



ANNUAL REPORT

FY2016



AFFILIATED WITH



Cornell University

PRI: WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1932, the Paleontological Research Institution (PRI) pursues and integrates education and research, and interprets the history and systems of the Earth and its life. Our aim is to increase knowledge, educate society, and encourage wise stewardship of the Earth. PRI has two campuses and one large plot of forest property north of Ithaca, NY.



Palmer Hall

Named in honor of Katherine Palmer (Director, 1952-1978), Palmer Hall is the Institution's main building, housing PRI's collections, laboratories, library, and offices.



Museum of the Earth

Opened in 2003, the Museum of the Earth is home to temporary and permanent exhibitions that teach visitors about the history of life on Earth.



Cayuga Nature Center

The Cayuga Nature Center merged with PRI in 2013. The Nature Center's education programs and exhibitions focus on the natural history of the Cayuga Lake basin, and are conducted in the Lodge and on the 120 acres of woodlands and fields on-site.



Smith Woods

Located in Trumansburg, NY, Smith Woods is the largest plot of old-growth forest in central New York. More than 32 acres large, Smith Woods serves as a research and education resource for elementary through graduate students.

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FRONT COVER BACKGROUND IMAGE: Blue sky at the Cayuga Nature Center.

BACKGROUND IMAGE: Devonian *Phacops* trilobite specimen from PRI's collections.

"SERVICE IS WHAT LIFE IS ALL ABOUT."

Marian Wright Edelman

Marian Wright Edelman



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Warren D. Allmon".

Warren D. Allmon, Ph.D.
Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jim Fogel".

James E. Fogel, MD
President

DIRECTOR'S AND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PRI SERVES...

The Paleontological Research Institution was founded more than 84 years ago to serve a greater purpose: to preserve collections of scientifically valuable fossil specimens that might otherwise be lost, and to publish scientific research in paleontology and the related fields of biology and geology. For decades, these collections and published research findings contributed to increased understanding of the history of the Earth and its life.

Today, PRI remains well known around the world for continuing to provide these services to scores of paleontologists every year. But over the last quarter century, the Institution has dramatically expanded its audience and what it offers them. PRI now serves hundreds of K-12 Earth science teachers across the country with professional development materials and programs, such as the seven-volume, online and print series of *Teacher-Friendly Guides* to the Earth science of the United States, which we completed over the past year.

PRI serves thousands of K-12 students in central New York through off-site classroom programs, as well as visits to programs at our two public venues. It serves tens of thousands of residents and visitors in Ithaca, Tompkins County, and central New York with exhibitions, programs, experiences, and publications in Earth, life, and environmental science that enlighten, inspire, and stimulate. Over the past year, for example, PRI brought truckloads of priceless dioramas and models from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History to Ithaca as new permanent additions to the exhibitions at the Museum of the Earth. We also expanded our live animal collections at the Cayuga Nature Center to teach visitors about evolution.

PRI increasingly serves Cornell University as a center for teaching and research in Earth, life, and environmental science and science education. We teach paleontology, evolution, and Earth science to Cornell students at both graduate and undergraduate levels, and provide unique opportunities for individual research. PRI staff and affiliated Cornell students pursue original research in diverse fields, from describing the biodiversity of marine life over millions of years and exploring patterns and mechanisms of long-term evolutionary change, to deriving guidelines for environmental and species conservation from the fossil record. This research serves not just scientists, but society as a whole, which must become more informed about how the Earth's life developed if we are to do all we can to preserve it for future generations.

BACKGROUND IMAGE: Smith Woods, a 32-acre old-growth forest in Trumansburg, NY, is owned and maintained by PRI.

PRI SERVES: 2015-2016 AT A GLANCE

121

years of *Bulletins of
American Paleontology*

522

hits per month to our
collections database

30,000+

specimens digitized and
uploaded to new Specify
database



45

participants share research
and ideas at 9th Annual
Summer Symposium

70

educators served during
Teacher Resource Day 2015



BACKGROUND IMAGE: Trilobite fossils on permanent display at the Museum of the Earth.



30TH
year of Summer Camp at
the Cayuga Nature Center

32
acres used as teaching
resource at Smith Woods

150
youth members of Young
Naturalist Access Program
(YNAP)

8,000
square feet of exhibitions
installed, both temporary
and permanent

10,301
hours contributed by
volunteers and interns



1,536
participants took part in
TEAM Challenge

4,560
participants in
Cayuga Nature Center
programming



RESEARCH

Since PRI's founding in 1932, research has been a fundamental aspect of our history and identity. Research at PRI contributes to various disciplines regionally and internationally, and strengthens our public programs, exhibitions, and service as a community resource.

SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

The Ninth Annual PRI Summer Symposium was held in the Museum in August 2015, with more than 45 people in attendance. First held in 2007 as part of PRI's 75th birthday celebration, this event has become popular for a variety of people, including faculty, students, amateurs, and artists, to present their work in an informal atmosphere. This year's keynote speaker was Mark Uhen, professor at George Mason University and an expert in whale evolution. On Sunday, former PRI Trustee Carl Brett led a field trip that focused on Devonian rocks.

RESEARCH AWARDS

Since 1993, PRI has presented several annual awards to recognize and encourage excellence in paleontology. We congratulate this year's award winners:

Gilbert Harris Award: Dr. David Grimaldi, American Museum of Natural History

John W. Wells Grant-in-Aid of Research Award: Lyndsey Farrar, student at SUNY Oneonta

J. Thomas Dutro Student Award: Sarah Sheffield, graduate student at University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Complete citations for PRI awards can be found online at www.priweb.org/research.

RESEARCH FACILITIES

PRI offers four research labs to our own and visiting scientists and students, each providing unique research capabilities.

BioLab

A "clean lab" for microscope work, this lab is used for dissection, microfossil processing, scanning electron microscopy, and histology. This lab is also home to PRI's new amino acid racemization (AAR) dating equipment.

PaleoLab

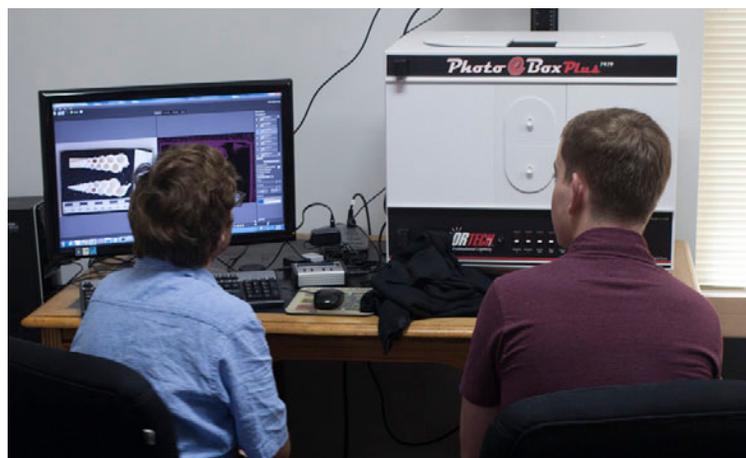
A "dirty lab" used for processing field collections, this lab is used for rough specimen cleaning and preparation.

WetLab

An aquatic room for maintaining living aquatic animals and plants, this lab allows researchers to care for live specimens.

PrepLab

A research space and public exhibition at the Museum of the Earth, this lab is used by staff, graduate students, and volunteers to conduct fine specimen preparation. Viewing windows allow Museum visitors to observe and interact with specimen preparers.



PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): PRI Director Warren Allmon and Dr. David Grimaldi at Gilbert Harris Award Ceremony; Gregory Dietl and Cornell University Ph.D. student Stephen Durham collect oyster samples in Louisiana; Cornell University Ph.D. student Brendan Anderson and intern Keith Borrino photographing specimens; a researcher dissolving a shell sample for AAR analysis.

RESEARCH SERVES: AAR Revolutionizes Dating Methods

Brought to PRI in the summer of 2014 through the assistance of Dr. John Wehmiller, a prominent expert on amino acid racemization (AAR) dating and a PRI Research Associate, AAR offers PRI students and professional scientists a unique resource. PRI's lab is the only AAR dating facility on the east coast of North America, and the only lab in the world conducting gas chromatography AAR. PRI is a leader in the emerging field of conservation paleobiology, which involves applying paleontological data and techniques to the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services. This work frequently requires dating technologies, and the new AAR equipment gives PRI the ability to further pursue research and student training. Learn more at www.priweb.org/research.php.

RESEARCH STAFF

Warren D. Allmon, Ph.D. - PRI Director, Hunter R. Rawlings III Professor of Paleontology, Cornell University

Gregory Dietl, Ph.D. - Director of Collections, Curator of Cenozoic Invertebrates, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Cornell University

Don Duggan-Haas, Ph.D. - Education Research Associate.

Paula Mikkelsen, Ph.D. - Retired Associate Director for Science and Director of Publications, Adjunct Associate Professor, Cornell University

Carlie Pietsich, Ph.D. - Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Robert Ross, Ph.D. - Associate Director for Outreach, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Cornell University and Ithaca College

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Brendan Anderson, Ph.D. Student, Cornell University, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Advisor: Warren Allmon

Stephen Durham, Ph.D. Student, Cornell University, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Advisor: Gregory Dietl

Dana Friend, Ph.D. Student, Cornell University, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Advisor: Warren Allmon

Jansen Smith, Ph.D. Student, Cornell University, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Advisor: Gregory Dietl

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Marla L. Coppolino: Groton, NY

Dr. John C. Handley: Webster, NY

Dr. Jonathan Hendricks: San Jose, CA

William F. Klose II: Carbondale, PA

Dr. Veronica Padovani: Modena, Italy

Dr. Rebecca Rundell: Syracuse, NY

Dr. Robin Hadlock Seeley: Ithaca, NY

Dr. John Wehmiller: Wilmington, DE

Dr. Richard Waite: MuttENZ, Switzerland



PICTURED ABOVE: Cornell/PRI Ph.D. student Stephen Durham examines a fossilized oyster from the Pleistocene in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

RESEARCH SERVES: National Park Service Features PRI Pleistocene Research

In June 2016, PRI's research in the Pleistocene epoch was highlighted as the National Park Service's Pleistocene Life and Landscapes Feature. The published article "Journey in the Pleistocene: From Mastodons to Mollusks" was written by Maureen Bickley, Warren Allmon, Gregory Dietl, and Stephen Durham. The article discussed PRI's research collections, which are used in studies on biodiversity, adaptation, macroevolution, climate change, and conservation. PRI's pioneering research in the field of conservation paleobiology, specifically in the use of Pleistocene fossils in conservation efforts of modern-day oysters, is also discussed. The full article is available at www.nature.nps.gov/geology/nationalfossilday/2016_pri.cfm.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

(Peer-Reviewed Papers by Staff, Students, and Research Associates from July 1st, 2015 to June 30th, 2016)

Allmon, W.D. 2015. Darwin and paleontology: A re-evaluation of his interpretation of the fossil record. *Historical Biology*. doi.org/10.1080/08912963.2015.1011397

Casey, M.M., U.C. Farrell, **G.P. Dietl**, and D.J. Veilleux. 2015. Mixed assemblages of drilling predators and the problem of identity in the fossil record: A case study using the muricid gastropod *Ecphora*. *Paleobiology*, 41(4):680-696.

