

Ancient Worlds Hiding in Plain Sight, opened September 2023, features our world-renowned Ordovician fossils.



Donor Impact Report

Winter 2023

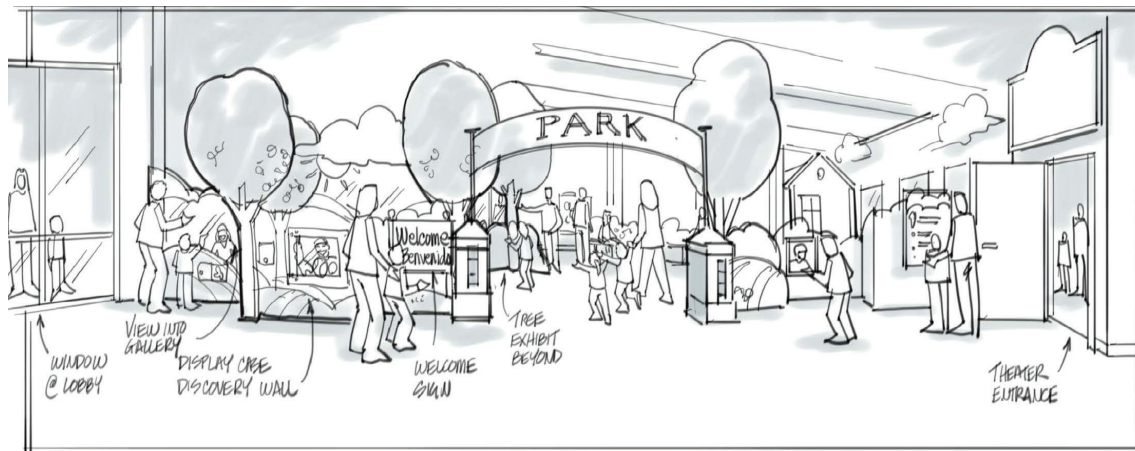
Thank you

for helping us build the future of CMC

We are grateful. Grateful for your continued investment and support in championing our mission to bring learning opportunities to life for all ages. Grateful for your passion and interest in helping us reimagine our museum experiences by creating bold, vibrant and engaging exhibits and programs. Grateful to celebrate 90 years of our iconic Union Terminal and the timely unveiling of a US postal stamp featuring Union Terminal among the country's great historic train stations.

As we move into the final phase of the Champion More Curiosity campaign, we celebrate how far we have come and are energized by the momentum driving us to the end. We have seen tremendous growth through our annual fund campaigns, which help drive our impact through our programs, experts and community partnerships. We have increased our endowment to better prepare for and sustain the future of CMC. With a focus on investing in our community, our programs and our mission, we have also had our permanent exhibits top of mind. **Through the generous support of so many, we have developed, funded and opened 17 permanent galleries with two more coming soon.**

- As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of The Children's Museum at Union Terminal this year, we are making investments and enhancements within it, including a new play home made possible by Fischer Homes and a new interactive exhibit dedicated to the importance of childhood literacy and language development.



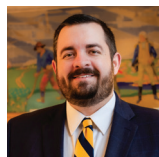
- Coming in 2024, the new *Biomedical Health & Science Gallery* (working title) will explore the intersection between human biology and pathology; the systems and environments that contribute to health or illness; and medical, technical and social innovations that help people feel better.

We are so very grateful to have you as a Champion of CMC and look forward to seeing you exploring Union Terminal and enjoying all that has been completed thus far.

Warmest wishes,



Elizabeth W. Pierce
President & CEO
Cincinnati Museum Center



Scott Schuster
Vice President, Philanthropy, Cincinnati Museum Center
President, Cincinnati Museums Foundation

