



ZIIBIWING CENTER

of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 | Phone: 989.775.4750 | www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing

Annual Report (October 2024 - September 2025)

The Ziibiwing Center is a distinctive treasure created to provide an enriched, diversified, and culturally relevant educational experience, which promotes the Society’s belief that the culture, diversity, and spirit of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and other Great Lakes Anishinabek must be recognized, perpetuated, communicated, and supported.

Our Year

The Board of Directors for the Ziibiwing Cultural Society/ Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways is honored to present the accomplishments of our staff and organization within its Annual Report. We are committed to serving the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, the Great Lakes Anishinabek and the general public. Our commitment is demonstrated through our daily work and

our dedication is manifested through the advancement of our cultural identity for future generations. We are determined to represent the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Ziibiwing Center to the highest ideals of our Tribe and organization. We are truly blessed to be keepers of the culture in our time. The Ziibiwing Center would like to thank the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan’s Tribal Council, Tribal Administration, Tribal Departments and our families and friends for the support that we’re blessed with each and every day.

The Ziibiwing Staff

- **Mindy Bailey**, Digitization Specialist
- **Judy Brittain**, Retail Clerk
- **Raymond Cadotte**, Visitor Services Representative
- **Amos Cloud**, Maintenance Worker
- **Marcella Hadden**, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

- **Glenna Halliwill**, Sales & Events Coordinator
- **Anita Heard**, Research Center Coordinator
- **Sydney Jackson**, Retail Clerk
- **William Johnson**, Curator & Operations Manager
- **Charla Riley**, Funding & Development Specialist
- **Miingin Starkey**, Maintenance Worker
- **Noelle Wells**, Administrative Assistant II

Accomplishments

- 10,644 visitors came to experience all the Center has to offer. An additional 2,333 people received educational services at 18 different offsite bookings by our staff. Onsite and offsite combined total 12,977 visitors for FY2025.
- Ziibiwing hosted 122 tours totaling 3,864 people and 119 events with 4,675 people in attendance for combined special events, and cultural programs for the Tribal community and the general public.
- The ZCS maintains seven Tribal Cemeteries, including Baseline Cemetery (Isabella & Union Townships, Isabella County), Flint Stone Street Cemetery (Flint Township, Genesee County), Mission Creek Cemetery (Union Township, Isabella County), Nibokaan Cemetery (Chippewa Township, Isabella County), Nippising Cemetery (Isabella Township, Isabella County), Nottawa Cemetery (Nottawa Township, Isabella County), Swartz Creek Cemetery (Gaines Township, Genesee County), in addition to the Ziibiwing Center’s three-acre lawn (14.41 acres per week).
- The Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums honored the Ziibiwing Center with its Community Impact Award. This international award is given for the ZC’s Reclaiming the Narrative: Harvesting and Digitizing the U.S. Indian Industrial Boarding School Records project. The Community Impact Award recognizes the Ziibiwing Center for its commitment to community engagement, innovation, and overall excellence.
- Ziibiwing conducted NAGPRA consultations with City of Detroit, Dayton Society of Natural History, Detroit Institute of Arts, Marshall University, Michigan Department of Natural History, Michigan History Center, Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, Michigan State Police – Diamondale, Michigan, Michigan State University, Ohio History Connection, Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology, University of Michigan, University of Toledo, and Vassar College.
- The THPO completed 171 cultural resource reviews. These reviews are required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and protect the cultural resources/ traditional cultural properties of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. In addition to the completion of the cultural resource reviews, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer participated in 23 activities/events, two out of state, five hosted at the Ziibiwing Center, six presentations about MIIBS, three at the MIIBS location, multiple conferences and updates to the ZC Board of Directors.
- Through generous support from NATHPO and per our five-Year Strategic Plan and building staff capacity, we hired part-time THPO interns, India Perez and Gage Colwell.

- Eva Collins served as a Cultural Resource Management Intern through CMU’s Museum Studies Program
- Awarded six of nine grants submitted in FY25 include:
 - 1) *US Department of Treasury-* \$102,558
 - 2) *NATHPO FY25 Grant-* \$5,870
 - 3) *ATALM Community Impact Award Grant-* \$2,478
 - 4) *NPS NAGPRA Repatriation Grant-* \$19,480.77
 - 5) *Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation Grant-* \$18,720
 - 6) *National Park Service HPF THPO FY25 Grant-* \$110,761, \$259,867.77 (total)
 - 7) *Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation-* \$19,999.42 (pending)
 - 8) *ACLS Fellowship Grant-* \$60,000 (pending)
 - 9) *LEO State Grant-* \$999,999.99 (not awarded) Other grant funding in FY25 available to spend from previously awarded grants was \$250,949.58, for a combined total of \$510,817.35.
- There were approximately 46,446 individual contacts made by our team, including physical visits, phone calls, and emails. Ziibiwing also maintains a social media presence on Facebook.
- The Research Center served 1,325 in-person visits for research related activity and/or guidance.
- Marcella Hadden (THPO) is the Chairwoman of the MIIBS Committee, and provides leadership for the Architecture and MIIBS Website Committees.
- Anita Heard (Research Center Coordinator) serves on the Saginaw Chippewa Data Governance Board and is a member of the Society of American Archivists.
- William Johnson (Curator and Operations Manager) serves on the Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance (MACPRA), serving his fourth consecutive four-year term as Chairman and the University of Michigan’s Advisory Committee on Culturally Unidentifiable Human Remains under NAGPRA (since 2011).
- Charla Riley, Funding & Development Specialist, serves on the Anishinabe Language Revitalization Committee.
- Noelle Wells, Administrative Assistant II, serves on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan’s Powwow Committee.
- ZC Gift Shop sales totaled \$188,028.42 for FY2025. The Gift Shop continues to liquidate old merchandise and increase merchandise selections from Indigenous vendors and Indigenous artists.
- Grant funding provided salary and fringe for Digitization Specialist, Mindy Bailey for full-time employment at the Ziibiwing Center.
- ZC held its first Summer Concert Paid Parking Fundraiser raising \$4,875. Proceeds are being used to replace the carpet in our discussion rooms.