Dietl, G.P., 2016. Different worlds. *Nature*, 529: 29-30.

Dietl, G.P., 2016. Brave new world of conservation paleobiology. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 4, art. 21, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2016.00021>

Durham, S.R., and **G.P. Dietl**, 2015. Perspectives on geohistorical data among oyster restoration professionals in the United States. *Journal of Shellfish Research*, 34(2):227-239

Goldfisher, D., B. Crawford, D. Capps, and **R.M. Ross**, 2015. Fossils, inquiry, and the English language learner. *Science Scope*, Summer 2015: 78-82.

Healy, J.M., **P.M. Mikkelsen**, and R. Bieler. 2015. Sperm ultrastructure in honeycomb (foam) oysters (Bivalvia, Gryphaeidae, Pycnodontinae): comparison with other Ostreoida and taxonomic implications. *Invertebrate Biology*, 134(2): 136-150, doi 10.1111/ivb.12086.

Healy, J.M., **P.M. Mikkelsen**, and R. Bieler, 2015. Spermatogenic ultrastructure in the anomalodesmatan bivalve *Myochama anomioides* (Mollusca: Myochamidae) – does the nucleus help position the ‘temporary’ acrosome? *Acta Zoologica*, 96: 487–496.

Herrera, N.D., J.J. ter Poorten, R. Bieler, **P.M. Mikkelsen**, E.E. Strong, D. Jablonski, and S.J. Stepan, 2015. Molecular phylogenetics and historical biogeography amid shifting continents in the cockles and giant clams (Bivalvia: Cardiidae). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 93: 94-106.

Kosloski, M.E., and **W.D. Allmon**, 2015. Macroecology and evolution of a crab “super predator”, *Menippe mercenaria* (Xanthidae), and its gastropod prey. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 116: 571–581.

Muscente, A.D., **W.D. Allmon**, and S. Xiao, 2016. The record of hydroids and analytical techniques for assessing the veracity of putative hydrozoan and possible hemichordate fossils. *Palaeontology*, 59(1): 71-87.

Pietsch, C., E. Petsios, and D.J. Bottjer, 2016. Sudden and extreme hyperthermals, low-oxygen, and sediment influx drove community phase shifts following the end-Permian mass extinction. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology* 451, 183–196. doi:10.1016/j.palaeo.2016.02.056

Rojas, A., A. Hendy, and **G.P. Dietl**, 2015. Edge-drilling behavior in the predatory gastropod *Notocochlis unifasciata* (Lamarck, 1822) (Caenogastropoda, Naticidae) from the Pacific coast of Panama: taxonomic and biogeographical implications. *Vita Malacologica*. 13: 63-72.

Sagarin, R., D. Blumstein, and **G.P. Dietl**, 2016. Security, evolution and. In R. Kliman, ed., *Encyclopedia of evolutionary biology*, vol. 4, Elsevier, pp. 10-15.

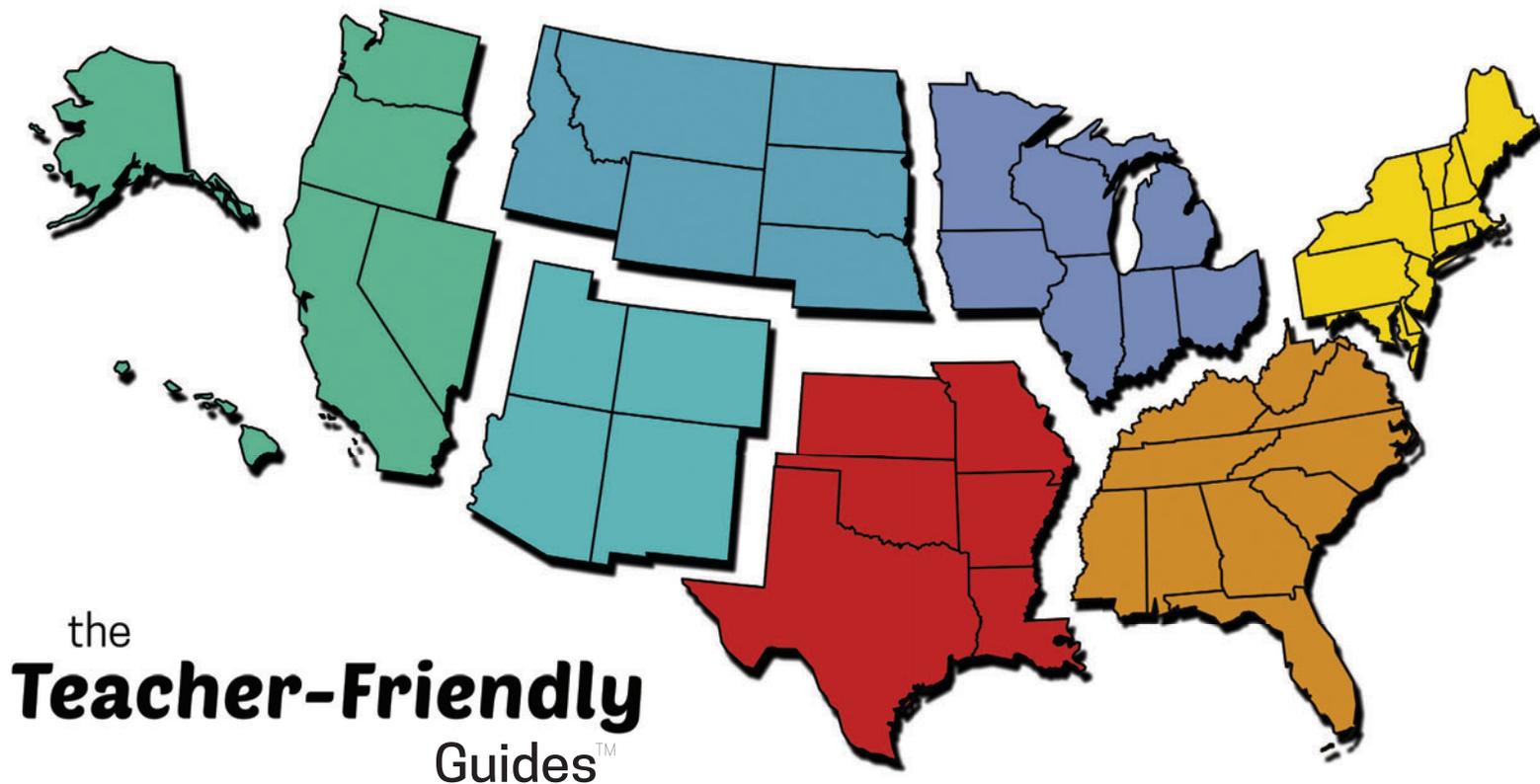
Simone, L.R.L., **P.M. Mikkelsen**, and R. Bieler. 2015. Comparative anatomy of selected marine bivalves from the Florida Keys, with notes on Brazilian congeners (Mollusca: Bivalvia). *Malacologia*, 58: 1-127.

Smith, J.A., and **G.P. Dietl**, 2016. The value of geohistorical data in identifying a recent human-induced range expansion of a predatory gastropod in the Colorado River delta, Mexico. *Journal of Biogeography*, 43, 791–800.

Smith, E.L., J. Heinze-Fry, E. Horwitz, and **D. Duggan-Haas**, 2015. Verne Rockcastle: Life-long inquirer, teacher and innovator. In *Going back to our future II: Carrying forward the spirit of pioneers of science education*. J. Pederson and K. Finson, eds., Information Age Publishing, Charlotte, NC, pp. 180-196.

Please visit www.priweb.org/publications for a complete list of peer-reviewed papers, articles, and papers and posters presented at professional meetings.

BACKGROUND IMAGE: Snail shells displayed at Teacher Resource Day (see page 18 for more information).



the
Teacher-Friendly
 Guides™

PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): Map image showing the seven regions covered in the *Teacher-Friendly Guides to Earth Science of the United States*; the cover of *The Science Beneath the Surface*; the cover of the most recent issue of *Bulletins of American Paleontology*.



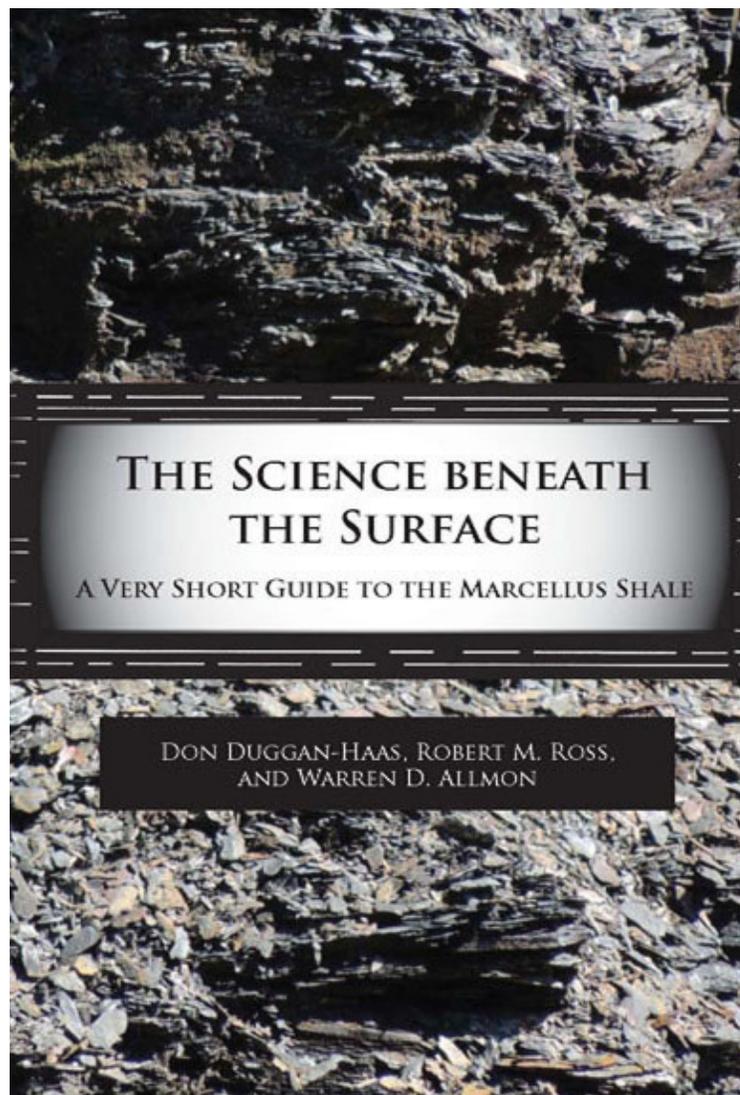
**Systematics of the
 Gastropods of the Lower–
 Middle Miocene Cantaure
 Formation, Paraguaná
 Formation, Paraguaná
 Peninsula, Venezuela**

