



GREAT LAKES Science Center

Stay Curious.



FY23 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

October 2022-September 2023

DEAR FRIENDS,

This year was an extraordinary one for Great Lakes Science Center, raising our reputation, visibility and stature as a world-class organization. There has been increasing acclaim for our engaging family experiences. We were recognized by the 2023 USA Today 10Best Readers' Choice travel award as a Best Science Museum in the nation, and featured on ABC's "Good Morning America" as one of the best places to take your family in Cleveland.

The Science Center has also been praised for our educational programming that provides STEM for all with unique approaches to workforce development. Our afterschool program has transformed over the last 10 years into a free, year-round program for Cleveland youth, focused on robotics. The program has proven to offer life-changing experiences for participants, who also use their skills to provide life-changing resources for others. The impact of the program has been recognized repeatedly, most recently by People magazine who featured two of our program participants in this year's "Girls Changing the World" issue.

This year also marks the culmination of a 10-year financial turnaround for the Science Center, with firmly established financial stability for one of the region's greatest assets. At the close of our 2023 fiscal year, we are proud to say that the Science Center finances have not just improved, we have exceeded goals to put the organization at its strongest position in nearly two decades.

None of this would be possible without the leadership, vision and commitment from those in our community who believe in a world where science, technology, engineering, and math are for all – and for that we thank you. As we look ahead, we will build upon the successes of this year and move strategically forward with a bold vision that continues to improve the ways we serve our community.

On behalf of our board of directors, staff and volunteers, THANK YOU! To those who call the Science Center their home for one-of-a-kind learning opportunities, you are always welcome here. To those who recognize the spark of innovation created here, your support for our mission is invaluable.

We look forward to continuing to build the future with all of you.



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Chair, Board of Directors



Kirsten M. Ellenbogen, PhD
President & CEO

Board of Directors

Officers

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CDK Enterprises Investment Holdings

Katinka Domotorffy, *Vice Chair*
Independent Investment Management

Susan Flaherty, *Treasurer*
Ernst & Young

Adam Munson, *Secretary*
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.

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Joseph H. James Pison Stream Solutions	Diana Strongosky The Sherwin-Williams Co.
Howard L. Lewis Family Heritage Life (ret.)	Bud Thomas PricewaterhouseCoopers
Mike Lisman TransDigm Group	Lisa Ward STERIS Corporation

MISSION

Great Lakes Science Center's mission is to make science, technology, engineering and math come alive.

VISION

Our vision is a community where all people value science, technology, engineering and math to inform decision-making and enrich lives.

WELCOME OUR NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT



In March 2023, the Science Center welcomed Liz Conway as the new Vice President of Development, overseeing the museum's fundraising and donor initiatives. Conway brings more than 15 years of experience to the Science Center, working directly with community leaders in the arts and higher education sectors, most recently at the Tri-C Foundation. She is an alum of the Cleveland Bridge Builders Class of 2020 and The Cleveland Foundation's Foundations for Philanthropy. She earned her B.A. in American Studies from Fordham University and lives in Cleveland with her husband and two children, who think that their mom has the coolest job in the world.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Great Lakes Science Center had a strong fiscal year, confirming the organization has emerged from the pandemic and established stability despite declining government support nationally and regionally. The Science Center now has solid momentum, with Earned and Contributed Revenue exceeding pre-pandemic years. Admission revenue was the highest earned in almost ten years. Education programs, such as Camp Curiosity, are selling out. And strong new Contributed Revenue is supporting the development of future exhibitions. Increased expenses include staff raises and benefits, exhibit development, and increased supplies, primarily due to new program grants. Some increased expenses are due to inflation, but most changes are due to more services provided.

