyoming
- **TWO MEDICINE FORMATION**, Cretaceous – Montana
- **JUDITH RIVER FORMATION**, Cretaceous – Montana
- **DUCK CREEK FORMATION**, Cretaceous – Texas
- **PECAN GROUP FORMATION**, Cretaceous – Texas
- **GOODLAND FORMATION**, Cretaceous – Texas
- **DINOSAUR PARK FORMATION**, Cretaceous – Canada
- **SIGUO FORMATION**, Cretaceous – China
- **PIERRE SHALE**, Cretaceous – South Dakota, Montana
- **FOX HILLS FORMATION**, Cretaceous – South Dakota
- **KEM KEM BEDS**, Cretaceous – Morocco
- **MORISSON FORMATION**, Jurassic – Colorado
- **PORTLAND FORMATION**, Jurassic – Massachusetts
- **PORTLAND BEDS**, Jurassic – England
- **DUGGER FORMATION**, Pennsylvanian – Indiana
- **MANSFIELD FORMATION**, Pennsylvanian – Indiana
- **BORDEN FORMATION**, Mississippian – Indiana
- **EDWARDSVILLE FORMATION**, Mississippian – Indiana
- **RAMP CREEK FORMATION**, Mississippian – Indiana
- **GILMORE CITY FORMATION**, Mississippian – Iowa
- **JEFFERSON LIMESTONE**, Devonian – Indiana
- **GRAVEL POINT FORMATION**, Devonian – Michigan
- **SILICA SHALE**, Devonian – Ohio
- **WALDRON SHALE**, Silurian – Indiana
- **WHITewater FORMATION**, Ordovician – Indiana
- **SALUDA FORMATION**, Ordovician – Indiana
- **LIBERTY FORMATION**, Ordovician – Indiana
- **WAYNESVILLE FORMATION**, Ordovician – Indiana
- **ARNHEIM FORMATION**, Ordovician – Indiana

SELECTED MEDIA

- **TREKAROO** 2017
Interview with a travel website for an article entitled “Road School: Learning about Dinosaurs while Traveling and at Home.”
- **ATLAS OBSCURA** 2015
Phone interview for the article “The Man Who Couldn’t Stop Buying Dinosaur Art.”
- **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** 2015
Interview for program “Dino Death Match.”
- **THE GAZETTE** 2014
Interview for an article entitled “Children's Museum of Indianapolis is a destination for all ages.”
- **WDRB CHANNEL 14** 2014
An interview with the Louisville NBC affiliate discussing Dinosphere for a segment entitled “One Tank Trip: Indy Children's Museum.”
- **NUVO** 2014
Interview for article “Adult Swim at the Children's Museum.”
- **SKY BLUE WINDOW** 2013
Interview and images for article “Jurassic Art”
- **US NEWS & WORLD REPORT** 2013
Interview for article entitled “7 Fun and Educational Summer Vacations.”
- **DIG MAGAZINE** 2013
Wrote articles “Three Amazing Specimens.” and “Legos Help to Preserve Bones”
- **NUVO** 2013
Interview with the Indianapolis alternative magazine for the article “The Children's Museum gets surreal” on the latest paleo art exhibit.
- **THUNDER BUTTE** 2010
Interview with local South Dakota Paper on the museum’s work at the Ruth Mason Quarry,
- **LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHASMOSAURS** 2010
An interview with a website devoted to fans of paleontology and paleo art for an article entitled “Behind the Scenes in Dinosphere.”
- **INDIANA EXPEDITIONS** 2008
Interview for local PBS show on collecting fossils in Indiana.
- **WFYI CHANNEL 20** 2007
In depth interview with Indianapolis PBS affiliate on leading the excavations at Ruth Mason Quarry.
- **THE FRANKLIN DAILY JOURNAL** 2004
Print interview on the highlights of the Dinosphere gallery.
- **INDIANAPOLIS MONTHLY MAGAZINE** 2004
Interview for article “The Lovely Bones” on the opening of the new Dinosphere exhibit
- **WTHR CHANNEL 13** 2004
Live interview with NBC affiliate discussing the opening of the Dinosphere gallery.

- **INDIANAPOLIS STAR** **2003**
Interview with Dr. Robert Bakker on the exhibition of the *T. rex* Bucky.
- **WORLD BOOK** **2000**
Advisor for the development of a computer game “Dinosaur Dig Cyber Adventure.”
- **ASSOCIATED PRESS** **2000**
Interview for article “A *T. rex* By Any Other Name”

SELECTED EXHIBITS

- **DOW AGROSCIENCES SCIENCEWORKS** - ScienceWorks, one of the museum’s most popular exhibits, has been reinvented to feed the curiosity of the next generation of young scientific explorers. Visitors can explore the work of real scientists like hydrologists, climatologists, and geologists. See how we use science process skills to ask questions and seek answers to help us in our daily lives.
- **LEONARDO THE MUMMIFIED DINOSAUR** - Leonardo, a mummified, 77-million-year-old duck-billed dinosaur. His fossilized skeleton is covered in soft tissue—skin, scales, muscle, foot pads—and even his last meal is in his stomach.
- **BIG, BAD, BIZZARE DINOSAURS** – A Paleo Art exhibit featuring the work of more than a dozen artists bringing dinos to life by visualizing their unusual dinosaur forms - armor, teeth, body size, and bizarre head ornamentation.
- **DRACOREX** - Exhibition revealing the newly described species *Dracorex hogwartsia*.
- **TREASURES OF THE EARTH** - A \$4.3 million, 7,400 square-foot exhibit features three famous excavations. Guests travel to the dig site of China’s Terra Cotta Warriors, explore the tomb of Egyptian pharaoh Seti I, and examine the wreck of Captain Kidd’s ship, the *Cara Merchant*. They investigate actual artifacts and find themselves immersed in the science of archaeology.
- **DRAGONS UNEARTHED** - Expanded art gallery featuring artistic interpretations of dinosaurs through the ages, based on the work of Adrienne Mayor who combined her keen interest in paleontology with an abundance of long-forgotten literary, artistic and paleontological evidence to support her thesis that at least some of the fantastic mythological monsters were based on paleontological realities.
- **DIG IT, DRAW IT** - First showing of the famed paleo art collection of John Lanzendorf.
- **DINOSPHERE** - A one-of-a-kind exhibit designed to immerse visitors into the end of the Cretaceous period, 66 million years ago, when dinosaurs last roamed the earth. Dinosphere features real *T. rex*, *Gorgosaurus*, and *Triceratops* fossils and other rare specimens set in realistic environments with dynamic lighting and sound effects
- **THE POLLY HORTON HIX PALEO PREP LAB** - Establishment of a working paleontology prep lab in a children’s museum. Technicians carefully prepare fossil material, mold and cast, and talk to visitors about the science of paleo.
- **BONES** – Bones is a fun, comprehensive lesson about one of the most fundamental parts of our bodies. This 7000 square foot traveling exhibit increases our awareness of the aspects of bones while providing valuable information about careers in science.
- **KINETOSAURS** – A 5000 square foot traveling exhibit subtitled, “Putting Some Teeth Into Art & Science.” This exhibit highlighted the work of North Carolina sculptor John Payne and his life sized mechanical dinosaurs.

- **SCIENCEWORKS** - This 11,000 square foot gallery highlighting backyard wildlife, natural resources, soil and water conservation. It also has a rock climbing wall and a Biotechnology Learning Center.