Bernard M. Landau, Carlos Marques da
 Silva, and Antoine Heitz

with the cooperation of
 Arie W. Jansen

Bulletins of American Paleontology

Number 389–390, August 2016



PUBLICATIONS

PRI's publications program includes our technical journal, *Bulletins of American Paleontology*, now in its 121st year as the oldest paleontological journal in the Americas, and a variety of special publications and teacher resources.

BULLETINS OF AMERICAN PALEONTOLOGY

Paula M. Mikkelsen, retired Associate Director for Science and Director of Publications, completed the editing of the newest issue, "Systematics of the Gastropods of the Lower-Middle Miocene Cantaura Formation, Paraguana Peninsula, Venezuela," by Bernard M. Landau, Carlos Marques de Silva, Antoine Heitz, and Arie Janssen.

TEACHER-FRIENDLY GUIDES™

PRI's multi-year, \$1.8 million NSF-funded project to develop a nation-wide series of

Teacher-Friendly Guides™ to regional Earth system science is now complete. The project focuses on seven regions within the United States: Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, South Central, Southwest, West, and Northwest Central. In addition to providing overviews of regional Earth science, the project provides teacher professional development programming, online tools, and virtual fieldwork experiences. The content was created by a range of experts, both in-house and from around the country. These *Guides* are available to educators in a bound, printed format, or as free downloadable PDF documents at www.teacherfriendlyguide.org.

PRI SERVES: Guide to the Marcellus Shale Highlighted in Dimensions Magazine

The Science Beneath the Surface: A Very Short Guide to the Marcellus Shale, first published in 2014, continues to be a popular publication. Geared towards the general public, *The Science Beneath the Surface* examines the science around shale gas and energy systems. The Marcellus Shale is a Devonian-aged rock layer underlying much of Pennsylvania and New York, that contains abundant natural gas. The possibility of extracting gas from the Marcellus Shale polarized many communities and led to New York State's ban of the controversial extraction method of hydraulic fracturing, or "hydrofracking." The publication was featured in the March-April 2016 edition of *Dimensions*, the magazine of the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC).

COLLECTIONS

PRI's collections rank among the 10 largest invertebrate paleontology collections in the United States and are the intellectual core of the Institution. Our more than 3 million specimens provide a unique resource for scientific research, teaching, and exhibitions across the country and around the world.

GROWTH AND USAGE

In FY2016, PRI's collections added 29 accessions totaling ~354,000 specimens. Highlights include a collection from the Charles Wright Estate of mainly Cenozoic invertebrates from California (~200,000 specimens), and ~100,000 specimens of Cretaceous and Cenozoic invertebrates from the southeastern United States, donated by former PRI Trustee Patricia Kelley.

A total of 43 loans were renewed or newly issued in FY 2016. 37 loans were sent to eight U.S. states and six loans were sent to researchers in England, Sweden, and Canada. In the 12 months ending June 30th, 2016, five publications cited PRI specimens.

DIGITIZATION AND DATABASE MITIGATION

Historically, much of PRI's collections (both specimens and associated records) were only available to those who could physically come to see them. Digitization, the process of converting collections data into digital formats, is an essential investment in PRI's future. Digitizing the collections will increase public access, enhance research,

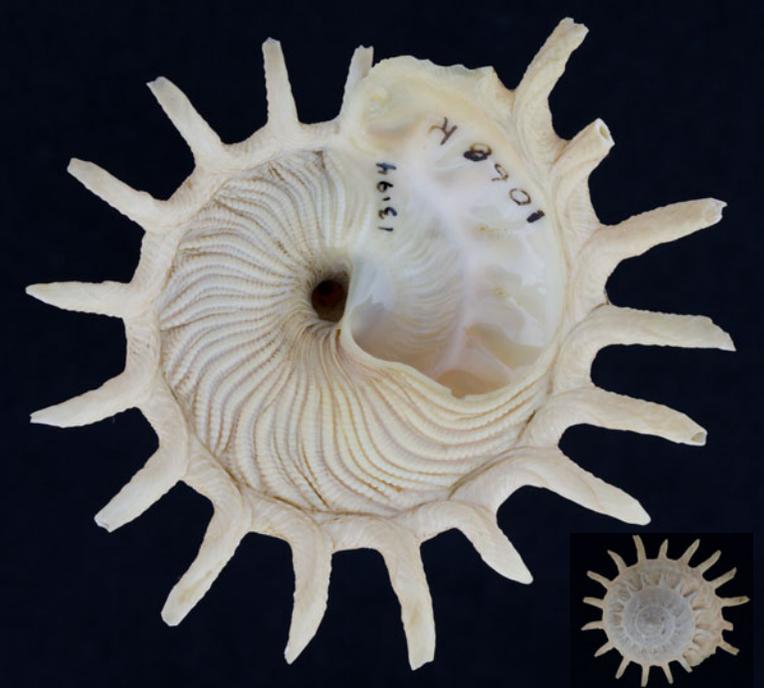
improve preservation, and open new possibilities for outreach and education.

In FY2016, Collections has been focused on transferring existing collections records to Specify, a database platform that manages specimen data and other digitized collections resources to facilitate web-based data access. 6597 existing records were entered in the Specify database. Approximately 220 photos have been made available for data aggregators, and 2840 pages of collections related documents have been scanned. The ongoing movement of specimen records to Specify continues to be a major focus of Collections.

SPECIMEN DONORS

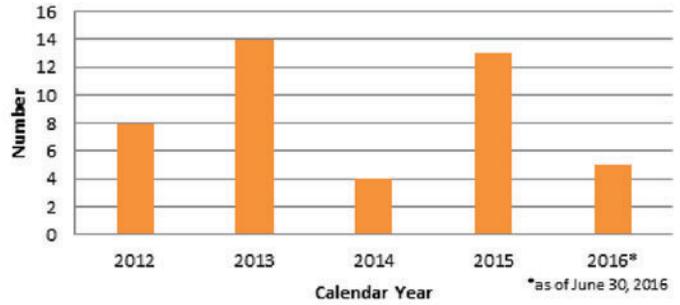
We would like to thank the following individuals and institutions who donated to our collections during the fiscal year:

Warren Allmon, Gordon Baird, Rob Bognar, Carl Brett, Kathleen Cappon, Wade Greenberg-Brand, Robert Hummel, Patricia Kelley, William Klose, II, Carrie Kluge, Steven Knapp, Kevin Lowe, Amy McCune, Chris McRoberts, Paula Mikkelsen, Mary Lou and John Pojeta, John Wehmiller, Charles Wright Estate

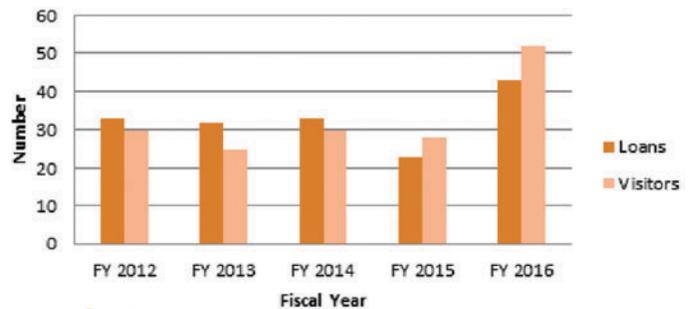


PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): A high-resolution photograph of a *Haliphoebria* snail (front and back); graphs representing collections loans, visitors, and literature citations of PRI specimens over the last five years; a high-resolution photograph of a fossil clam specimen digitized as part of the EPICC project; Fascioliid snails from PRI's Taxonomic collection (featured in an article published by National Park Service).

Literature Citing PRI Specimens per Calendar Year



Collections Loans and Visitors by Fiscal Year



COLLECTIONS SERVE: Collaborative Digitization

In August 2015, PRI was awarded a ~\$350,000 Thematic Collections Network (TCN) grant from the Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections (ADBC) program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) as part of the four-year Eastern Pacific Invertebrate Cenozoic Communities (EPICC) project. Members of this TCN include the California Academy of Sciences, the National Museum of Natural History, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the University of Alaska, the University of California Berkeley, the University of Oregon, and the University of Washington. EPICC is estimated to complete the digitization of 42,000 specimens, digital imaging of 12,500 specimens, and georeferencing of 1,400 localities at PRI alone. The newly digitized data will be uploaded to iDigBio, expanding PRI's digital presence online. More information about EPICC is available at www.epicctcn.org.



PHOTOGRAPHS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): Rob Ross leading a field trip for a visiting high school; Don Duggan-Haas giving a presentation at Teacher Resource Day 2015; Don setting up a camera as part of a virtual fieldwork experience; Matt Sacco discussing tree rings with students from Caroline Elementary School.

EDUCATION SERVES: Outreach on Evolution

Evolution is one of the cornerstones of modern science, and is therefore one of the key elements of PRI's mission as an institution. Exhibitions at the Museum of the Earth and Cayuga Nature Center present the concepts of evolution in an understandable way. They include the Nature Center's Live Animal Evolution exhibition (see page 29), displays on local and global climate in the Lodge's Leopold Climate Room, and the Museum of the Earth's glacier exhibit. PRI has two *Teacher-Friendly Guides* that use familiar organisms to teach evolution: the *Guide to Evolution Using Bivalves as a Model Organism* and the *Guide to the Evolution of Maize*. Darwin Days, an annual event hosted in collaboration with Cornell University since 2006, features multiple events and programs celebrating the life and ideas of Charles Darwin (see page 21 for more information). For more information on programs and publications associated with evolution, please visit www.priweb.org/education.

