

A large, multi-masted sailing ship with white sails is shown on the ocean. The ship has a dark hull with yellow and red stripes. The background is a blue sky with light clouds.

CITY *by the* **SEA**
M U S E U M

PALACIOS - TEXAS

2022
Annual Report

361.972.1148

401 Commerce Street

Palacios, TX, 77465



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission, Vision, Purpose, & Valuesp.3

Our Staff.....p.4

Our 2022 Board of Trustees.....p.5

Youth Educational Programsp.6

Adult Education Programsp.10

Exhibitionsp.11

Impactsp.12

Our 2022 Donorsp.13

Our Lifetime Members.....p.14

MISSION

The mission of City by the Sea Museum is to enrich the community through education, preservation, and exploration of the region's cultural and natural histories.

VISION

Our vision is to provide a place for all people to learn, to be inspired, to become stewards and storytellers, and to ensure the legacy of our area continues to grow and prosper.

PURPOSE

We exist to

- be a catalyst for community engagement.
- share the local cultural and natural histories.
- showcase the arts in a variety of engaging ways.
- nurture the exploration of the area's natural history.
- experience & learn from the region's diverse cultures.
- preserve the past, record the present, and provide perspective for a full and bright future.

VALUES

- Community
- Preservation
- Quality educational programming for all ages
- Stewardship of our bay and its systems
- Collaboration





ESMERALDA SALINAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Esmeralda has worked for over 8 years in museums and galleries throughout the Houston area, most notably at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. She holds a BA in Art History graduating with Honors from the University of Houston Main Campus and was awarded the Provost Undergraduate Research Scholarship which allowed her to undertake research on objects at The Oriental Institute of Chicago tying examples of Iranian art and their interpretations in film and modern art. She earned her joint MA in Art History and Museum Studies degrees at the University of Essex in Colchester, England achieving the honor of Merit. Her research focused on collective memory of public trauma in Chile and its expression through art and film. She has written several published papers on art and collective memory as well as given presentations at conferences on the subject. In addition to her career in the museum and gallery field, she also taught as a secondary English teacher for five years. Esmeralda has worked collaboratively with artist groups, curators, galleries, and non-profit organizations since 2012. She now weaves her knowledge of museum studies, development, curating, research, writing, marketing, innovative thinking, and teaching to her position as Executive Director.



KATIE HUTTO, CURATOR

Katie Hutto is a native of Matagorda County and holds a B.A. in History from Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU) in Nacogdoches, Texas and has also taken graduate courses in Public History at SFA. While attending SFA, she interned at the Danish Heritage Museum of Danevang for two summers, in which she obtained experience in collections management. She is a Certified Interpretive Host from the National Association for Interpretation. Katie serves as the Marker Chairperson for the Matagorda County Historical Commission. She volunteered at City by the Sea Museum and the Matagorda County Museum and Archives, before she was hired as the Museum Coordinator at City by the Sea Museum in 2019. Katie attended Leadership Matagorda in 2019-2020. She now serves as the Curator of Collections at City by the Sea Museum and is currently pursuing her MA in Public History.



KAYLA CLARK, FAMILY PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

Kayla Clark is a naturalist and an environmental educator who previously taught at the Alabama 4-H Science School, the New York Aquarium, and the University of Georgia Marine Education Center and Aquarium. She has a B.A. in Sociology from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, and an M.A. in biology from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Since 2017, she has been organizing educational events for adults and families as the public programs coordinator for Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant. She uses art, scientific inquiry, storytelling, history, and games to connect learners of all ages with nature in their local places. Kayla has assisted with field research that enriches her science teaching, including surveys of gray whales, conch, lionfish, soft corals, shorebirds, seagrass, black gill in shrimp, marine debris, and phytoplankton. She recently moved to Palacios, Texas where she is excited to learn from her new neighbors. Kayla looks forward to engaging children in celebrating the ecosystem they are a part of during family programming events at the City by the Sea Museum.

Our 2022 Board



LINDA MONCRIEF, PRESIDENT
JUDY BUSCANYI, VICE PRESIDENT
DARLENE TRESSELT, SECRETARY
RICK JENKINS
VIKIJANE MOSIER
MARK MOTE
LOUISE ODOGWU
MARKUS SANDY
NICOLE PILSON-MACIAS
SUSAN SUMMERS

Educational Programs

The unique curriculum developed for our educational programming explores the cultural and natural histories of our region through interactive STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) and TEKS-aligned (Texas Essentials Skills and Knowledge) learning opportunities for all age groups. These experience based activities happen on-site at our museum and out in the environments we teach about utilizing the natural resources in our own backyard.