ASSETS

2023

Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,461,890
Accounts receivable	364,881
Grants receivable	38,045
Pledges receivable, net	1,197,099
Prepaid expenses and other assets	237,771
Marketable securities	5,081,331
Cash and cash equivalents restricted for purchase of property and equipment	1,731,649
Property and equipment, net	24,535,461
TOTAL ASSETS	\$34,648,127

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$539,777
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	64,742
Deferred membership revenue	396,935
Deferred revenue/refundable advances	370,954
Loans payable	150,181
Pension withdrawal liability	513,811
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,036,400

NET ASSETS

Without donor restrictions:

Undesignated	23,408,694
Board-designated	297,518
TOTAL NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	23,706,212

With donor restrictions

Total net assets	8,905,515
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	32,611,727

\$34,648,127

Platinum
Transparency
2023

Candid.

Charity
Navigator



FOUR-STAR



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total 2023
OPERATING REVENUES:			
Admissions	\$2,056,454	-	\$2,056,454
Memberships	798,280	-	798,280
Educational programs	580,200	-	580,200
Facility rentals	427,907	-	427,907
Contract income	1,026,250	-	1,026,250
Other	11,674	-	11,674
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	4,900,765	-	4,900,765
INVESTMENT RETURN DESIGNATED FOR OPERATIONS	283,691	-	283,691
CONTRIBUTION REVENUES:			
Individual contributions	246,939	-	246,939
Corporate and foundation contributions	862,232	443,663	1,305,895
Federal grants	-	-	-
Public funding	721,060	785,000	1,506,060
Fundraising events	165,725	65,000	230,725
Net assets released from program and time restrictions or released from capital - used for operations	743,805	(743,805)	-
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION REVENUES	2,739,761	549,858	
TOTAL REVENUES	7,924,217	549,858	8,474,075
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Program	5,802,303	-	5,802,303
Management and general	641,069	-	641,069
Fundraising	942,070	-	942,070
OPERATING EXPENSES BEFORE DEPRECIATION	7,385,442	-	7,385,442
Depreciation	(1,815,684)	-	(1,815,684)
Loss on write-off of property and equipment	(468)	-	(468)
Change in net assets from non-operating activities	1,625,139	538	1,625,677
Net assets – start of year	23,358,450	8,355,119	31,713,569
Change in net assets	347,762	550,396	898,158
NET ASSETS – END OF YEAR	23,706,212	8,905,515	32,611,727

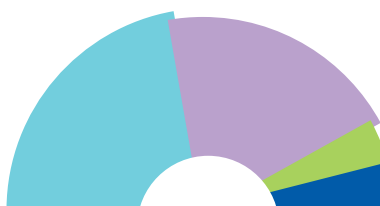
OPERATING REVENUES:

Admissions
Contract income
Memberships
Educational programs
Facility rentals
Other



CONTRIBUTION REVENUES:

Public Funding
Corporate and foundation contributions
Individual contributions
Fundraising Events



OPERATING EXPENSES:

Program
Fundraising
Management and general





CAMP CURIOSITY FY23



Summer &
winter break
camps

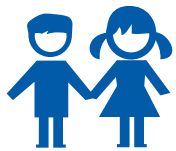


200
Camp scholarships
awarded



2,423
Camper
registrations

CLEVELAND CREATES/CREATING CONNECTIONS PROGRAMMING



3,495

Middle school
students served



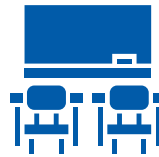
215

Teachers



33

CMSD schools



84

Percent of CMSD
middle-school
classrooms reached



ATTENDANCE BY THE NUMBERS



60,981

Students
visited as part of
a field trip

27,481

Visited for free
during Title I
field trips



134

ZIP codes
reached with
field trips



4,984

Students
served offsite



279,362

Total
attendance

96,498

Free
visitors

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AT GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER



MANUFACTURING DAY 2022 PRESENTED BY ROCKWELL AUTOMATION & SWAGELOK

Manufacturing Day provides a way for corporations to inspire the future STEM workforce by sharing their experience in manufacturing careers with hundreds of students through mentoring sessions, hands-on manufacturing demonstrations, and more. Corporate volunteers, educational partners, and school chaperones directly impact the next generation of STEM!