EDUCATION

PRI provides local, regional, and national educational outreach by offering programming, publications, and resources to schools, teachers, and science educators, and to larger partnerships and institutions.

LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIPS



Geological Society of America (GSA)

At GSA's annual meeting in November 2015, Don Duggan-Haas assumed the role of Second Vice President of the National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT). Don will serve on NAGT's Executive Board for four years and will serve as President from 2017-2018.



Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

PRI education staff were involved in discussions of national development and implementation of the new NGSS. Don Duggan-Haas worked with the Science Teachers Association of New York State as they evaluated the standards and gave

feedback to the State Education Department. He also participated in the American Geosciences Institute Summit on the NGSS held in Silver Spring, Maryland, and was one of the instructors for a short course on the standards at the First Annual Earth Educators' Rendezvous in Boulder, Colorado.



Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network (CLEAN)

Ingrid Zabel and Don Duggan-Haas are active members of the Climate Literacy and Energy Awareness Network, the group responsible for the national Climate Literacy Principles that have been cited in several federal educational initiatives and requests for proposals in an array of grant programs.



Western New York Environmental Alliance (WNYEA)

PRI is a member of WNYEA, an alliance

of more than 100 groups and institutions which discuss and work to resolve environmental issues in western New York. Don Duggan-Haas serves on WNYEA's Climate and Energy Working Group, as well as its Education Process Group.



Western New York STEM Hub (WNY STEM)

Don participates in the WNY STEM Hub, an initiative to support the teaching of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in western New York. He is also an active member of the Western New York Science Leaders, a group engaged in science teacher professional development and curriculum materials development.

NATIONAL PROJECT PARTNERSHIPS

Real Earth Inquiry Project

PRI's multi-year, \$1.8 million NSF-funded project to produce a national series of *Teacher-Friendly Guides*[™] to regional Earth science and associated professional development tools and workshops was completed during FY2016 (see page 10). The project is now referred to by its NSF grant title, ReaL (Regional and Local) Earth Inquiry. The project focused on the completion of the Guides, and on associated online professional development tools and Virtual Field Experiences.

Virtual Fieldwork Experiences

PRI is a national leader in the design, development, and dissemination of Virtual Field Experiences (VFEs) as part of the ReaL Earth Inquiry project. Our VFE website continues to expand the number of VFEs available on www.virtualfieldwork.org.

Critical Zone

Observatory Network

PRI is the educational outreach partner for the Critical Zone Observatory (CZO) Network, whose national office was established at Cornell University in 2014. There are nine CZOs that monitor climatic, ecological, and geologic differences across various locations. Through an NSF-supported Research Experience for Teachers program, Don Duggan-Haas assisted with the creation of a VFE for the Shale Hills Critical Zone Observatory in Western Pennsylvania in Summer 2015.

Tree Room Project

PRI is a partner in the development of the Tree Room website, a project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to improve public understanding of evolutionary trees. Partnering organizations include the the UC Berkeley Museum of Paleontology, the University of Kansas Natural History Museum, and the Yale Peabody Museum. The website was developed for museum exhibition designers and secondary school teachers, and was the basis for the development of evolutionary trees used in a new exhibition at the Cayuga Nature Center (see page 31).



PHOTOGRAPHS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): Field trip participants search for fossils at a collecting site near Moravia, NY; teachers explore free specimens at the annual Teacher Resource Day; staff members Sarah Grove and Amanda Schmitt host an interactive “touch table” at a public event.

EDUCATION SERVES: Outreach on Climate Change

The goal of PRI’s efforts in climate change education is to present information that will allow individuals to make informed choices about the use of energy and natural resources. Through exhibitions, curricula, presentations, professional development, website resources, citizen science projects, and more, we help people make sense of present and future change contrasted with climate change over the geologic time scale. Exhibitions at the Museum of the Earth and Cayuga Nature Center present climate change and evolution concepts in an approachable way for visitors, and include displays on local and global climate in the Cayuga Nature Center’s Leopold Climate Room and the Museum of the Earth’s glacier exhibition. PRI participates with regional organizations and alliances to promote public literacy in climate change and associated environmental issues and topics, including CLEAN and WYNEA (see page 15). We are an outreach partner of Cornell University’s Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, and a member of the Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative (TCCPI) coalition. For teachers of Earth sciences, we provide workshops that help educators address controversial issues when teaching about climate change. Visit www.priweb.org/outreach to learn more about PRI’s programs and partnerships.

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teacher-Friendly Guides™

Teacher-Friendly Guides to the Earth science of the South Central and the Northwest Central U.S., and the 2nd edition of the Southeastern Guide, were completed over the past fiscal year. The Guides are available at www.teacherfriendlyguide.org (see page 13 for more information).



Science Teacher Association of New York State (STANYS)

PRI continues a tradition of strong presence at the Annual Meeting of STANYS. Rob Ross, Don Duggan-Haas, and Ingrid Zabel attended this year's meeting in November 2015. PRI staff led five workshops at the conference, with Rob focusing on the Tree Room Project, Ingrid discussing the use of infrared cameras to teach about the greenhouse effect, and Don speaking about New York State's progress in adopting new science education standards.



New York Earth Science Teachers Association (NYESTA)

PRI has been involved in New York Earth Science Teachers Association conferences,

helping to host the first meeting in 2014. Don Duggan-Haas received their Distinguished Service Award at the second conference in July 2015.

Teacher Resource Day

For more than 20 years, PRI's annual Teacher Resource Day has provided free resources, specimens, and publications for teachers and educators to use in their classrooms. More than 70 participants attended Teacher Resource Day in October 2015.

LOCAL PROJECTS

Caroline Elementary School Wilderness Campus

Matt Sacco, Director of Nature Center Programs, has been working collaboratively with Caroline Elementary School to expand programming at their Wilderness Campus. This educational trail system utilizes hands-on programming, including the use of taxidermy specimens and trail cameras, to educate students about local ecology. Lesson plans align with the Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core.

Climate and Environmental Change

Ingrid Zabel and Dayna Jorgenson developed and piloted education programs for school groups, summer camps, and the general public on themes of local environmental concerns, climate change, and sustainability. This work was funded by the Park Foundation and included activities at the Cayuga Nature Center and at Smith Woods.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH GRANTS

(Active During Fiscal Year 2016)

National Science Foundation

Enhanced Earth system teaching through Real Earth Inquiry: NSF DRL 0733303, Aug 15, 2007 - July 31, 2015, \$1,763,588.

Fossil Finders: Using Fossils to Teach about Evolution, Inquiry and Nature of Science: NSF DRL 0733223, January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2015, \$266,951 to PRI (partnership with Cornell and University of Georgia Departments of Education).

Temporary exhibition and teacher professional development resources on the carbon cycle and climate change: NSF 1049033, April 1, 2011 - March 31, 2017, \$60,736 to PRI (outreach on behalf of research at Cornell University).

Traveling exhibit and teacher professional development on evolution of maize, associated with maize genetics research: NSF IOS 1238014, May 15, 2013 - April 30, 2018, \$217,124 to PRI (outreach on behalf of research at Cornell University).

Dissemination for the Critical Zone Observatory Program National Office at Cornell University: NSF EAR 1360760, May 1, 2014 - April 30, 2018, \$100,000 to PRI (outreach on behalf of Cornell University and the CZO network).

Outreach on atmospheric circulation in climate programming at the Museum of the Earth: NSF AGS 1349605, June 1, 2014 - May 31, 2019, \$22,000 to PRI (outreach for NSF CAREER award to Gang Chen at Cornell University).

Virtual fieldwork experiences for classic Pacific paleontological sites, associated with NSF DBI 1503611, August 1, 2015 – July 31, 2019, approx. \$95,000 for outreach of total \$350,000 award to PRI Dept. of Collections (collaboration with UC Berkeley)

Institute for Museum and Library Services

National Leadership Grant: Developing resources for K-12 and Museum personnel to improve public understanding of evolutionary trees. December 1, 2012 – November 30, 2015, \$32,441 to PRI (lead organization UC Berkeley; partnering organizations Yale Univ., Univ. Kansas, PRI).

National Endowment for the Humanities:

Planning proposal for a traveling exhibition on the history of women in American paleontology. October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015, \$60,000.

Park Foundation

Developing K-12 and public programming on climate and other environmental change at the Cayuga Nature Center. October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016, \$20,000.

BACKGROUND IMAGE: Fern fiddleheads at Smith Woods.



PHOTOGRAPHS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): Students collect specimens at Shoals Marine Lab in Maine; Paula Mikkelsen analyzes a student's finds at Shoals; Warren Allmon leads an EAS field trip to Seneca Stone Quarry in Seneca County, NY; Warren leads a lecture in his course "Evolution and Marine Diversity" at Shoals.

PRI AND CORNELL UNIVERSITY SERVE: Teaching at Cornell

Several PRI staff hold faculty positions at Cornell University: PRI's Director Warren D. Allmon, the Hunter R. Rawlings III Professor of Paleontology in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, taught three undergraduate courses: "Evolution of the Earth System" (Fall 2015), "Paleobiology" (Spring 2016), and "Evolution and Marine Diversity" (Shoals Marine Lab, Summer 2015). Warren also advises two Ph.D. students. Director of Collections Gregory Dietl currently advises two Ph.D. students in Geology. Retired Director of Publications Paula Mikkelsen taught "Invertebrate Zoology" (Shoals Marine Lab, Summer 2015), and continues to teach the course independently as a retiree. Associate Director for Outreach Robert M. Ross teaches "Earth in the News," a Summer session course for EAS. Museum Educator Maureen Bickley teaches a one-credit Fossil Preparation course in the Museum's Prep Lab.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Since signing an agreement of affiliation in 2004 and renewing that relationship in 2010, PRI continues to strengthen its numerous formal and informal relationships with Cornell University.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH

PRI is a significant teaching resource for several Cornell programs and departments at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Many courses require students to participate in exercises and training at the Museum of the Earth. Our collections and facilities are regularly used by Cornell faculty, staff, and students for both research and teaching.

OUTREACH

PRI continues to contribute to Cornell's mission by facilitating public outreach in collaboration with various faculty and departments of the University.

