



Winter NewsLetter



2024



January | February | March

MUSEUM HOURS

OPEN

Wednesday – Saturday
10 AM – 5 PM

CLOSED

Sunday – Tuesday

BOARD MEMBERS

Jennifer Bryant-Foster

Chair

Frances J. Giles

Secretary

Thomas W. Pettyjohn, Jr.

Treasurer

Mort Sajadian, PhD

President/CEO

Garth Ainslie

Scott Brabrand, PhD

Teresa L. Brennan, MD

Andrew Davidson

Faye Ferguson

Kasey Forehand

Janie Hall

Hylan "Hank" T. Hubbard, III

D. Todd Irby

Carissa Kregenow

Diane Ludwig

Beverly McCloskey

Robert O'Brian

Sue Ott Rowlands

Martha C. Seuffer

Kate Sigler

Amanda Smithson

Eric J. Sorenson, Jr.

Jacoben Tone

W. Kent Van Allen, Jr.

Edward "Lynch" Vranian



Corporate Partners

Corporate Patron

BWX Technologies, Inc. | Foster Fuels

Framatome Inc. | Innovative Wireless Technologies

Lynchburg Ready Mix Concrete Co., Inc.

Amazing Corporate Sponsors

Berglund Oak Ridge Toyota

Corporate Sponsors

Architectural Partners PC | Bank of the James

Campbell Insurance

Coleman-Adams Construction, Inc.

Craft Collision Centers | Dodson Pest Control

Fleet Laboratories

Ford Mays Wealth Management | Forest Dental Center

John Stewart Walker | Kyanite Mining Corporation

Peery & Woolwine Family Dentistry

Pettyjohn, Wood, & White | Robert W. Baird and Co, Inc.

Stewart Langley Properties, LLC

Terry Volkswagen/Subaru | Watts Petroleum | Wooldridge
Heating & Air

Staff Spotlight | MiKah Griffin

How long have you been at A2?

I have been at Amazement Square since January 2023.

What are your current responsibilities here?

I am currently a Museum Educator and Floor Manager.

What is your favorite part about working here?

My favorite part about Amazement Square is the supportive staff and community. Also, rocking out with families at Rock Band on the first floor.

Tell us a fun fact about you:

I have every David Bowie and Bob Dylan vinyl albums.

What is your favorite color?

My favorite color is green.



Open Makerspace

Every Saturday | 1 PM – 3 PM
The Hive Makerspace
Perfect for ages 6-10

The *Hive* is abuzz! Stop by to cultivate creativity and engage in the engineering design process while tackling prompts using unique materials. We look forward to seeing what you will build and discover together! Monthly themes will be available on the website.

Fun Fridays @ The Paint Box

Every Friday | 10 AM – 4 PM
The Paint Box
Perfect for all ages

Come join us for a *paint-astic* activity led by our museum educators. Try to mix colors, paint in black and white, contribute to a community mural, create a portrait, and more! Activities change for new experiences each week!

Weekly Programs

All programs are included with museum admission or membership.

Imagination Studio: Start with Art

Every Saturday
10 AM – 12 PM
Perfect for all ages

This program focuses on exploring fine motor abilities and developmental learning skills as they relate to various types of art and art techniques. Don't miss out on this amazing program! Monthly themes will be available on the website.



Creation Station: STEM!



STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math and is taught through a practical learning curriculum. STEM based curriculum can be hard to understand, but through *Creation Station: STEM!* museum visitors are given access to unique learning interactives that make STEM fun and engaging. The seven interactive stations in this exhibit are meant to help visitors refine their skills of observing, questing, and experimenting through hands-on, experiential learning. **Check out our brand new interactives:** the Geoplex Navigator where you'll learn about how shapes interact with each other with this brand new table station and use elastic bands to create your own patterns, and the Jumbo Abacus where you'll learn about the first ever calculator. Whether you are using robots that move at the touch of a finger, exploring the Tap Light Table, or creating a mansion out of PVC pipes, STEM is for all ages.



Funding made possible in part by The Helen S. and Charles G. Patterson, Jr. Charitable Foundation Trust

Celebrate Black History Month

We Can Fly!

NAVIGATING HISTORY WITH TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

The Legacy Museum of African American History, in partnership with Amazement Square, is proud to present a FREE youth centric program for the month of February, focused on the history and relevance of Tuskegee Airmen and extraordinary achievements of the first African American aviators with activities for today's youth. Join us as we honor the legacy of the 332nd Squadron and envision our flights for the future.