More than a building

The story of Kay French and her connection to Union Terminal

Kay Copelin French was born April 5, 1933, one week after the opening of Union Terminal, but her connection with the building started even earlier. Her father, Carl Kaucher, was the chief engineer on the project, which began construction in 1929. Union Terminal was originally part of a complex that included 22 distinct buildings and cost \$41 million – equivalent to more than \$928 million today. Once opened, approximately 200 trains and 34,000 people per day streamed through the station during its peak operation. In 1943, Kay's father was one of those thousands, boarding a train in 1943 to serve with the US Navy's Seabees in the South Pacific during World War II. In 1946, he returned to Cincinnati from the war, along with thousands of other soldiers, arriving home at the very station he had worked to build. Nine decades later, on April 21, 2023, Kay's closest friends and family gathered around her in Union Terminal to celebrate her milestone 90th birthday in the iconic grand Rotunda. The Art Deco treasure and National Historic Landmark that underwent an extensive historic restoration looks as grand as the day it opened in 1933! How amazing that Kay got to celebrate her 90th birthday inside our historic building as it celebrated its own 90th milestone this year.



Kay's connection to Union Terminal runs long and deep, and she has fully embraced the building's purpose today - to serve as the home of our beloved Cincinnati Museum Center. The mission of CMC is to inspire people of all ages to learn more about our world through science, regional history and meaningful experiences. Kay is not only a loyal friend of CMC, but an outstanding advocate and supporter whose hope is to provide generations to come with similar educational opportunities and memories at Union Terminal.



Ancient Worlds Hiding in Plain Sight

made possible by generous donors

Ancient Worlds Hiding in Plain Sight is the latest addition to our award-winning museum and has been a long time coming. Just ask DeVere Burt, former Director of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History and Science when it was on Gilbert Avenue. While literally 450 million years in the making, the creation of a permanent exhibit to showcase CMC's world-renowned Ordovician fossil collection has, practically speaking, been an aspiration for nearly four decades. It finally came to fruition because of philanthropic support from our community. Two grants from the Institute of Museum & Library Services (IMLS) kick-started the project and subsequent gifts from The Gettler Family Foundation and the Anness Family Charitable Fund, along with a handful of other major donors, brought the gallery to life.



Left to right: CEO Elizabeth Pierce, Invertebrate Paleontologist Dr. Brenda Hunda and Dee Gettler

The Gettler family has a special connection to Cincinnati fossils. When Ben and Dee Gettler would take their family on road trips throughout our region, Dee vividly recalls him stopping on the side of the highway to collect rocks and fossils. So, when CMC announced this gallery to showcase our world-renowned Ordovician collection, it was only natural that Dee and her children came forward and felt compelled to help make this dream a reality in Ben's honor. Similarly, Martha Anness supported the gallery in loving memory of her sister, Priscilla Haffner, who was a longtime friend of CMC and an avid member of the women's advisory committee for the Museum of Natural History & Science. In total, over \$2.2 million was raised for *Ancient Worlds Hiding in Plain Sight* as part of the Champion More Curiosity campaign, which continues to refresh and transform the guest experience at CMC.

“We can finally tell Cincinnati’s signature fossil story and we look forward to educating our guests for generations to come. The outpouring of philanthropy and advocacy for this gallery warms my heart.”

– Elizabeth Pierce



Did you know?

450 million years ago the Cincinnati region was covered by a warm, shallow tropical ocean south of the equator. This marine ecosystem was filled with invertebrate life including trilobites, corals and cephalopods that are all now featured in *Ancient Worlds Hiding in Plain Sight*. This exhibit is not just an opportunity for CMC to show off its world-renowned Ordovician fossil collection, it also addresses themes of climate change, evolution, extinction and species diversification – all themes that continue to impact our planet today. By continuing to study fossils and how they responded to similar changes over a long period of time, society may be able to better understand today's major issues.

Cr(eat)e Culinary Studio

featuring the Kroger Food Lab



The Cr(eat)e Culinary Studio featuring the Kroger Food Lab is now located off Union Terminal's grand Rotunda and will engage guests in the intersectionality of science, history and community of food. The interactive programming space will turn the kitchen into a laboratory as it explores the science behind cooking, the chemical reactions that change flavor and textures and the tactile motor skills to make it all possible. But the Cr(eat)e Culinary Studio will not just be about food science, it will be an entry point into our region's history, food community and world cultures. Youth and adults cooking classes, demonstrations, camps and many more learning opportunities are now available in the space.