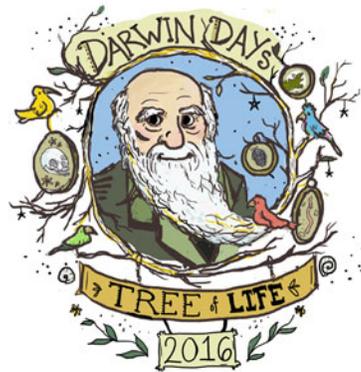


Cornell University
Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences (EAS)

PRI assists EAS by serving as their informal outreach partner. PRI represented the department at Stocking Hall for Reunion Weekend in June 2015 and at Barton Hall for New Students Weekend in August 2015.

PRI also assists with alumni relations during reunions, and continues to provide venues for EAS faculty and graduate students to present their research in public talks and exhibitions, and to help inform the general public about department activities.



Darwin Days Celebration

Darwin Days, hosted annually in collaboration with Cornell University since 2006, features multiple events and programs celebrating the life and ideas of Charles Darwin. "Darwin Days 2016: The Tree of Life" focused on the science of evolutionary trees and their importance in determining evolutionary relationships. An average of 700 people attend the week-long events and activities each year, which have attracted national media attention.

Climate Change Science Clearinghouse

Climate Change Education Manager Ingrid Zabel continues to work part-time with Professor Art DeGaetano (EAS, Director of the Northeast Regional Climate Center) and staff at Cornell's Mann Library on the development of an online New York State Climate Change Science Clearinghouse.

NSF Broader Impacts

A growing area of interaction between PRI and Cornell is PRI's service as a subcontractor providing "broader impacts" outreach for Cornell scientific research projects funded by NSF. Active awards include: grant support for the Critical Zone Observatory Network; a grant with Cornell Professor Bryan Danforth focusing on bee evolution; and our traveling *Maize* exhibition with its associated teacher resources. PRI also provides outreach using a Weather-in-a-Tank demonstration apparatus, in connection with a NSF Career grant awarded to Professor Gang Chen. A temporary exhibition on the carbon cycle was associated with a grant to EAS atmospheric scientist Natalie Mahowald.

The Hunter R. Rawlings III Professorship of Paleontology

Hunter Rawlings, who served as the tenth President of Cornell University from 1995 to 2002 and as Interim President from 2005 to 2006, took leadership positions on a number of issues directly related to PRI's mission, especially the topic of evolution. In March 2006, Rawlings was instrumental in discussions between Cornell and PRI's Board of Trustees that resulted in the creation of the position of PRI Director as an endowed full professorship in Cornell's Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. In May 2007, Rawlings agreed to the position being named in his honor. Warren D. Allmon became the first Hunter R. Rawlings III Professor of Paleontology at EAS in 2008, and continues to hold this position.

PHOTOGRAPH (BELOW): Stephen Durham and Annalee Tweitman (Cornell '16) harvest oyster samples in South Carolina.





PHOTOGRAPHS (CLOCKWISE IN ORDER) students from a summer course with Paula Mikkelsen (second from left) at Shoals Marine Lab; fossil snail specimens from Colombia used in research by Elena Stiles, a visiting student in Cornell's CienciAmerica Program; Warren Allmon giving a lecture during his "Evolution of the Earth System" course.



PRI AND CORNELL UNIVERSITY SERVE: Student Research and International Connections

For eight weeks in 2016, PRI hosted an undergraduate student from Colombia as part of the CienciAmerica program at Cornell, which places Latin American students in University science labs during the summer. Elena Stiles is a student at Universidad de Los Andes in Bogotá. At PRI she worked on fossils collected by PRI Director Warren Allmon in northern Colombia in January. Elena hopes to attend graduate school in 2017 to study paleontology. Information on student research can be found at www.priweb.org/research.



PHOTOGRAPHS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): “Steggy” the *Stegosaurus*; participants in “Back to the Past” solve prehistoric puzzles; a young explorer climbs over dinosaur eggs in the Museum’s Dino Zone.

THE MUSEUM OF THE EARTH SERVES: Smithsonian Institution Dioramas Permanently Transferred

Numerous dioramas, displays, and exhibition components have been transferred to the Museum, with plans to incorporate the models into permanent exhibitions. Among the items is one of the Smithsonian’s most famous statues, a papier-mache *Stegosaurus* nicknamed “Steggy.” Steggy was installed in the Museum’s Dino Zone as part of permanent enhancements to the exhibition space (see pages 28 and 31 for more information). Details regarding the transfer and new exhibition upgrades can be found at www.priweb.org/exhibitions.

MUSEUM OF THE EARTH

PRI's award-winning Museum of the Earth provides meaningful learning experiences about the rich history of life on Earth to a range of audiences, from local students and their families to visitors from around the world. Exhibit artistry, scientific collaboration, and various interactive programs bring the story of prehistoric Earth to life.

SCHOOL AND GROUP PROGRAMS

K-12 Field Trip Programs

The Museum offers three main program options for K-12 students. Additional programs include subjects such as coral reefs and glaciers. In all, 2,411 students were served through 102 group programs during FY2016.

Seasonal Break Programs

The Museum hosts educational programs during local Winter, Spring, and Summer school recesses, as well as extra holiday programming around Christmas and New Year's. Programs address different audiences, ranging from young children to older adults and educators.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS



Kids Discover the Trail! (KDT)

As a member of Ithaca's Discovery Trail, the Museum provides educational

programming for every 1st grade class in Ithaca, Trumansburg, and Lansing School Districts. KDT at the Museum reached over 600 students during FY2016. Learn more at www.discoverytrail.com.

Ithaca Loves Teachers

The Museum of the Earth is a participant in Ithaca Loves Teachers, an annual teacher appreciation week that aligns with Winter Recess for the Ithaca City School District in February.

PUBLIC EVENTS

The Museum hosted a variety of special and annual events during the fiscal year to provide engaging educational experiences, including:

Back to the Past: A Prehistoric Puzzle Hunt
Darwin Family Day
DinoEggstravaganza
Fossil ID Days
Fossil Mania 2015
Galapagos by Candlelight
Holiday and Spring Break Programs
Mineral ID Days
Museum In The Dark
Sculpting Science By Candlelight: An Evening with Terry Chase
Smithsonian Museum Day Live (see page 33)

CAYUGA NATURE CENTER

Through interactive exhibits, live animals, outdoor recreational opportunities, and educational programming on- and off-site, the Nature Center covers many topics, including climate change, aquatic and forest ecology, environmental conservation, and citizen science.

SCHOOL AND GROUP PROGRAMS

Outdoor Education Programs

Outdoor education programs on- and off-site tailor to specific interests and topics. More than 900 guests participated in programs during FY2016.

TEAM Challenge

Ropes Course programming helps hundreds of participants develop cooperative problem-solving and communication skills. In the 2015 season, a total of 1,536 participants took part in TEAM Challenge.

Live Animal Programs

Nearly half of all Nature Center programs are associated with the Nature Center's collection of Animal Ambassadors. Topics include evolution, animal behavior, and ecology.

Camps

The Nature Center offers multiple day camps throughout the year, including School's Out Camp in January, Winter Camp in February, Spring Camp in April, and Summer Camp from June to early-September.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Kids Discover the Trail! (KDT)

As a partner of the Discovery Trail, the Nature Center provides programming for every 5th grade class in Ithaca, Groton, and Newfield School Districts, and every 6th grade class in Trumansburg School District.

Caroline Elementary School

Wilderness Classroom

Matt Sacco, Director of Nature Center Programs, works with Caroline Elementary School Wilderness Classroom, now in its third year of programming (see page 14 for more information).

Insect Survey and Collection

Brian Gollands, IT Manager and in-house entomologist, assists the Nature Center in creating a collection of local insect species from the Cayuga Basin. The project started in Fall 2015 in collaboration with New Roots Charter School, where students helped set up traps along the Nature Center's grounds. The survey has yielded a high number of species, and provided data on species-specific habitats and seasonal occurrences.



PHOTOGRAPHS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): Marvin Pritts, PRI Trustee, leads an environmental education hike at Smith Woods; staff member Brian Gollands works with students at New Roots Charter School; staff members Dayna Jorgensen (left) and Matt Sacco (center) at the Conservation Award ceremony in May 2016; campers and counselors alike enjoy their time at summer camp.

THE CAYUGA NATURE CENTER SERVES: Summer Camp Receives Robert B. Fischer Environmental Conservation Award

“In recognition of over 30 summers of conservation education,” the Nature Center’s summer camp program received the Town of Ithaca Conservation Board’s 13th Annual Richard B. Fischer Environmental Conservation Award. The Nature Center was honored at a public tree planting ceremony on the East Ithaca Recreation Way in May 2016. The award was accepted by Dayna Jorgenson, Environmental Education Manager and Camp Director, and Matt Sacco, Director of Nature Center Programs. Visit www.priweb.org/naturecenter for more information.



PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): Ediacara biota diorama featured in the *Vanished Worlds* exhibition; artist Mary Beth Ihnken working on the Jurassic-themed mural in the Museum's new Dino Zone; Director of Exhibitions Beth Stricker holding the Award of Merit from the Museum Association of New York (MANY).

EXHIBITIONS SERVE: *Quirks of Nature* Receives Award

In February 2016, The Museum Association of New York (MANY) selected the Museum of the Earth's temporary exhibition, *Quirks of Nature*, to receive their 2015 Award of Merit for Innovation in Interpretation. In *Quirks of Nature*, illustrations and comics by science communicator and artist Rosemary Mosco were paired with fossils, taxidermy specimens, and informational displays. Contributions to the exhibition's content came from experts at various institutions, including the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History and the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences at Rutgers University. The award was presented to PRI at MANY's Annual Conference in Lake Placid in April 2016. Learn more at www.priweb.org/exhibitions.

EXHIBITIONS

Combining real specimens with expert design and fabrication, our award-winning exhibits create lively and engaging educational experiences for the public. Exhibitions at both the Museum of the Earth and Cayuga Nature Center provide unique learning opportunities for visitors of all ages and backgrounds.

PERMANENT EXHIBITION UPGRADES

MUSEUM OF THE EARTH

Permanent Smithsonian

Transfers

In April 2015, the Museum began to receive a variety of exhibit elements permanently transferred to PRI from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History. These include five ancient sea ecosystem dioramas and two life-sized models, "Steggy" the *Stegosaurus* and the giant pterosaur *Quetzalcoatlus*. "Steggy" is now a permanent part of our Dino Zone. The *Quetzalcoatlus* is set to become a permanent fixture in 2016.