The curriculum and activities are developed in-house by our Family Programs Director who specializes in environmental education and does a wonderful job of weaving history into her lessons.

PELICAN PLAYTIME

Pelican Playtime, a free program for all community members and visitors, is designed for toddlers and their caregivers. Participants listen to stories, move, create, and play in the museum, encouraging a *renewed* understanding of what it means to be a museum.



763
participants in our
family programming

403
children served in
family programs in 2022

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Our free family programs aim to support all students in Matagorda County through a combination of arts, history, and environmental education. Each of our monthly programs are developed in-house by our Family Programs Director. Because these programs are free, cost is never a barrier to participate for any family!



70.5%
Percentage of economically
disadvantaged children in
Matagorda County that we
aim to serve.

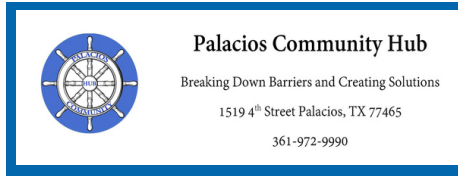


Educational Programs

PARTNERSHIPS

We partner with various local institutions and non-profits including the Palacios Library, the Palacios Community Hub, the Boys & Girls Club, and the Sanford Community Center. We also partner with other institutions including Texas Sea Grant, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, The Texas Zoo, MARSH, TPWD - Coastal Fisheries, Palacios Marine Agriculture Research, Mataogorda Bay Foundation, and The Texas Floating Classroom. Many of these entities are heavily involved in our spring and summer camps.

12
Community
Partners



Educational Programs

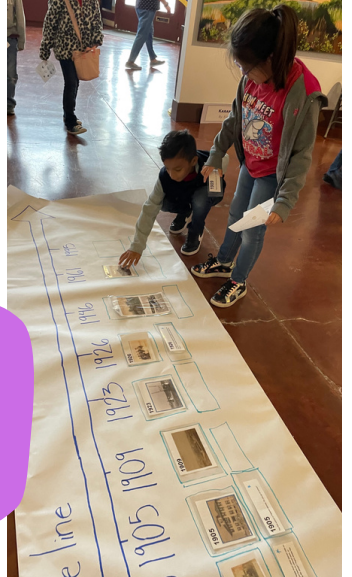
K-12 OUTREACH & TOURS

Through partnerships with area schools, the museum provides in-classroom outreach programs for history and science classes for all grade levels, but especially K-8. Additionally, we partner with the Boys & Girls Club and Palacios Community Hub to bring programs to their audiences at their locations free of charge.



584
students served through
outreach programs & on-site tours

259
PK - 5th
graders served



325
9th - 12th
graders served

Educational Programs

SPRING BREAK AND SUMMER CAMPS

Our Spring Break and Summer Camps encompass science, technology, art, natural history, engineering, literacy, and math! Children from PK - 12th grade can learn about our coastal habitats, the animals that share our bay, stewardship, careers in science, and even have opportunities to participate in real science activities alongside researchers and scientists in local offices and research centers.



Kids in the field!

60%
Students on scholarship!
We're committed to making
sure every child can participate
in our programs!



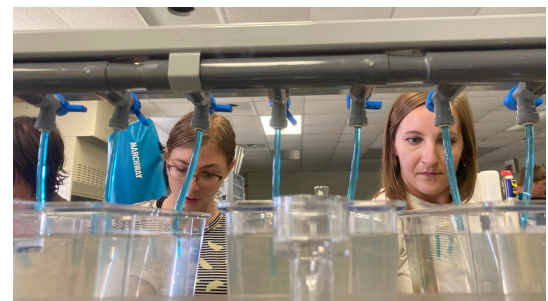
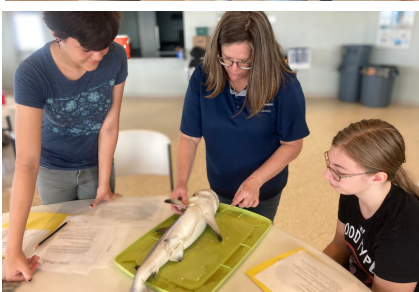
NOTABLE COMMENTS

"This was an amazing experience that my daughter cannot stop talking about! This has inspired what is now a future profession my child wants to pursue. Thank you!!!"

