HIGHLIGHTS ‘N HAPPENINGS
The Official Newsletter of Enid Arts and Science Foundation

Established 1992

Winter 2019

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NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Friday the 13th in December... a Nightmare Before Christmas! This event will be fun for all ages. Starting at 5 p.m. in the Education Annex, we will be playing Tim Burton’s Nightmare before Christmas. There will be popcorn and drinks! Remember, its B.Y.O.B! (bring your own blanket)

PRINCESS BALL ANNOUNCEMENTS!
Princess Ball is on its way! The popular event has been moved to Feb. 8, 2020. As a rural town in northwest Oklahoma, football is a takeover event in our area, so to accommodate busy schedules, we decided to move everyone’s favorite event to a less busy time. This year’s Princess Ball will be at 81 Ranch again from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Tickets will be able to purchase starting Dec. 1. We are charging $25 for members and $30 for non-members. Princess Ball tickets are only available at www.leonardos.com! Make sure to mark your calendars for Dec. 1, because this event typically sells out QUICK!

IN THIS ISSUE

WHAT’S COMING UP?
News on Pancakes & Pajamas, Nightmare before Christmas, Noon Year’s Eve and Princess Ball!

FROM THE DIRECTOR
Executive Director, Tracy Bittle, looks back over the last fiscal year.

RECAP ON FALL EVENTS
Missed our fall events? Catch up inside!

SPECIAL GUEST TEASE
We have a super special guest coming to Leonardo’s in the Spring! Look inside to see who it is!

BUSINESS OFFICE UPDATES
Update on membership packages.
A note from the Director’s desk!
By Tracy Bittle

Let’s look back at our accomplishments of the last fiscal year and be thankful. At our organization, we begin our fiscal year with fall—which means EVENTS! We have been shuffling and revamping our annual events, while adding some new ones. Princess Ball was moved to the beautiful venue 81 Ranch and is sponsored by our friends at Messer Bowers. It was a sellout, and it was a truly memorable evening for the Dads and Daughters. Motor Mania had some bad luck with mother nature, and it was cold and damp that day. But we had a good crowd anyway with H&J Services and T&C Meats as sponsors. Fall Festival was expanded to be three fun-filled days instead of one two-hour event. This was a big hit. Next came a new event—Pancakes with Santa. Leonardo’s staff served almost 300 guests’ breakfast, and we kicked off the holiday season with a visit with Santa Claus! And finally, in December, we said goodbye to 2018 with our traditional NOON Year’s Eve Party! The countdown and balloon drop allow youngsters to have their celebration early in the day. Overall attendance grew, activities expanded, and it was a successful season. The final year-end fundraiser of the calendar year contains a matching program courtesy of Park Avenue Thrift. This resulted in $21,550 being doubled! Thank you to our partner businesses, organizational friends, and Leonardo’s fans! 2019 started nicely with packed after-school classes. The OG&E Science Club and JWL Fashion Design classes were “exploding at the seams” with good enrollment. Thanks to these sponsors for making these educational programs happen. On Valentine’s day, all our guests got to create custom-designed garden rocks. My favorites are always the hand and footprints of the little ones. March brought Spring Break Camp and very close to record-breaking attendance. Leonardo’s welcomed 4,000 guests during the week of Enid Public School’s Spring Break! This month is always finished up with our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser. This year’s event raised $23,800 with an intimate but powerful crowd of donors! Late March was the kick-off of the field trip season, which runs through the end of May. Summer 2019 represented creative, exciting summer camp classes! This year brought many new teachers to our program. And thanks to our donors, 72 weeks of camp were provided for low-income children during this session. That is how we are changing the future. As summer ended, we received the good news of the OK Museum Network grant being extended for two more years. This means four more wonderful exhibits over the next 2 years at Leonardo’s. In summary, it was an excellent year for admissions, events and programs. We face challenges in donations, grants, and exhibit repair expenses. However, we learned, adapted and excelled at achieving our mission. We MUST not forget what we are here to do. We “Enrich and Inspire Children of All Ages!” This we did—and we could not do it without our community. Thank you so very much, Leonardo’s friends and family!

Owen K. Garriott Inducted to Enid Walk of Fame

Owen K. Garriott was an Enid native and legend. Although, he was born and raised in Enid, he earned his degrees from The University of Oklahoma and Stanford. Most of you may know of the name Owen K. Garriott from the popular street in Enid. Although, Garriott is well known for his space adventures on his 1973 Skylab trip. He spent a total of 13 hours and 43 minutes in space on that single trip. However, Garriott spent an overall total of 60 days in space. WOW! Owen is one of the founders of Leonardo’s Children’s Museum, and we take great pride in having such a fearless founder, along with his late ex-wife, Helen. Did you know he also has an exhibit on the second floor of the museum? If you are interested in seeing Owen’s plaque, stop by the Stride Bank Center!

Giving Opportunities This Winter

1. Commit your business to sponsor Pancakes and Pajamas. This fun-filled Saturday morning kicks off the Christmas season!
2. Adopt an animal in our Critter Clubhouse.
3. Volunteer to spend the day working at Adventure Quest.
4. Go online to www.leonardos.org and click the DONATE button to help us meet our goal and keep Leonardo’s thriving!
5. As you plan your end of year charitable giving, please remember Leonardo’s.
6. IRA funds that are transferred straight from your account to Leonardo’s are shielded from taxes!