Dino Zone

(completed Summer 2015)

Dino Zone, the Museum's Jurassic exhibit, has undergone various upgrades to make the exhibit even more engaging for visitors of all ages. Local artist Mary Beth Ihnken created a mural depicting Jurassic life as a background for Steggy. Additional new features include graphic panels, touchable

specimens, and an "early learner area" with an interactive magnetic board and dig site. There is also a reading area featuring books and stories for various age levels.

CAYUGA NATURE CENTER

Live Animal Evolution Exhibit (renovations completed June 2016)

Renovations and upgrades to the indoor live animal collection focused on improving the permanent exhibition while introducing visitors to evolutionary concepts that explain the roles of evolution and adaptation in the development of each animal's unique characteristics.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

MUSEUM OF THE EARTH

Ancient Microworlds (June 19, 2015 – September 15, 2015)

Photography and paleontology combined in this exhibit pairing more than 50 macrophotographic prints of fossils

with corresponding specimens from our collections. The photographs were created by professional scientist Giraud Foster and artist Norman Barker.

Vanished Worlds: A Peek into Paleart from the Smithsonian Institution (October 9, 2015 – September 26, 2016)

Highlighting the permanent transfers from the Smithsonian, *Vanished Worlds* discusses the history of each model and the past life it depicts, the artistic technique used to create each piece, as well as what aspects are now considered scientifically inaccurate and why.

Cornell's Fossil Collection (April 2015 – January 2016)

In celebration of Cornell's sesquicentennial, this small exhibit featured specimens that were a part of Cornell University's first official fossil collection, put together by founder Ezra Cornell and his associate, Andrew Dickson White.

Reading the Tree of Life (February 2016 – April 2016)

As part of the Darwin Days celebration, this exhibit illustrated the history of evolutionary trees.

CAYUGA NATURE CENTER

Layers of Life (Opened Summer 2015)

A prototype exhibit located in the Nature Center's Great Room, *Layers of Life* highlights the complex systems and interconnections

between plants, animals, and land. The exhibit utilizes taxidermy collections and graphics to introduce visitors to the surrounding ecosystem outside of the Lodge.

Cayuga Lake Aquarium Exhibit

A 180-gallon cold water tank in the Nature Center lobby is now home to Brown, Rainbow, and Lake trout donated by the New York State Fish Hatchery in Bath, NY.

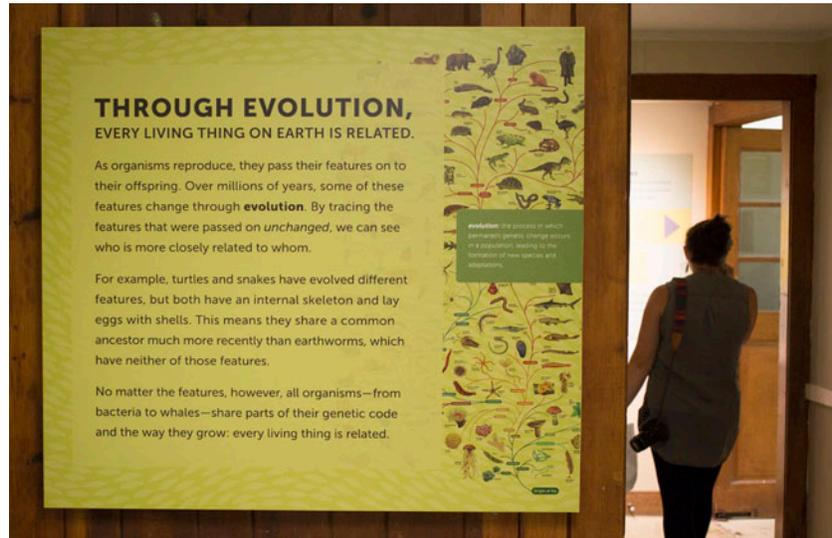
TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

Maize: Mysteries of an Ancient Grain

Maize traveled to the Reading Public Museum in Pennsylvania, Sunwatch Indian Village in Ohio, Science Central in Indiana, Caesars Health and Wellness in Nevada, and the Nevada Discovery Museum.

Did Dinosaurs Poop?

This exhibition presents a fun, colorful approach to learning about fossils and the diets of various dinosaur species. This award-winning exhibition traveled to the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery in Ohio.

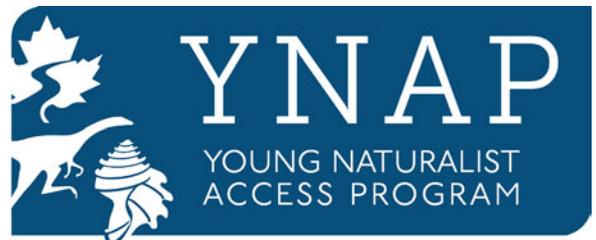


PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): Ordovician diorama featured in *Vanished Worlds*; a visitor explores the Nature Center’s Live Animal Evolution exhibit; signage showing the evolutionary tree of turtles in the Nature Center; a taxidermy fox hunts down waterfowl on display in *Layers of Life*.





PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): A young naturalist hunts for butterflies; a child examines a bear skull during a camp program; visitors of all ages stare in awe at one of the Nature Center’s Animal Ambassadors; a young visitor searches for fossils in the Museum’s Fossil Lab.



COMMUNITY ACCESSIBILITY SERVES: YNAP Program Enrollment Reaches 150 Members

Now in its second year, the Young Naturalist Access Program (YNAP) has allowed PRI to significantly increase its service to families in the community. PRI works with local non-profits, schools, and community centers to increase awareness of the YNAP program for families across Tompkins County. This spring, we registered our 150th YNAP youth member, and the program continues to grow. More information on YNAP and how you can support the program can be found on page 39 and at www.priweb.org/YNAP.

COMMUNITY ACCESSIBILITY

PRI's Community Accessibility Program (CAP) serves by lowering barriers to visiting and participating in programs at our venues, regardless of resources or special needs. More than 2,503 individuals were served through these programs.

YOUNG NATURALIST ACCESS PROGRAM (YNAP)

Created in May 2015, YNAP provides Tompkins County youth (ages 5 to 17) with a one-year YNAP Youth and Family Membership. This membership provides all of the benefits of a regular PRI family membership, including free admission to the Museum of the Earth and Cayuga Nature Center, plus complimentary access to all ticketed events. YNAP also offers each member aged 5-12 the opportunity to attend one free week of summer camp at the Cayuga Nature Center.

LIBRARY ACCESS PROGRAM (LAP)

Now in its pilot stage, the Library Access Program (LAP) allows area libraries to provide their cardholders with free general admission passes to both venues. Each participating library received two LAP family passes that can be loaned to library patrons.

FREE DAYS

PRI offers complimentary admission during

three Winter Free Days in January, February, and March, and Community Day in May. The Museum of the Earth is also a participating venue in Smithsonian Museum Day Live.

AGENCY MEMBERSHIPS

For a nominal fee, agency members receive free admission for clients and group visits.

BLUE STAR MUSEUMS

As part of the National Endowment of the Arts' Blue Star Museums program, PRI is one of more than 2,000 museums offering free admission to active-duty military personnel and their families throughout the year. Both the Museum of the Earth and the Cayuga Nature Center are registered locations.

MUSEUMS FOR ALL

Museums for All is an initiative of the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in which participating museums offer greatly reduced general admission to individuals and families receiving food assistance. The Museum of the Earth is registered as a participating location.

INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers and interns come from many different backgrounds and bring many skillsets. This year, they contributed 10,301 hours, 7,368 from volunteers and 2,796 from interns, the highest on record.

INTERNSHIPS

Our interns come with many different educational backgrounds, from geology and environmental science, to business administration and marketing. During FY2016, the following institutions were represented:

College of William and Mary
Cornell University
Ithaca College
Louisenlund High School (Germany)
Marietta College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Slippery Rock University
St. Lawrence University
SUNY Cortland
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
SUNY Geneseo
SUNY Oneonta – Cooperstown Graduate Program
SUNY Oswego
Syracuse University
Tompkins Cortland Community College
Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga Boards of Cooperative Education Services (TST BOCES)
University of British Columbia (Canada)
Universidad de los Andes (Colombia)

Interns

Elizabeth Altier
Rudy Bentlage
Keith Borrino
Maeva Bowdish
Joshua Brooks
Margaret Butler
Sam Cherney
Erin Doyle
Dawson Epstein
Mikaela Fundaun
Michael Hall
Jessica LaMay
Limin Li
Matthew Lin
Cory Kimmell
Haylie Marquardt
Sarah Noell
Sarah Ousley
Lisa Peck
Emilly Pfeil
Page Plocic
Ryan Ridder
Julia Stephens
Elena Stiles
Colin Sweeney
Stephanie Waite
Sarah Wayman
Jimmy Whitehead
Savannah Wilson
Laura Young
Amy Zhang

Dick Burlew
Peg Burlew
Megan Buteau
Amy Carey
Pat Charwat
Sam Cherney
Amy Cusano
John Cusano
Nicole DelPino
Barbara Dimock
Lenore Durkee
Chloe Elberty
Chloe Faehndrich
Tara Ferriter
Surya Fitzgerald
Rose Fleurant
Emily L Frisa (LF)
Walter Gates
Ron George
Aurora Golden-Appleton
Saloni Gupta
Martin Hackett
Whit Hairston
Brittani Hamilton
Aliyah Hardy
Janet Haynes
Julia Hoshino
Matt Jasinski
Amanda Jensen
Larry Jensen
Mohan Jewett
Melody Keifer
Bill Klose
Frank Kozlowski
Debbie Krueger
Sam MacMillan
Mike Marano
Annika Marschner
Laurel Matsudaira
Phyllis McNeill
Misha Mehne
Allan Meritt
Doris Meritt
Jason Minor
Taylor Minster
Willow Napolitano
Bella Nelkin-Papermo
Deb Nero
Marcella Nolan

Mark Oros
Tyler Perkins
Lindsay Petry
Eric Poyza
Alexander Quinter
Julie Riney
Nate Robertson
Mark Sacco
Sarah Schneider
Jackson Scholl
Barbara Skoblick
Andrea Slavney
Anna Marie Smith
Grace Smith
Octavia Sola
Regi Teasley
Jenny Tompkins
Ellen Valentino
Nicholas Wahba
Cathy Whalen
Matthew Wheeler
Michelle Wheeler
Trevor Whittemore
Anna Wilson
Don Wilson

Community Agencies and Service Groups

Alpha Phi Omega (Cornell)
Broome Developmental Disabilities Service Office
Cornell University Pre-Orientation Service Trips
Learning Web
Nest Watchers
Franzika Racker Center
Unity House
United Way of Tompkins County

Volunteers

Elizabeth Altier
Maria Altier
Annestasia Alvarado
Zebediah Alvarado
Aubrey Balzani
Alex Barraclough
Tiffanay Bartz
Kyra Bean
Deborah Bilinski
Nathaniel Boaker-Smith
Dan Brewton
Deanna Brodsky

Annika Marschner
Laurel Matsudaira
Phyllis McNeill
Misha Mehne
Allan Meritt
Doris Meritt
Jason Minor
Taylor Minster
Willow Napolitano
Bella Nelkin-Papermo
Deb Nero
Marcella Nolan



PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): Exhibition volunteer Deb Bilinski helps with the restoration of “Steggy” in the Museum’s Dino Zone; an animal care intern handles one of the Nature Center’s Animal Ambassadors; long-time volunteer Lenore Durkee enjoying her costume as part of a Dino Zone program.



VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS SERVE: Appreciation Dinner Recognizes Long-Term Service

PRI hosts two annual events to thank our volunteers for their service. PRI staff celebrated the hard work of all of our volunteers, who were treated to dinner, dessert, and drinks as a thank-you for their contributions during our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in January 2016. Three special volunteers were honored at the dinner for their length of service: Walter Gates, Sasha Paris, and Don Wilson, each of whom was recognized for 10 years at PRI. Each received a special gift as a thank you for their longtime service. Learn more about volunteer opportunities at www.priweb.org/getinvolved.

DONOR SUPPORT

ANNUAL FUND

Darwin Society

(\$10,000+)

Anonymous (4)
Gordon and Carol Baird
Elisabeth Boas
Peter and Ursula Browning
Paula Mikkelsen
James Morin and Myra Shulman
Kurt Over
Catherine Penner
Don and Dolly Wilson

Devonian Society

(\$5,000-\$9,999)

Merle Adelman and Ron Menner
Brian Bauer
Linda Ivany and Bruce Wilkinson
Derek and Leora Kaufman
Julian C. Smith *

Cayuga Society

(\$2,500-\$4,999)

Anonymous
Patricia and Tom Davis
John W. Hermanson and Lynn Swisher
Community Foundation's Vector Magnetics Fund
Egbert Giles Leigh Jr.
Melzar T. and Jane Richards
Roger D. K. Thomas
Armour Winslow

Gorges Society

(\$1,000-\$2,499)

John Allen and Ann Callaghan
Warren Allmon and Jennifer Tegan
Wrexie and Peter Bardaglio
Jim and Terry Byrnes
Nellie Corson
H. Allen and Jane Curran

Verne and Lenore Durkee
William R. Engles, Jr. and Emmeline S. Chang
Howard and Erica Evans
Susan Fleming
Karl Flessa and Mari Jensen
Joanne V. Florino
Nelson and Whit Hairston
John Handley and Kym Pocius
Linda Ivany and Bruce Wilkinson
Michael and Debbie Kamarck
William Kirchgasser
Harry and Sarah Lee
Catherine McCarthy and Paul Davis
Jean and Daniel McPheeters
Edward B. Picou Jr.
Frank and Rosa Rhodes
Jean F. and Elizabeth Rowley
Jan and Susan Suwinski
David and Marisue Taube
Gene and Jeanne Yarussi

\$500-\$999

William Ausich
John David Bukry
Tom and Barbara Dimock
Rodney M. Feldmann and Carrie E. Schweitzer
Jim and Judy Fogel
Russell Fuller
Bryan L. Isacks and Marjorie Olds
Teresa E. Jordan and Richard W. Allmendinger
Edward Machak
Amy McCune and David Winkler
Stephanie Meyer
D. Jeffrey Over
John and Mary Lou Pojeta
Marvin P. and Allison Pritts
Philip A. Sandberg and Susan Brown-Sandberg
Judith and Terry Smith
Deborah Whitehead
William Young and Wende Logan-Young

\$250-\$499

Richard Allen and Anke Wessels
Kendra Armer
Ellen Avril
Suzanne and Curtis Banta
John and Maura Bird
Diana Boyer
Kelli Cartmill
David and Carolyn Corson
J. Mark Erickson
John and Molly Fitzpatrick
Sally and David Grubb
Carole Hickman

Roald and Eva B. Hoffmann
Mary Kane
Patricia H. and Jonathan Kelley
Lillian Lee
Alan Leviton
Barbara and Tony Lister
Michael and Michele Lucas
Rob and Maggie Mackenzie
Christopher Maples and Sara Marcus
Ronald Martin
David and Kani Meyer
Pamela Muller
Mary and William Opperman
Katy and Art Pearce
Carolyn Sampson
David J. Schuller
Mary Shuford
Roger and Carole Sibley
United Way of Tompkins County
Arthur Waterman
Peter T. Wolczanski

\$100-\$249

Anonymous (3)
Eric Alani and Esther Racoosin
Joan Albern
Elizabeth Bannish
Robert Barlow
Judith Barringer
William and Nancy Bellamy
Arthur Berkey
Debbie Bilinski and Ken Miller
Jennifer and Alan Biloski
Elizabeth and Malcolm Bilson
Daniel Blake
Susan Blumenthal and David L. Kreinick
Paul and Tami Bogausch
Esther S. Bondareff
Peter Brellocks
James and Theresa Bugh
Patricia Carden
Darol Chamberlain and Jane Mt. Pleasant
Debbie Cherney
Manon-Lu Christ
Karen Christensen and Jeff Lawton
Timothy and Mary Ann Colbert
Randall and Valerie Cole
James and Liskin Cordes
Bob and Vanne Cowie
Harold Craft
Jonathan and Marnie Cryer
R. Jeffrey Dean
Michelle Delaney
Louis Derry and Alexandra Moore
Robert Elias

David Fernandez
Donna Fleming and Rick Kaufman
Ilene Gaffin and Richard Entlich
Glenn and Cassandra Galbreath
Karen Goodman
Lee Gray
Carolyn Grigorov
Mary Hamilton
Matthew Hare and Kerry Shaw
Peter and James Harriott
Margaret A. Hendricks
John W. Hoffman
Elinor Hoffmann and Julian Sosner
Don Hoskins
Ronald Hoy and Margaret C. Nelson
Sally Hoyt
Andre and Jean Jagendorf
Lucia and Georg Jander
Claudia Johnson and Erle Kauffman
Peter and Mary Katzenstein
Bettie Kehrt
David Kendrick and Nan Crystal Arens
R. Seth Kircher
Gilbert Klapper
Cheryl Kramer
R. Carolyn Lange
Harry A. Leffingwell
Lynn B. Leopold
Georgia Lesh and Phillip Owh
Bruce and Claudia Lewenstein
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Marjorie McKinney
Andrew and Allison Miller
Vincent Mulcahy and Cynthia Livermore
Charlie Mulligan
Megan Mullins
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Nancy E. Spaulding
John C. Steinmetz
Joe and Marney Thomas
Margaret Toro
Charles and Nancy Trautmann
Robbert van Renesse and Lesley Greene
Thomas and Jane VanDerzee
Charles Ver Straeten
Emily Vokes
Thomas and Carolyn Waller
Christopher and Beverly Way
Karl A. Wilson

Ingrid and Mark Zabel
Matthew Zenkar

Up to \$99

Anonymous (2)
Richard and Susan Alvord
Kathleen Anderson
Rachel Anderson
Anthony Antes
Timothy Babich
William and Andrea Barnett
Keith Batman and Barbara Post
Mitchell Batoff
Bret and Gail Bennington
Robert and Tonya Bittner
David Brittain
Dr. and Mrs. Larry D. Brown
Jo-Lynn Buchanan
Derek and Nora Burrows
Joseph Caezza
Jackie Cassaniti
Joshua Clark
Marlaine Darfler
Grenda Dennis
Lynn Deuschle
Charles WM Dimmick
Sharon Dittman
Camille Doucet
Winifred and John Driscoll
Don Duggan-Haas
John Elton
Paul Feeny and Mary Berens
Gary Ferguson
John Flowers
Carolyn U. Franklin
Albert George and Judith Van Allen
Gregory Getman
Graham Gillespie and Debby Melton
Ernest Gilmour
Girl Scouts of NYPenn Pathways Troop 41255
James Peter Giroire
Sarah Grove
Margaret Hampson
John Harper
Dede Hatch
Martin and Susan Hatch
Patricia Long
Suzanne and Roger Hinderliter
Thomas Hirasuna and Jean Hunter
Nancy Hwa
Marguerite Johnson
Daniel Karig and Joane Molenock
Dooley S. Kiefer
Karen King and Rob Solomon
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Donald Kress
Peter La Couture
Ralph Langenheim
Guy Lattimore
G. Peter Lepage and Deborah O'Connor
Rosalie Lesh
Bruce Lieberman

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Phyllis McNeill
Rebecca Mebert
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Robert Milici
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Karen Osburn
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Anne Payne
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John Pietsch
Michael Pinnisi and Paige Anderson
Roy and Barbara Pollock
Nancy and Andrew Ramage
Andrew Rappaport and Lorna Bayer
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Harry Singer
Michael Smith
Benjamin Solomon
Mr. Mark Spadolini
Russell Sprague
Roger Stern and Carmela Merlo
Mark Sussman
Peter Thomas
Margret Thompson
Kenneth and Mary Lou Upham
Ms. Barbara Van Dyk
Joshua Walker
Vicky Wang
James Wells
Marilyn and Stephen Westlake
Andrea and Winthrop Wetherbee
Bruce Wiley
Ralph Willoughby
William and Charlotte Winkky
Alan Falk and Laura Winter Falk
R. Timothy Wolcott
Carl Zabel
Mimi Zines

