



Preservation Foundation  
of the Lake County Forest Preserves

**DATE:** August 10, 2022

**MEMO TO:** Nels Leutwiler, Chair  
Preservation Foundation Board

**FROM:** Nan Buckardt  
Director of Education

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend approval of a \$10,000 grant from the Bess Bower Dunn Museum Fund to support rental of *Dinosaurs: Fossils Exposed*.

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The requested funds will be paid to the Dunn Museum in spring 2023, to be used as part of the final payment due to the rental agency. As of June 30, 2022, the balance of the Bess Bower Dunn Museum Fund was \$74,433.

**BACKGROUND:** *Dinosaurs: Fossils Exposed* is a national touring exhibition sponsored by the Museum of Discovery. The Dunn Museum intends to host the exhibition from October 7, 2023 through January 15, 2024.

Special exhibitions help fulfill the Dunn Museum's mission by "...provid(ing) captivating educational experiences for the benefit of every Lake County resident" while exposing new visitors to the Museum's permanent collections and galleries.

*Dinosaurs: Fossils Exposed* explores the bones and fossils belonging to the giant creatures that once roamed the Earth. Visitors can view and touch six full dinosaur skeletal molds including a *Triceratops*, *Tyrannosaurus rex*, and *Velociraptor*. Visitors can stand next to a 6-foot-1 *Apatosaurus* femur and use paleontology tools to unearth ancient dinosaur bones.

Staff likes to feature related items from the Dunn Museum collection with each rented exhibition. Staff plans to display the recently acquired Tully Monster fossils, Illinois' State Fossil. This is an exciting opportunity to share this Dunn Museum addition with visitors and explain the difference between the Silurian and Jurassic geologic periods.

The rental cost of \$28,000 for this exhibition is more than the typical exhibitions rented by the Dunn Museum. The proposed \$10,000 grant would be matched by \$5,000 from the Dunn Museum's 2022 budget and \$13,000 from the Museum's 2023 budget.

**Sponsorship Benefits**

As a sponsor of the *Dinosaur* exhibition, the Preservation Foundation's logo will be prominently positioned in the gallery and in the accompanying virtual exhibition; as well as on all feasible promotions for the exhibition, including but not limited to fall and winter issues of *Horizons*, the Museum website, related e-newsletters, a press release and related press coverage. In addition, the Preservation Foundation is encouraged to host an exclusive opening or closing event for its donors. The cost for this event would be in addition to the funding request, and would come at no additional expense to the District.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Exhibitions and Collections Manager, Director of Community Engagement and Partnerships, Director of Administration, Director of Finance, Lake County Forest Preserves Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer, Preservation Foundation Executive Director

**PRESERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  Roll Call Vote: Ayes: \_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_

Voice Vote Majority Ayes: \_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_