EVERY SATURDAY IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 3rd - Legacy Museum Activity Center

6th - 8th Graders

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Saturday, February 10th - Amazement Square

2nd - 5th Graders

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Saturday, February 17th - Legacy Museum Activity Center

6th - 8th Graders

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Saturday, February 24th - Amazement Square

2nd - 5th Graders

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Pre-registration is encouraged.



Legacy Museum
Of African American History

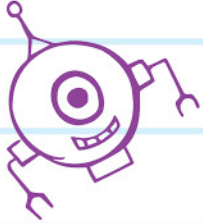


School's Out WONDERCAMP

School is out and *WonderCamp* is in! Make the most of your day out of school with hands-on projects, building challenges, art projects, and more! *School's Out WonderCamps* are for campers currently in Kindergarten-5th grade.

Supporting Patron Members receive 10% off registration cost.

Spring Break ↓



STOP MOTION ANIMATION

Monday, January 15th
8:45am-3:30pm
\$50 per camper

What is your dream? In celebration of Martin Luther King Junior's *I Have a Dream* speech, create your own vision of the future through stop motion animation.



WEATHER WATCHERS

Monday, February 19th
8:45am-3:30pm
\$50 per camper

Calling all future meteorologists! Campers will explore the world of weather phenomena, static electricity, lightning, tornados, and weather instruments!



LEGO BUILDERS

Monday April 1st
Friday, April 5th
8:45am-3:30pm each day
\$245 per camper

Calling all builders! Come and create with LEGOs and challenge yourself to build beyond your imagination! Builders will compete in daily challenges and even get to try their hand at making some moving machines with LEGO robotics.



School Programs

Amazement Square is excited to welcome educators and students to the museum this spring! Students and teachers alike will create memories and spark imagination while exploring the museum's four floors of interactive exhibitions. Amazement Square's four floors of exhibitions cover Virginia Standards of Learning through creativity and play!

Enhance your visit by adding one of Amazement Square's twenty-three unique, SOL-based, hands-on *Discovery Programs* that reinforce SOL concepts taught in class. These 30-minute programs explore a variety of topics including space, weather, and ancient cultures. Students can also create, build, and explore in one of our *Makerspace Programs*.

Can't come to the museum? Let Amazement Square come to you with one of our many *Inside Out Programs*. In these programs, we bring one of our *Discovery Programs* to your school or learning center. An example is our portable planetarium which allows students to explore the constellations, moon, and planets with an immersive 360-degree view!

Students can also enjoy one of our *Unlocking the Standards* programs, a 1 ½ hour escape room program designed to reinforce fourth and fifth grade science concepts. These programs are sure to delight and captivate students as they prepare for end-of-year SOL evaluations.

This March, Amazement Square will host over 1,000 third grade students from Albemarle County during their annual county-wide field trip. Students will explore the ancient kingdom of Mali while they gather and trade natural resources during our *Magnificent Mali Discovery Program*. Students will explore a variety of habitats to understand how adaptations help birds survive in our *Animal Adaptations Discovery Program*. We are so excited to once again welcome Albemarle County this spring!

For more information on Amazement Square's school programs and field trips, contact us at education@amazementsquare.org.







Very Special Arts (VSA) is a Kennedy Center sponsored international program that provides access to the arts for people with disabilities. At Amazement Square we have chosen to focus on bringing art education

into local special needs classrooms. This semester we are visiting 3 schools and serving 39 students by providing inclusive art education. Using Vincent Van Gogh as inspiration we are giving our students the space and tools to express their feelings through color and art.

The VSA program aims to bring awareness not only to the things that make each student special, but also to show how those unique qualities come together to form a community. The program will grow on itself, with each week covering an art piece and art style. We will investigate how each art style is used to express something about the artist like emotions through color. In the beginning of the program, we will pre-assess student's perception of themselves and knowledge of art techniques by asking them to create a 5-minute self-portrait, at the end of the program we will do the same activity in order to see how the student's art knowledge and perceptions of themselves have changed. We are interested in finding out how art education can affect a student's perception of themselves and those around them. The ultimate goal is to have students reach the understanding that though we may all be different, we are all important.

The *VSA: Matisse Gallery* shows 94 works from different local students who took inspiration from Matisse's later paper works and express themselves through cut-out art or decoupage.



Summer WonderCamp

Join us for another amazing summer with Amazement Square's *Summer WonderCamps*! Early bird discount of 10% off if camp is booked in March!*

Camps run Monday to Friday beginning June 3rd through August 2nd with no camps during the week of July 4th. Junior and Explorer camps are offered during all 8 weeks of camp. Adventurer camps take place the weeks of June 3rd, June 17th, July 8th, and July 22nd.