2025-2026 Calendar of Events

September 2025

- 9/11: Grandparent’s Day (*Free admission for all Grandparents*)
- 9/18: Monarch Butterfly Day
- 9/19: Community Cultural Teaching (*At the Sanilac Petroglyphs, sponsored by SCIT THPO*)
- 9/25: MIIBS Youth Pow-Wow (*Sponsored by SCIT THPO*)
- 9/29-10/3: Ziibiwing Center Silent Auction
- 9/30: Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class

October 2025

- 10/13: Indigenous Peoples’ Day Film Screening

November 2025

- 11/3: Collection Showing
- 11/8: Make & Take Ribbon Skirt (*Sponsored by SCIT THPO*)
- 11/13: Author Talk - Amanda Peters

December 2025

- 12/1 - 12/5: MIIBS Silent Auction (*Sponsored by SCIT THPO*)
- 12/4: Annual Appreciation & Membership Dinner (*By invitation*)
- 12/11: Anishinabe Santa
- 12/23: Performance Circle Graduation

January 2026

- 1/6: Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class

February 2026

- 2/2: Collection Showing
- 2/7: Senior Soup & Sew Social (*Sponsored by SCIT THPO*)

March 2026

- 3/2 - 3/6: Artist in Residence (TBD) (*Sponsored by SCIT THPO*)

April 2026

- 4/20: Changing Exhibition

May 2026

- 5/4: Collection Showing

June 2026

- 6/5: Honoring, Healing & Remembering (*At the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School*)
- 6/20: Community Cultural Teaching (*At Sanilac Petroglyphs, Sponsored by SCIT THPO*)

July 2026

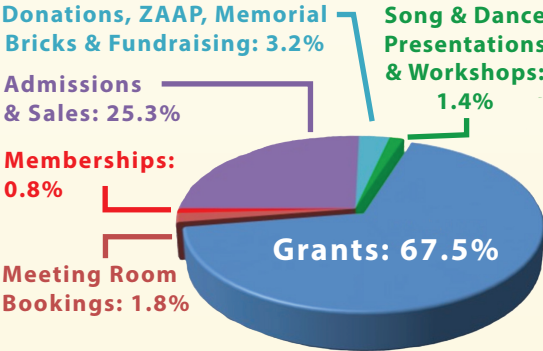
- 7/20: Native Fest - Collection Showing
- 7/21: Native Fest - Car Bingo
- 7/22: Native Fest - Kid’s Night

August 2026

- 8/7: World Indigenous Peoples Day)

Financials

External Revenue Total: \$741,823



Your Support

Your continued support is vital to us as it provides essential funding for:

- Discounted admission for military personnel, school children, college students, and educators
- Funding for outreach programs which take our teachings and collections into schools throughout Michigan
- Preservation of our artifacts and collections, ensuring that our culture will be preserved for future generations
- Building upkeep, maintenance, and promotion of our exhibits so that our heritage and culture can be enjoyed by everyone
- Repatriation and reverential reinternment of Anishinabek ancestors and their belongings

Join Our Community of Supporters!

Every contribution makes a difference. Whether big or small, your generosity keeps our doors open and our community thriving.

Scan the QR code now and be part of something special!



Thank you for your continued support and dedication!

Our Members

- Anderson, Renee
- Anglin, Sam
- Burke, Charlie & Peggy
- Chippewa River District Library

- Cross, Dr. Suzanne
- Dow Jr., David
- Gilbert, Marke
- Gonzalez, Guadalupe
- Grills, Gary
- Jackson, Michael
- Lance, Jamie

- Lincoln, Ron
- Margaris, Amy
- Martin, Minnie
- McCreery, Michael
- McInnis, Brady
- Meskill, Deborah
- Michener, David &

- Strickland, Wil
- Peters, Alstyn
- Reinert, Gerald
- Riley, Charla
- Robertson, James
- Senter, Mary
- Severson, Eric

- Slasinski, Mike
- Spencer, Bernard
- Stevens, Evonna
- Stiner, Lester
- Tchorzynski, Stacy
- Thurston, James
- & Patricia

- Tomson, Nathan
- Waynee, Craig
- Wemigwans, Mgizi
- Wickerham, Floyd & Sue
- Young, Lisa