This year, nine Northeast Ohio STEM industry-leading organizations sponsored and were represented at the event. Over 200 volunteers from these organizations participated in various roles where they interacted with hundreds of students. In total, over 600 students from 17 local schools were in attendance. The student groups were exposed to manufacturing careers through company-hosted activities, career exploration tables, and a mentor lunch where they could learn from young STEM professionals. The Governor's office presented special recognition to the groups that made Manufacturing Day a huge success.



DESIGN & BUILD 2023 PRESENTED BY PARKER HANNIFIN

Great Lakes Science Center hosted our 12th annual Design & Build competition! Design



& Build allows corporations, schools, and families to build team spirit in a fun, creative environment. STEM professionals and students gathered into their teams, were

presented with a unique challenge, and given a box of materials to complete. Teams raced against the clock to see who would achieve the highest scores. Seven corporate teams and ten student teams competed. Students from Incarnate Word Academy and employees from Parker Hannifin took home the top prizes for their groupings!

ACCESS AND EQUITY

FREE DAYS



13,000

Guests visited



4

Unique free admission days

IMPACT BEYOND OUR WALLS



Take-home programs translated into Spanish



Partnered with libraries and recreation centers



Collaborated with MAGNET on a new public playground



GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER ROBOTICS INITIATIVE

Great Lakes Science Center Robotics Initiative is a collaboration with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) that provides high school students with the curriculum, mentorship and resources to participate in FIRST Robotics competitions (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science & Technology). Working directly with expert mentors and coaches, students in this team-based initiative work collaboratively to build and program innovative industrial robots. Robotics programming provides students with hands-on engineering, coding, and design experience while honing critical soft skills, such as communication, teamwork, and leadership.

More than 100 students from the four participating schools — MC2 STEM High School, Davis Aerospace & Maritime High School, John Marshall High School and East Technical High School — took part in FIRST competitions in 2023. All four teams competed in the Buckeye Regional and the Greater Pittsburgh Regional. At the Pittsburgh event, Team 8222 (The Argonauts) from Davis Aerospace, was awarded the Judges' Award for their "unique efforts, performance, or dynamics merit recognition yet do not fit into any of the existing award categories." The Argonauts also finished in 2nd place with their Alliance Partners at the Ohio State Championship in May and made it to the playoff round in the Buckeye Regional as well. *(continued on next page...)*

ROBOTICS INITIATIVE

(...continued from previous page)

This season the four teams also toured Carnegie Mellon University during their trip to Pittsburgh, and had the opportunity on a trip to Flint, Michigan, to tour a PPG site and visit Kettering University. Locally, the teams were able to visit the Sears think[box] at Case Western Reserve University.

When the students are not in competition season a group of them come together to collaborate on a very special "off-season" community service project, designing and manufacturing 3-D printed prosthetic hands for kids in need.

In October 2022, the robotics students provided two custom-designed mechanical hands for their first international patient — a 12-year-old girl in robotics student Daniela Moreno's native country of Ecuador named Samantha. The cross-continental connection was made via IMAHelps, a non-profit organization that runs private medical missions.

Using computer-aided design software, the students customize each prosthetic device. Then they fabricate the parts using several 3-D printers and materials they purchase through their own fundraising efforts. The students then assemble and test each device before they are delivered.

Based on feedback, the students were able to tweak their design and built an even better fitting prosthetic for Samantha, which was delivered to her in person in Ecuador by Robotics Initiative students Yariselle Andujar and Gabriel Leonard in July 2023. These two students, along with the Science Center's program lead JonDarr Bradshaw and their robotics coach from Davis High School, met up in Ecuador with a team of doctors and other volunteers from IMAHelps, for a humanitarian mission that saw the students fit Samantha and four other children in need with new prosthetic devices.





WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE SAYING

"Kids always find something interesting to do. Even coming regularly as a member. I love the connection to local companies."



*"It was fantastic.
I have been coming here since I was a kid,
and it is even better now.
I'm so glad I could share the experience with my nieces."*

*"We are in our 50s and just like to come up here to play.
We learn, too, while we play.
The membership here is one of the best things I ever did."*



5,901
Member
households



2,300
New
members



231
Members for 25
or more years



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



Discounts on summer
and winter camps
Discounts on events
and programs



Monthly
themed
activities



Some employers
will **match** to
increase your
membership level!