"We really enjoyed it! Would come again!"

"Thank y'all very much for putting on a very exciting and informative camp. Our son loved it and couldn't wait to tell us what he learned each day and show us what he drew in his journal from class."

All the staff and volunteers did a fantastic job! I am continually impressed with the uniqueness, professionalism, and creativity that City by the Sea Museum shares with high quality curriculum/information.



Adult Education Programs

GUY AND COLLEEN CLAYBOURN SYMPOSIUM SERIES

The lecture series is centered on the culture and natural history of our area. Our guest experts, speakers, and presenters come from not only Palacios, but around the state.



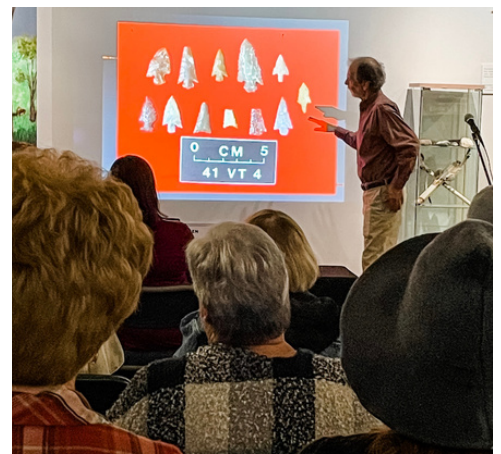
10

Public Adult Programs
in 2022



242

Participants in our
adult programming
events



EXPANDING ADULT PROGRAMS IN 2023

We are expanding our offerings to include a number of immersive nature therapy walks in Spring 2023, an art in nature series, and hands-on learning opportunities that mirror some of the activities our students do in summer camp including working alongside PMAR researchers.

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS & ART EXHIBITIONS

The museum hosts traveling exhibitions throughout the year which bring in local audiences as well as tourists. Coming this year we will be highlighting Matagorda County artists and art inspired by our coastal environment. In January 2023, we open our exhibition titled "Gaddis Geeslin + Gene Smith Geeslin: Scenes of Houston and Rural Texas." In April, we will be unveiling our newest painting acquisition by exhibiting works by Forrest Bess. In November, we highlight local artist Zeinab Ghais.



"If This Building Could Talk:
The Emmons-Cairns Building"

2023 Exhibition Calendar

January 20 - March 11

Gaddis Geeslin + Gene Smith Geeslin: Scenes of Houston and Rural Texas

February 1 - 28

Harmonie Club Valentine's Exhibit

March 17

Natural History Exhibit opens (permanent exhibit)

March 21 - April 1

Matagorda Bay Birdfest Kids Art Exhibition

April 20 - June 24

"Coming Home: Paintings by Forrest Bess"

July 20 - September 9

"Shifting Shorelines: The Construction and Impact of the Palacios Seawall"

November 2 - December 9

"Paintings by Zeinab Ghais"

317

Visitors during the month of July for Emmons-Cairns and Dog Days



"Dog Days of Matagorda County"



200

Visitors for the "Lonesome Dove" exhibition

"Lonesome Dove" Photography Exhibition

SPRING BREAK & SUMMER CAMPS

Students came from Palacios ISD, Tidehaven ISD, Bay City ISD, and Calhoun ISD; other students were visiting from out of the area as well.