Everyone has a Union Terminal Story

Celebrating the legacy of Beverly and Pike Levine

Earlier this year, family members of Beverly and Pike Levine established an endowment in the couple's memory to support field trips to Union Terminal. The name Bev Levine may sound familiar, or at least her smile will be recognizable, as she served as the face of the "Vote Yes on 8" campaign in 2014 to support the restoration of Union Terminal. Bev was unabashedly supportive of "saving Union Terminal" and would tell anyone who would listen all about it. Like many others, her devotion to this building started at a young age and grew because of the history she and her family had with it. Bev first remembers visiting Union Terminal in 1933 when she was just 6 years old. Later, she sent her husband off to war, and luckily welcomed him back home at the very same train station. It made her day when Union Terminal became the home to Cincinnati Museum Center in 1990. Bev and Pike made it their mission to ensure this building would be around for their future great-great grandchildren so when the "My Union Terminal Campaign Committee" asked Bev to be in the commercial to "Vote Yes on 8," she gave them a resounding yes!

The gift to establish the endowment was spearheaded by Bev and Pike's daughters Iris Pastor and Lori Luckman, as well as the Levines' grandson, Frank Cohen, and his wife Julie. Frank recalls visiting CMC with his mother Iris while growing up here in Cincinnati and brings his three children when they are in town. Union Terminal has been an important part of five generations of the Levine family and the creation of the endowment fund will forever cement Bev and Pike's legacy. Local children from grant-eligible schools will now have the opportunity to visit Union Terminal where they will learn about the building's rich history, experience world-class exhibits and create their own Union Terminal story through the generosity of the Levine Family Education Fund.



Beverly and Pike Levine's great grandchildren.

Exhibits made possible by the Champion More Curiosity campaign.



Holiday Junction 2018



Public Landing 2018



DNA Lab 2018



*Dinosaur Hall 2018/
Paleontology Lab 2019*



Newsreel Theater 2018



*Science Interactives Gallery,
presented by Procter &
Gamble 2019*



The Cave 2019



Cincinnati in Motion 2019



*Neil Armstrong Space
Exploration Gallery, presented
by the Harold C. Schott
Foundation 2019-2020*



You Are Here 2020



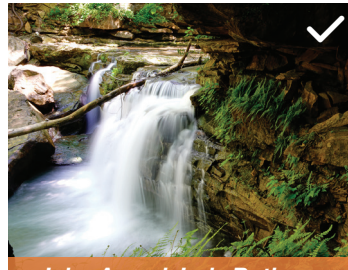
Shaping Our City 2020



Ice Age Gallery 2021



Made in Cincinnati 2022



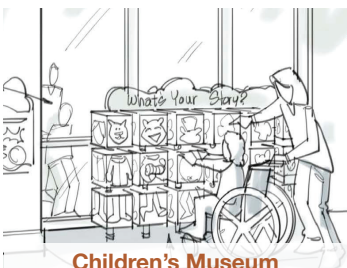
*John A. and Judy Ruthven
Get Into Nature Gallery 2022*



*Ancient Worlds Hiding in
Plain Sight 2023*



*Cr(eat)e Culinary Studio
2023*



*Children's Museum
Enhancements
Coming 2023 and 2024*



*Biomedical Health & Science
Gallery Coming 2024*

Scan the QR code to learn more about our completed and future exhibits.



Thank you for being a Champion of Cincinnati Museum Center!

Upcoming Events

- **November 29, 2023:** *Music in the Museum* featuring Isabelle Demers with Kelly Hale and Rick VanMatre
- **January 24, 2024:** *Music in the Museum* featuring Nathan Laube with Kelly Hale and Christopher Pells
- **March 13, 2024:** Cocktails with Curators featuring Zoology and Paleontology
- **April 17, 2024:** *Music in the Museum* featuring Ken Cowan with Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains and Christ Church Cathedral
- **May 22, 2024:** Cocktails with Curators featuring Cr(eat)e Culinary Studio
- **July 2024:** End of Champion More Curiosity Campaign
- **August 1, 2024:** Cocktails Mocktails with Curators featuring The Children's Museum

*dates are subject to change