GREAT LAKES SCIENCE CENTER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Our volunteers go above and beyond. They bring a wide range of STEM expertise to facilitate guest experiences throughout our exhibitions. Our volunteers help us deliver outstanding programming every day. Their work makes a difference behind the scenes, working with our Exhibits team to redesign and repair some of our most complex interactives. With the number of hours our volunteers provide, their contribution makes them one of the largest donors to our organization.



 ***"I volunteer here to be able to give back to individuals who do not know a lot about science already. My background is in science, and I hope to teach them something they can take back home to family and friends."*** – Lou Roseman, Volunteer since 2015

"I have fun! I get to meet people from all over the world. I love seeing the look on a child's face when they learn something from what I am telling them." – Leonor Snowe, Volunteer since 2008

BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING



Free parking
in our attached
parking garage



10% discount at
The Science Store
and Spark Kitchen



Great Lakes
Science Center
volunteer T-shirt



CREATING NEXT GENERATION SPACES

TRANSDIGM GROUP LEARNING CENTER

The TransDigm Group Learning Center opened in a newly renovated area of the Science Center, thanks to the Cleveland-based aerospace manufacturing partner. The Learning Center is primarily used for student workshops for grades kindergarten through eighth, Camp Curiosity sessions, and high school FIRST Robotics students.



ROCKWELL AUTOMATION ROBOTICS ROOM

The Rockwell Automation Robotics Room is the workspace for the high school robotics teams sponsored through the Science Center's Robotics Initiative. The room is intended for robotics design, fabrication, and programming. It provides build space for each team and includes individual workstations, upgraded manufacturing equipment, and power tools. The generous investment in the robotics room by Rockwell is part of the company's larger vision to give back to students through its national giving relationship and investment strategy with FIRST.



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT



"Community partnerships are a great way for the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District to extend our voice throughout the region, and our work with Great Lakes Science Center helps us reach the curious minds of students of all ages. Whether it's camp activities or public programming, we are proud to share our clean water mission with the Science Center."

– Daniel Neelon – Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District



"I have been committed to facilitating educational opportunities for children for over 50 years. The JP Wenk Charitable Foundation was established to support programs that provide services and programs for children with limited resources that will enhance their ability to grow and succeed as they progress toward adulthood. My family and I know that STEM programs help children develop critical thinking skills and prepare them for future success. The Science Center has incredible programs that offer education in an enjoyable environment."

– Joan Wenk – The Joan P. Wenk Charitable Foundation



APOLLO COMMAND MODULE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Science Center celebrated the 50th anniversary of our Skylab 3 Apollo Command Module that returned to Earth on September 25, 1973. As the home of the NASA Glenn Visitor Center, we are lucky to feature one of only 15 Apollo modules on display throughout the country. The module has called the Science Center home since June 2010. During the celebration weekend, we were delighted to reunite the pilot, Col. Jack Lousma, with his vehicle 50 years after he climbed out of the module after it splashed down in the Pacific Ocean.

Throughout the summer, we celebrated the mission's anniversary with unique educational programs and activities, culminating in a NASA Glenn Visitor Center free museum admission day and gala tribute on September 23.

During the event program, current NASA astronaut Col. Doug Wheelock interviewed Col. Jack Lousma about his experiences on the mission and being able to come back to visit the command module on the 50th anniversary of the mission's conclusion.



THANK YOU TO THE 2023 SPLASHDOWN SPONSORS

OUT OF THIS WORLD SPONSOR:

Data Genomix

INTERSTELLAR SPONSOR:

Cleveland-Cliffs Inc. • The Lubrizol Corporation • Parker Hannifin Corporation
Swagelok Company • Timken Company

TABLE SPONSORS:

Bank of America • Cleveland Browns • Interlake Maritime Services
Steve and Debra Karklin Family • KeyBank • The Howard L. & Ruth Ann Lewis Foundation
The Lincoln Electric Company • PPG Industries • PwC • Zest Pediatric Network



"As a global manufacturer with deep ties to Northeast Ohio, Saint-Gobain has developed a rich and meaningful relationship with Great Lakes Science Center. Our connection to the science center is due largely to our shared values, vision for empowering the next generation of STEM students and workforce, and purpose of Making the World a Better Home. In addition to its impact on the local community, we've found these opportunities to be hugely popular with our employees, strengthening their bond with each other and reinforcing their impact."

