

V I S T A S



From the desk of V. Marie Martin
Foundation Director, September 2019
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Dear Flint Hills Friends,

Susan Adams, Director of the Flint Hills Discovery Center, will act as Honorary Chair of the 11th annual *Visions of the Flint Hills* exhibit opening at the Buttonwood Art Gallery in Kansas City, October 4. This special event supports the Konza Prairie and the Flint Hills region. The annual exhibition brings prairie lovers and art lovers together to benefit regional artists and Friends of Konza Prairie (FOKP). Fifty percent of each art purchase benefits FOKP, with the remaining 50 percent going directly to each respective artist. For more information, visit <https://buttonwoodartspace.com/show/2019-visions-of-the-flint-hills> Congratulations Susan, and thank you for all that you do for the Flint Hills region!

The Outdoor Classroom construction is done! Luke Koch of Koch Construction Specialties, Cottonwood Falls, KS, was hired to lay the dry stone mason bench. This is a custom design featuring a 24-foot-long dry stone masonry seating bench. The limestone was quarried in the Flint Hills in nearby Morris and Chase counties! **Thank you to the Caroline Peine Foundation** for the funding so that this vision could become a reality at the Discovery Center! The space is ADA-accessible and offers our guests opportunities for self-guided learning and reflection in a mini-prairie oasis nestled into downtown Manhattan. The Classroom is adjacent to the Prairie Garden Trail, also funded by the Caroline Peine Foundation.

Triple B! The Foundation is gearing up for the first annual *Bison, Beef & Bourbon fundraising* event on Saturday, November 2, 6:30-9pm, at the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Grab your boots and hat and join us for an evening of Bison, Beef and Bourbon! A food trail of heavy hors d'oeuvres will lead you throughout the Center. You can spice up the evening with signature cocktails made with Mark Nutsch's Horse Soldier Bourbon, along with a selection of complimentary beer and wine.

Flint Hills cocktail attire with a western flair, creased jeans, fringed skirts, boots and hats are all acceptable (but not necessary)! Be creative and festive because we're going to have some Flint Hills-style fun! A variety of silent and live auction items will be up for bid. Proceeds will benefit the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation and its support of educational initiatives at the Discovery Center. Live music will be provided for your listening enjoyment.

Note: If the KSU v KU game is scheduled in the evening (time has not been officially determined), you will be able to watch it here. Tickets are \$75/person and you must be 21 to attend. **Purchase your tickets online at www.auctria.com/auction/FHDCFBisonBeefBourbon2019.**



If you are interested in being a Bison, Beef & Bourbon sponsorship, donation levels start at \$500. Contact the Foundation office at fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com for more sponsorship details. Watch the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation Facebook for continuing event updates!

Kendra Kuhlman recently joined the Discovery Center staff as Assistant Director/Development. Kendra is a Flint Hills native from Herington in Dickinson County, and her husband, Leslie, is originally from Manhattan. Kendra and Les moved here from Lawrence where she worked with Kansas Public Radio. Kendra and Les have two children and two Bassett Hounds—and that’s another story! Please offer Kendra a warm welcome when you see her around the Discovery Center.

In September, the **Discovery Center educational programs hit the road** with tours to Emporia and the Plumlee Buffalo Ranch, east of Manhattan. In Emporia, participants will visit the William Allen White Home, the All Veterans Memorial (featuring a Huey helicopter, ship anchor and Sherman Army tank), and the David Taylor Zoo. Did you know that the Veterans Day remembrance originated at Emporia? Lunch is on your own at Radius Brewery or Bobby D’s Merchant St. BBQ. The Plumlee Buffalo Ranch tour is always interesting and especially if you have never seen buffalo up close. For more information go to <https://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/377/Tallgrass-Tour-Bus>.

September is new exhibit time and **“Zoo in You: The Human Microbiome”** and **“Eat Well, Play Well”** will be open until January 12, 2020! **Zoo in You** allows guests to explore the fascinating and complex world inside us that is our microbiome—a dynamic, adaptable and delicately balanced ecosystem unlike any other found in nature. Learn about our constant microbial companions, where they live, how diverse they are and how important they are to our personal health. There will be engaging, interactive components including a marble maze, green screen technology, microscopes, puzzles and more!

Eat Well, Play Well is a hands-on exhibit, helping children and families discover nutrition and fitness and the science of making healthy choices. Visitors will discover what an appropriate serving size looks like, see firsthand what it takes to burn off calories, test their flexibility and balance, review the latest clinical research and realize who they can reduce their risk of disease with healthy choices.

Help us go paperless! While we want to keep you informed, we would also like to communicate with as many of you as possible by electronic delivery of our newsletters, event information, and general Foundation and FHDC updates. The Foundation has a Facebook page at [Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation](#), so start following and sharing us on Facebook!

By sharing your email address with us, we are able to get information to you more quickly and less expensively by doing the bulk of our communications online. We **will not distribute** your email information to any other entities. If you are interested in helping us go paperless, just send an email to fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com and say, “Include me in the paperless project!” We appreciate your consideration!

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. www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/151/FHDC-Foundation