

Monday Morning, March 18, 2019
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From the desk of V. Marie Martin,
Foundation Director

Dear Flint Hills Friends,

The 2019 Friend of the Flint Hills Event

Marty Vanier will be recognized as the 8th Friend of the Flint Hills on Saturday night, April 6, when the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation hosts its annual event. Please note that this year's event will be held at the Kansas State University Student Union - Grand Ballroom. Parking is available in the adjacent parking garage.

If you have not received your invitation by mail and you wish to attend please contact the FHDC Foundation office by March 27, at fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com or by phone at (785)587-2726 and ask for the Foundation office. The cost to attend the event is \$50 per person paid in advance.

The FHDC Foundation will be making special announcements on April 6, that you will want to be a part of. The Friend of the Flint Hills event is a wonderful time to see old friends and meet new ones!

The **FHDC Foundation will be making the final \$150,000 payment in March to the City of Manhattan** for the Foundation's contribution to bond payments in support of the first floor permanent exhibits. A total of **\$500,000 will have been provided by the Foundation** to the City for the development and installation of these exhibits when the facility was built.

Since the installation of the new projector system in the **Horizon Ranch Immersive Experience Theater** guests have been able to enjoy two different films per hour. The original Flint Hills film the ***Tides of Time*** shows on the half hour and a children's oriented film shows on the hour. Both films are included in the price of admissions. The Discovery Center website displays the name of the film and the showing times at www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/159/Immersive-Experience-Theater.

The FHDC Foundation was able to secure funding which enabled projector upgrades and now allows films with more current technology to be shown in the theater. The **Manhattan Chamber of Commerce** conducted a ribbon cutting at the Discovery Center on February 12, to celebrate this wonderful event. See the entire ceremony on the FHDC Foundation Facebook page at [facebook.com/pg/FHDCFoundation/posts/?ref=page internal](https://facebook.com/pg/FHDCFoundation/posts/?ref=page_internal).

The Discovery Center enjoyed a steady stream of guests during the **"Meet the Makers"** event which was held during the week of spring break. 300 - 400 guests visited daily depending on the rain! Adults and children alike had the opportunity to see woodturners; oil painting; henna body art; invention &

fabrication; Ukrainian art egg decorating; geometric abstraction in mixed media; live dancing; furniture restoration & ornamentation; wool spinning & wool art; digital painting; traditional music & dance of the Flint Hills and wool carding & yarn spinning. There was something for everyone!

The Flint Hills Discovery Center made the bucket list in *Midwest Meetings Magazine*. It was #4 just behind Field Museum, Chicago, IL; Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Indianapolis, IN; Historic Park Inn Hotel, Mason City, IA; Flint Hills Discovery Center, Manhattan, KS; Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI... You can see the complete list at <http://www.midwestmeetings.com/2019-planner-bucket-list> .

April 5, at 2:00pm the Discovery Center will be hosting the Grand Opening of the Prairie Garden Terrace and Trail which is located around the rear of the building to the 3rd floor terrace. The Grand Opening will take place rain or shine so just watch Facebook and the FHDC website for further details. Invitations will be going out soon. You can see the trail signs which have been in place for several months and guests are already learning about the history, culture, and ecosystem of Manhattan and the Flint Hills beyond. **The trail signs were made possible by a grant from the Caroline Peine Foundation which was secured by the Foundation and FHDC Staff.** This will be an interesting outdoor venue to learn more about Manhattan the surrounding area.

The Greater Prairie Chicken Booming Tours begin March 16 and run through April 13. If you enjoy being out in nature in the early hours of the morning and waiting for the Prairie Chickens to come in then this is the place you need to be! Folks come from out of the region and out of state just for the opportunity to experience this event. A new blind was installed last week to accommodate up to 10 viewers in one location. See more information at www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/378/Greater-Prairie-Chicken-Booming-Tours. This is a repeat favorite event sponsored yearly by the Discovery Center.

The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation

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VISTAS, a monthly memo, is provided to advance the cause of philanthropy in support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center.

We thank and celebrate all those investing in the Center's unique and dynamic mission.

Read **VISTAS Memo, now online at the FHDC website**, <http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/414/Vistas-Memo>. The Foundation's pages are located within the FHDC website, so be sure and take time to browse other sections of the FHDC website to keep up with all the activities happening at the Foundation and the Discovery Center