– Colin Reynolds – Saint-Gobain



"In May 2023, the Science Center hosted MilliporeSigma's Curiosity Cube, a retrofitted shipping container that has been transformed into a mobile science lab. With curiosity at the foundation of both educational missions, the partnership was successful in bringing fun, hands-on learning to guests. One pair of siblings was so excited to see the event highlighted on the local news that they convinced their mom and grandma to join them in becoming the day's first visitors."

– Audra DeMariano – MilliporeSigma



DONOR RECOGNITION

CORPORATION AND FOUNDATION GIVING

\$2,000,000+

The Sherwin-Williams Company

\$250,000+

The Reinberger Foundation
TransDigm Group Inc.

\$100,000 - \$249,999

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture
Simons Foundation
Timken Company

\$50,000 - \$99,999

PNC Bank
Rockwell Automation
Argosy Foundation
The Nord Family Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Anonymous
David and Inez Myers Foundation of
the Jewish Federation
Martha Holden Jennings Foundation
Medical Mutual
Northeast Ohio Regional
Sewer District
Parker Hannifin Corporation
PPG Industries
The Bruening Foundation
The Cleveland-Cliffs Foundation
Thomas F. Peterson Charitable Trust

\$15,000 - \$24,999

Columbia Gas of Ohio
Corinne L. Dodero Foundation for the
Arts & Sciences
Eaton
MilliporeSigma
Ohio Lottery Commission
Swagelok Company
The Joan P. Wenk Charitable Fund
The Lincoln Electric Company
The Sam J. Frankino Foundation
The Thomas H. White Foundation,
a KeyBank Trust

\$5,000 - \$14,999

ABARTA Coca-Cola Beverages, LLC
Anonymous (3)
AT&T
Bank of America
BWX Technologies, Inc
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.
Connor Foundation
Dorn Family Foundation
Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel
Foundation

Lakeside Foundation
M.E. & F.J. Callahan Foundation
Nordson Corporation
nVent Foundation
Olympic Steel, Inc.
O'Neill Brothers Foundation
S. Livingston Mather Charitable Trust
Saint-Gobain North America
Synthomer Foundation
Target Corporation
The Abington Foundation
The Chaffee Family Foundation
The Cleveland Foundation
The George W. Codrington
Charitable Foundation
The Hankins Foundation
The Harry K. Fox and Emma R. Fox
Charitable Foundation
The Kaulig Foundation
The Labcorp Charitable Foundation
The Lubrizol Corporation
The Murch Foundation
The Nancy Andrews Family Foundation
The Pentair Foundation
The Sisler McFawn Foundation

\$1,000 - \$4,999

ABM Parking Services
Anonymous
Ciuni & Panichi, Inc.
Clearstead
Cleveland Browns Football
Company LLC
Discount Drug Mart
Dominion Energy Charitable
Foundation
Event Network
Interlake Maritime Services
KeyBank
MacGillivray Freeman Films
Educational Foundation
Moen Inc.
NACCO Industries, Inc.
Nesco Inc.
PwC
Republic Services
RPM International Inc.
The Bonne Bell Family Foundation
The Giant Eagle Foundation
The Gries Family Foundation
The Helen F. Stoller and
Louis Stoller Family Foundation
The Laub Foundation
The Lerner Foundation
The S.K. Wellman Foundation
ZIN Technologies

INDIVIDUAL GIVING

\$10,000+

Carol Ann Barnak
Daniel J. Connor
Bob and Mia Graf
Michael J. Lisman
Gary and Rosanne Oatey
Linda Rae and Andrew Hertz
Douglas and Stefanie Smith
Katinka Domotorffy and Ben Sprenger
Bud and Donna Thomas
Lisa Ward