**Supporting Patron members receive 10% registration discount at any time of registration.*

Registration
opens
March
1st

WonderCamp Junior

Campers ages 3-5 who have not yet entered kindergarten
Half-day program
8:45am-12:45pm
\$140 per camper per week



WonderCamp Explorer

Campers who have completed kindergarten-2nd grade
Full day camp program
8:45am-3:30pm
\$250 per camper per week



WonderCamp Adventurer

Campers who have completed 3rd-5th grade
Full day camp program
8:45am-3:30pm
\$250 per camper per week



For more Information

www.amazementsquare.org

Special Educator Night

FREE EVENT!



February 26th from
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m

We are excited to announce Special Educator Night at the Museum, a noteworthy event exclusively for K-12 special education teachers. Taking place on February 26th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Amazement Square, this evening is designed to offer special education teachers and staff an opportunity to network with other special education professionals, explore the museum, and discover our diverse range of discovery and outreach programs designed and adapted for students with disabilities. To gain entry, teachers must bring their valid teacher ID.

During Special Educator Night, educators will have the opportunity to explore the four floors of the museum to experience what a field trip is like here at Amazement Square. As a certified autism center, Amazement Square educators are equipped to provide a sensory friendly museum experience for your students. Museum educators will be on hand to provide information about our field trips, outreach programs, and sensory accommodations.

Additionally, this event features a showcase of our innovative, adaptive programs designed to enhance classroom instruction. Each program is designed to reinforce key concepts covered in the VSOLs. Come discover the possibilities for your students and learn about the exciting educational opportunities we offer.

We look forward to welcoming you and providing an experience that will support your passion for teaching and learning.

Upcoming Events



Celebrate 23 years of Amazeum Square!

You're invited! Join us for our **23rd** birthday bash on Saturday, **March 23rd** from **10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** Get ready to go MAD with science experiments and demonstrations all over the museum.

Featuring face painting and Balloon Dude Travis!







NEW Membership level alert!

To ensure Amazement Square is accessible to ALL community members, the *Exploration for All* program offers discounted admission with the presentation of an EBT, SNAP, or WIC card at the front desk. Visitors will receive admission for \$3 per person up to a family of 4 (regular admission for the 5th person and up). This program allows families from all backgrounds to enjoy the museum, make memories, and become a lifelong learner!

Starting January 1, 2024, a family of 6, can purchase the *A2 for All* membership package for \$70. Present your EBT or SNAP card at the front desk and begin the membership process. Your membership is good for an entire year at the day of purchase! Once your membership is processed, you will receive two key tags and have unlimited access to the museum!



| MEMBERSHIP LEVELS + BENEFITS! |  A ⁺ VALUE MEMBERSHIP \$135 |  SUPPORTING PATRON MEMBERSHIP \$235 |  A ⁺ GRANDPARENTS MEMBERSHIP \$175 |  A ² FOR ALL MEMBERSHIP \$70 |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| ADMITS | 4 specified family members | 6 2 specified adults living in the same household + 4 guests + 1 caregiver | 6 2 specified primary grandparents + 4 accompanying grandchildren | 6 specified family members <small>*show EBT card for purchase</small> |
| FREE General Museum Admission all year! | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| FREE educational museum programs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Quarterly e-News-letter Subscription | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 10% Discount on Workshops & Wonder-Camp day camps | | ✓ | | |
| \$25 Discount on Birthday Parties | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 10% Discount on Slumber Parties & Rentals | | ✓ | | |
| 10% Discount in Café Amaze (minimum \$5 purchase) | | ✓ | | |
| All memberships are tax-deductible as allowed by law. | | | | |



FACILITY RENTAL

Our **6,000** square foot exhibit hall is one of the largest rental spaces in the area and is the perfect space for a wedding reception, reunion, luncheon, cocktail party, or corporate event, and allows plenty of space for physical distancing. Design your layout, be creative with decorations and hire the caterer, band, or DJ of your choice. Our state of the art AV equipment (sound system and projectors) support a wide range of presentations, videos, images and/or music to perfectly compliment your event. The Genworth Education Center is fully equipped to address all your rental needs with options for tables, chairs and linens.

For additional information and to schedule a tour, please call us at **434-845-1888**.



THERE'S NO BETTER PLACE TO HAVE A BIRTHDAY!

We love celebrating our guests and birthdays are our favorite! With several rooms to choose from and various activities to keep the birthday child and their guests engaged and entertained you can rest assured that this will be a birthday party to remember!