As everyone completes their annual income tax chores please remember donations to Leonardo’s (501c3) are tax deductible. By giving this way, keep your hard earned money in Enid to help us continue our mission!
The team at Leonardo’s is excited to announce that we have booked Richard Garriott, son of Helen and Owen K. to our annual scholarship fundraiser. This event will be held in late March 2020 and Richard will be helping us host this wonderful event. He will be sharing about his interesting story of success in the video gaming industry. Richard is an entertaining storyteller and he has some unusual stories to share. Did you know that Richard and his father have both been in space? Did you know that Helen was integral in helping this young Garriott get started in the competitive industry? Tickets will be available after the holidays and we will be announcing the date soon. Watch our website www.leonardos.org for the latest on this developing story.

**Changes for 2020!**

As we finish up this decade at our children’s museum, we are updating some things in the business office. Watch for these changes to simplify things for our guests and help Leonardo’s grow. Effective immediately, the membership packages have been simplified. This saves confusion and provides less opportunity for error. These packages will reflect the first minor price increase since 2015. That was before the $6 million renovation! Membership is such a bargain for our active families. Also, look for our new membership stickers with your new membership purchase. Additionally (like the rest of the world), the membership program is going DIGITAL! No more cards to keep track of and guests can even check in with their mobile phones. Communication with members will be increased and be much more accurate. The cost savings to our organization and the increased accuracy of member check-in are very valuable to this children’s museum’s long term business health. Look for this exciting change around the first of the new year.

**Leonardo’s will welcome a special guest next spring!**

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**End of year giving!**

It is the season of giving, and there’s no better place to donate than back to your community for the children! With the new year almost here, that means it’s time for the end of the year giving! We so graciously appreciate every donation made to Leonardo’s. Don’t forget! When a donation is made to Leonardo’s, Park Ave Thrift matches it! Donate at www.leonardos.org.

**Fall Festival!**

Fall Festival was a complete success! The crafts, games and costume parade was everything we’d hope it be, and it was nothing short of a great time! The children made awesome crafts to take home and had the best costumes for the parade! A special thank you to Hunter Property Management for making it possible!

**Motor Mania!**

Motor Mania was a smashing hit! There were so many vehicles, and the children had a blast! Everybody left in happy moods and full bellies! Thank you to H&J Services, TPI Staffing and T&C Meats for sponsoring so we could make this awesome event happen!

**Recap**

Changes for 2020!

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**Founders**
Helen Mary Walker Garriott
Dr. Owen K. Garriott

**Board of Directors**
Becky Bules, President
Katie Patton, Vice President
Lynn Biddle, Treasurer
Lynn Ballard
Merl Cordry
Joe Gibson
Michael Hunter
Kimberly Kelly
Renae Lewis
Anthony Rodebush
Molly Shephard

Ex Officio:
Tracy Bittle, Exec. Director
Katie Long
Ginel Kennedy
Theodore Camacho, MSgt, USAF

**Family memberships make great holiday gifts!**

**OUR MISSION**
Leonardo's enriches and inspires children of all ages by creating fun learning opportunities.

**Hours**
Tuesday-Saturday 10AM to 5PM
Sunday 1PM to 5PM
Open Mondays during the summer.
Adventure Quest open throughout the year weather permitting.

**Admission**
General: $9.00
Children Under 2: Free
Group rate of $8 per person available for groups of at least 16 guests.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

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<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leonardo’s Closed Mondays</strong></td>
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<th>Dec. 7</th>
<th>Jan. 1</th>
<th>Feb. 8</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pancakes &amp; Pajamas! Come eat pancakes with Santa in your pajamas!</td>
<td>Happy New Year! Come spend your New Years at Leonardo’s!</td>
<td>Princess Ball Messer Bowers’ Princess Ball event at 81 Ranch!</td>
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<tr>
<th>Dec. 13</th>
<th>Jan. 20</th>
<th>Feb. 14</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nightmare before Christmas! Come to Leo’s for a movie night! BYOB! (Bring your own blanket)</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Day! EPS is out of school, so we’re open! Let’s play!</td>
<td>Valentine’s Day! Come spend your Valentine’s Day at Leonardo’s! There will be Valentine’s Day crafts!</td>
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| Dec. 24-25 | Feb. 29 | End of Title 1 Field Trips! |
| --- | --- | Last day for Title 1 field trips! |
| Christmas Eve/Day Leonardo’s is closed for the holiday! | Enroll in art and science spring after-school classes! | |

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<th>Dec. 31</th>
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<td>Noon Years Eve! Come celebrate the new year at Leonardo’s!</td>
<td>Don’t forget to purchase your Princess Ball tickets at <a href="http://www.leonardos.org">www.leonardos.org</a>!</td>
<td>Note: With one extra day in February means one extra day for Title 1 Field Trips!</td>
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**Regular Programs**

- **Art Quest** - 1st & 3rd Saturday at 11AM and 2PM. Free with paid admission or membership.
- **Weekend Wonders** - 2nd & 4th Saturday 11AM and 2PM. Free with paid admission or membership.