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Mark W. Barker
Jeanette G. Brown
Susan and Patrick Flaherty
Steven A. Karklin
Howard L & Ruth Ann Lewis Foundation
Raymond K. Mueller
Michael F. Ripich
Diana and Steve Strongosky
Frank and Natalie Wardega

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Jean Angus
Stan C. Ball
Mitchell G. Blair
Aaron T. Bores
Jennifer A. Carpenter
Ryan and Charlotte Conlon
Rosanne Druian
Shawn M. Horner
Joseph James
Sumita Khatri
Ben Mackovak
Brian McDonald
Christopher M. Miklich
Adam D. Munson
David Mustin
Jack and Marsha Myslenski
Thomas P'Simer
Stephen E. Wall

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Shelly M. Chadwick
Robert & Eleanor Dreshfield
Becky Dunn
Theodore R. Evans
Barry Feldman
Kenneth Gavrity
Walter and Jean Kalberer
Gilbert and Carol Lowenthal
Jennifer Mathewson
Tom and Paulette Matthews
Ken Morgan
Badri K. Narayanan
David Reynolds

Sally Z. Sears
Bill and Nancy Seelbach
Laurence A. Sivic
Kim Snipes
Judith Solganik
Bill and Pam Summers
Kenneth E. Taylor
In Memory of Lisa Woodcock

\$500 - \$999

Emily Detwiler
Justin Mistovich
Sheena Monetti
Michael Reeves
Edward L. Ruch
Tim and Laurie Runyan
Meredith M. Seikel

\$250 - \$499

Michelle and Frederic Ahlgren
Garrett Basch
Peter Buca
Liz Conway
Margot James Copeland
Kirsten and Charles Ellenbogen
Jeremiah Guappone
Cliff Karklin
Christopher Keller
Michael B. Klein
Cathy Anne Lincoln
Meghan Lynch-Ljubi
Kenneth E. Love
Daniel K. Luciano
Bert W. Moyer
Brandon Nowac
William A. Papenbrock
Bryan Smith
Mary Wadel
Thomas M. Wladyka

\$100 - \$249

Ann Marie Hawkins
Lauren Hawkins
Valerie A. Hughes
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ingersoll
Bill and Kimberly Kolens
Robert and Brenda Kunkel
K.J. Van Linge
Robert & Susan Livingston -
In Memory of
Captain Harry Anderson
Richard Lorentz
Matt McCue
Kristen Parker
George J. Picha
Barbara Robinson
Herbert Schilling

Dorie A. Schultz
Nirav Shah
Brian L. Spatz
Joseph H. & Ellen B. Thomas
Michelle Vassallo
Jearl D. Walker
James W. Wood



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DONATION**
Help us provide
STEM for all



BECOME A MEMBER
Individual, family,
and corporate
memberships are
available



BE A VOLUNTEER
Your time is
a precious gift



Scan here or visit
**GreatScience.com/
get-involved**
to learn more!

TOTAL ECLIPSE FEST 2024

Make your plans now for Cleveland's can't miss event of 2024, the Total Eclipse Fest, April 6-8. Great Lakes Science Center and NASA Glenn Research Center are thrilled to bring this free outdoor, family-friendly science and arts festival to the prime Cleveland destination for viewing the eclipse. This event brings Northeast Ohio's STEM corporations and community organizations together to celebrate STEM for all. As the NASA Glenn Visitor Center, the Science Center is excited to host NASA TV's live broadcast and to welcome scientists, engineers, and educators by providing engaging activities. You won't want to miss The Cleveland Orchestra performing a free Out of this World concert. Music and dance performances will run throughout the weekend, with engaging arts and culture experiences for eclipse viewers of all ages.



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A total solar eclipse hasn't been seen in the skies over Cleveland for more than 200 years, so don't be left in the dark! Scan the QR code to learn more about Total Eclipse Fest 2024 and find out how you can get involved.