50%

children on scholarships

5

school districts served,
3 outside of Matagorda County

VISITOR NUMBERS

Total visitors for 2022

Adults: 1766

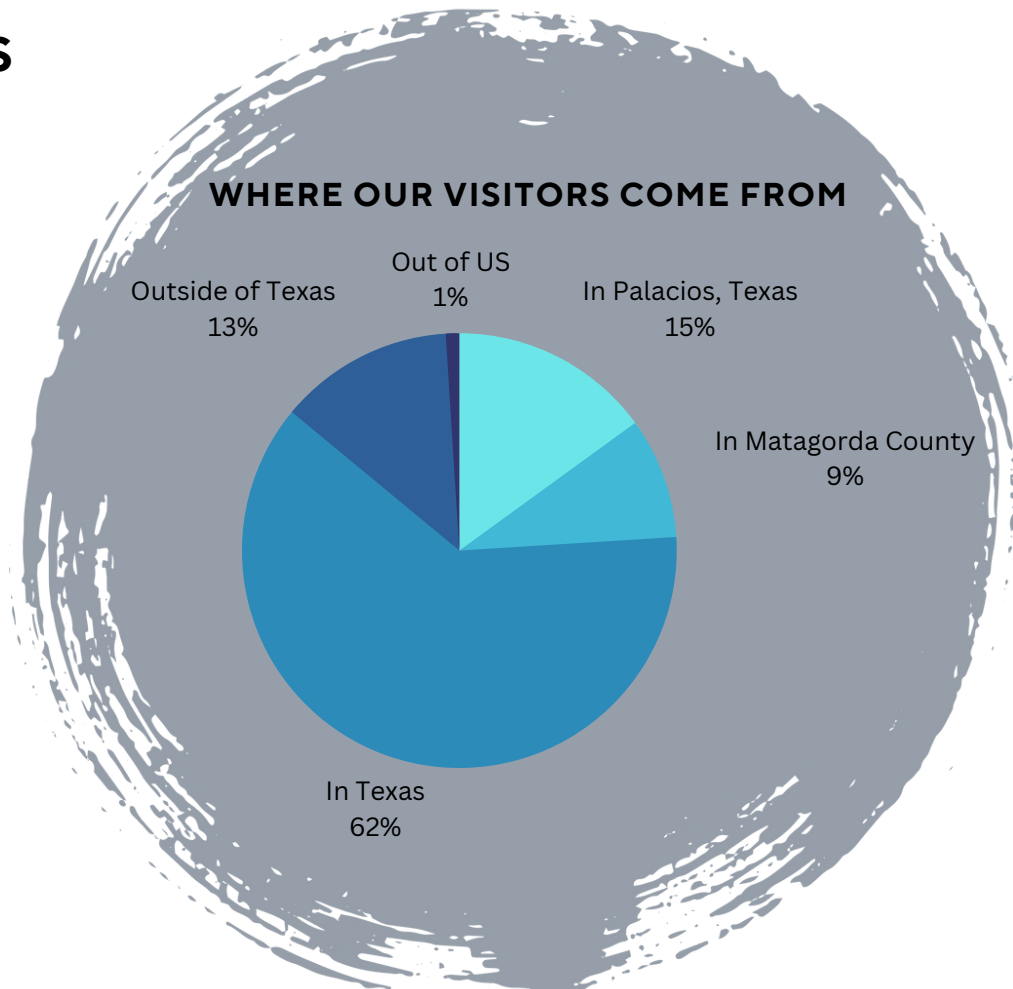
Children: 703

Total for 2022: 2469

70%

increase in visitors
from 2021

WHERE OUR VISITORS COME FROM



Our 2022 Donors

Kami Buri
Brian Byrd
Diane Cartwright
Tim Cherry
City of Palacios
David & Sindy Durham Donor
 Advised Fund at the
Community Foundation of
Abilene
Ed Rachal Foundation
FORMOSA
Cynthia and Robert Garrett
Zeinab Ghais
Janice Hawthorne, District Clerk
Rick Jenkins
Lynn Development
Matagorda County
 Commissioner's Court

Linda Moncrief
Navigation District #1
Louise Odogwu
Palacios Cotton Gin
Palacios Economic Development
 Committee
The Peaceful Pelican
Mike Reagan
Brian Rider
Donna and Roger Soape
Charlie and Darlene Tresselt
The Trull Foundation
Jeff Urbanofsky
Irvin Welch
Stephanie Wurtz, County Clerk

Lifetime Members

Susie Benes

Lynda Bible

Robert Christianson

Guy and Colleen Claybourn

Wayne and Cheryl Dodd

David and Cindy Durham

Dan and L. Kay Eldredge

Commercial State Bank

Cynthia Garrett

Bill Gay

Harold Groesbeck

Joyce Harvey

Leonard Lamar

Shirley Linville

The Luther Hotel

Linda Moncrief

Robert and Hazel Montgomery

Pat and Sarah Olfers

Palacios Area Fund

Ted and Martha Riccio

Mark Rusk

Mary Sheeran

Johnny Tran

John E. Toellner

Scott and Christine Trull

Steven and Margie Wier

Nick and Mary West



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MUSEUM
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