IN-KIND GIFTS

Warren Allmon and Jennifer Tegan
Agway
Atlas Bowl
Maureen Bickley and Craig Altier
Richard and Peg Burlew
Cayuga Lumber
Cornell Orchards
Eastern Mountain Sports
Finger Lakes Running & Triathlon Company
Finger Lakes Running Club
Raymond Fox
Gimme! Coffee
Girl Scouts of NYPenn Pathways Troop
41255
Mary Euell and Brian Gollands
Karl Graham
Greenstar Co-op Market
Sarah Grove
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Home Green Home
Hosmer Winery
International Paper
Ithaca Bakery
Robert Kay and Suzanne Mahlburg Kay
Sherry Koskinen
Debbie Krueger
Gwen Lubey
Maxie's Supper Club
Carol and John Morris
Old Goat Gear Exchange
Puddledockers
Rasa Spa
Rongovian Embassy
Empar and Seth Sicroff
Standing Stone Vineyards
Taughanock Garden Club of Trumansburg
The Falls Restaurant and Tavern
Tompkins Weekly
Rick Triant
Ulysses Philomathic Library
Diane Wach
Ingrid and Mark Zabel

IN-KIND GIFTS TO THE ONLINE "AUCTION OF EPOCH PROPORTIONS"

Javier Andres Abad
AGAVA
Warren Allmon and Jennifer Tegan
American Museum of Natural History
Wrexie and Peter Bardaglio
Larry and Trudy Baum
Binghamton Zoo at Ross Park
Blue Tree Marketing Corporation
Boatyard Grill
The Bookery II

Patrick Branigan
Cayuga Chamber Orchestra
Cayuga Landscape Company
Cayuga Vocal Ensemble
Clever Hans Woodworking
Community School of Music And Arts
John and Karen Confer
Contemporary Trends
Cornell Community Sailing
Corning Museum of Glass
Damiani Winery
Camille Doucet
Eastern Mountain Sports
Experience! The Finger Lakes
Finger Lakes Distilling
The Frame Shop
Marion Giambattista
Glimmerglass Festival
Handwork Cooperative
Hangar Theatre
Roald and Eva B. Hoffmann
Home Green Home
Kate Isaacs
Ithaca Dance
Richard Ivany
John Reis Photography
Kitchen Theatre Company
Laughing Goat Fiber
Rob and Maggie Mackenzie
Maxie's Supper Club
Allana McGillis
Jean and Daniel McPheeters
David and Kani Meyer
Mia Restaurant
Michaleen's Florist & Garden Center
Paula Mikkelsen
Multi-faceted Minerals
Museum of Science and Technology
Barbara Page
Monroe Payne
Leonard Piha
Marvin P. and Allison Pritts
Purity Ice Cream
Quality Inn
Rasa Spa
Red Feet Wine Market
Melzar T. and Jane Richards
Nancy Ridenour
Rob Licht Studio
Simply Alexis Photography
Christi Sobel
State Theatre
Sunny Days
Tanglewood Nature Center
David and Marisue Taube
Ed Thomas
Wegmans Food Markets
Wild Center
Wine and Design
Wende Young
Ingrid and Mark Zabel

RESTRICTED GIFTS

Anonymous
Warren Allmon and Jennifer Tegan
Brendan Anderson
Philip and Susan Bartels
Larry and Trudy Baum
Daniel Blake
James and Theresa Bugh
Patricia Charwat
David Dockery
Sandy and David Epstein
Frank Etensohn
Rodney M. Feldmann and Carrie E. Schweitzer
Lee Gray
Steven Hageman
Carole Hickman
Incodema
Linda Ivany and Bruce Wilkinson
David Jablonski and Susan Kidwell
Claudia Johnson and Erle Kauffman
Legacy Foundation of Tompkins County
Egbert Giles Leigh Jr.
John Pope
The Family of Victor E. Schmidt
Robert Sloan
Paul Tatar
Taughanock Garden Club of Trumansburg
Emily Vokes
Thomas and Carolyn Waller
Catherine and Michael Whalen

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Cornell University
Disountrue
Elmira Savings Bank
ExxonMobil Matching Gift Program
Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse
GiveGab

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John Ben Snow Foundation
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Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
Mid-American Paleontological Society
Purity Ice Cream
Robert G. and Jane V. Engel Foundation
Sciarabba Walker & Company
Society for Natural Resources
Conservation
Spalding Library
Taitem Engineering
Tompkins County Tourism Program
Tompkins Insurance Agencies
Ulysses Philomathic Library
University Sand & Gravel
Wegmans Food Markets

HONOR GIFTS

In honor of Maddy Menges,
Rebecca Mebert
In honor of Stephanie Meyer,
H. Allen and Jane Curran
In honor of Ingrid Zabel,
Elinor Hoffmann and Julian Sosner

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Tom Dutro,
Alan Leviton
In memory of Rick Harrison,
James Morin and Myra Shulman
In memory of Frank Mudrak,
Barbara and Tony Lister
In memory of Brian O'Neill,
Teresa M. O'Neill
In memory of Julian Smith,
Bob and Vanne Cowie
In memory of Julian Smith,
Peter La Couture
In memory of Julian Smith,
Bob Melvin
In memory of Julian Smith,
Mimi Zines

* deceased

NOTE: If we have made any accidental omissions or errors, please accept our sincere apology. Please contact us at development@priweb.org



PICTURED (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): TEAM Challenge students eager to answer questions posed by Matt Sacco; Ichabod the turkey vulture, the Nature Center's newest Animal Ambassador; winter campers pose with colored ice globes made as part of "School's Out" camp activities.



PRI SERVES...THANKS TO YOU: Supporting PRI

Gifts to the Annual Fund support the overall mission of PRI, which is to understand the natural world and help others in their efforts to do the same. Your annual gift provides PRI with the opportunity to pursue mission-critical work in our core focus areas.

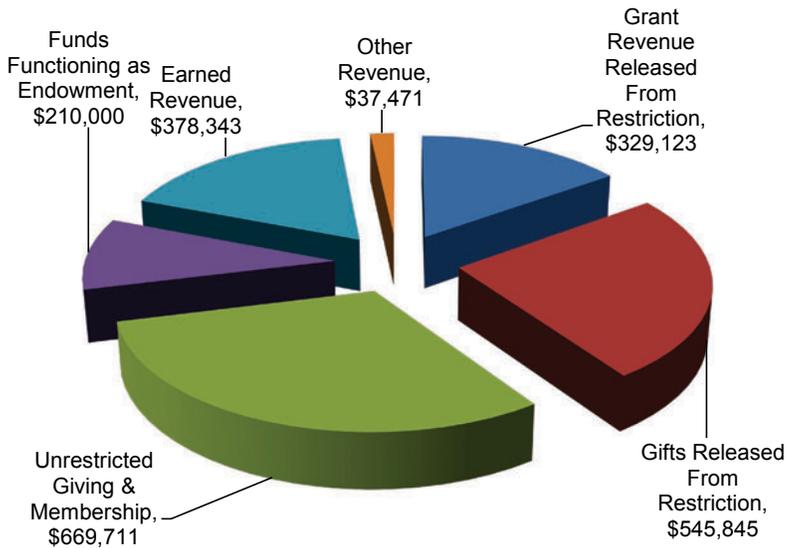
Sponsorship from businesses is key to PRI's ability to offer a wide array of events and enrichment programs that benefit our community. We gratefully recognize those businesses who partner with us to provide valuable educational and cultural resources at the Museum of the Earth and Cayuga Nature Center.

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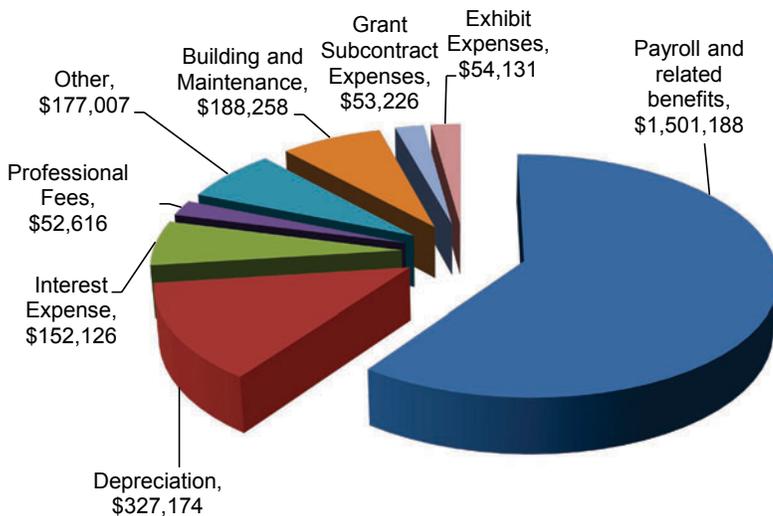
FINANCIAL ACTIVITY STATEMENT

Revenue



Grant Revenue Released From Restriction...	\$329,123
Grants Released From Restriction.....	\$545,845
Unrestricted Giving & Membership.....	\$669,711
Funds Functioning as Endowment.....	\$210,000
Earned Revenue.....	\$378,343
Other Revenue.....	\$37,471
	\$2,170,493

Expenses



Payroll and Related Benefits.....	\$1,501,188
Depreciation.....	\$327,174
Interest Expense.....	\$152,126
Professional Fees.....	\$52,616
Other.....	\$177,007
Building and Maintenance.....	\$188,258
Grant Subcontract Expenses.....	\$53,226
Exhibit Expenses.....	\$54,131
	\$2,505,726

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Brian Gollands: IT Manager
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Matthew Griffin: Museum Associate
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John Gurche: Artist-in-Residence
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Bill Klose: Research Associate
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Beth Stricker: Director of Exhibitions
Andrielle Swaby: Evolution Education Manager
Ingrid Zabel: Climate Change Education Manager
Marissa Zuckerman: Marketing and Development Associate

We would like to thank the following colleagues who moved on during FY2016:

Andrew Blodgett (Program and Education Facilitator), Laura Finkbeiner (Marketing Assistant), Wade Greenberg-Brand (Exhibitions Associate), Amanda Kelly (Volunteer and Events Coordinator), Amalia Kenyon (Museum Associate), Paula M. Mikkelsen (Associate Director for Science and Director of Publications), Stephanie Meyer (Director of Development and Marketing)

EDITED BY: Marissa Zuckerman, with contributions from Sarah Noell, Stephanie Waite, and staff

DESIGN BY: Beth Stricker and Marissa Zuckerman

PHOTOGRAPHY BY: Staff and associates, with special contributions from Keith Borrino, Dayna Jorgenson and Cory Kimmell

BACKGROUND IMAGE: Wild Violet found at the Cayuga Nature Center.



BACKGROUND IMAGE: Visitors of all ages exploring Smith Woods during a guided hike.

PALMER HALL AND MUSEUM OF THE EARTH

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Phone: (607) 273-6623

CAYUGA NATURE CENTER

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