

MT PLEASANT
DISCOVERY
MUSEUM

**MT. PLEASANT DISCOVERY MUSEUM HIRES
PATRICIA BOYER CHASE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum sets their visions high as they select Patricia Boyer Chase, Ed.D. as its first Executive Director.



Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, August 25, 2010 - Patricia Boyer Chase, Ed.D. has been named Founding Executive Director of the Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum (MPDM). A long-time Mt. Pleasant resident with wide-ranging professional experience, Chase has already assumed her responsibilities which include providing vision, leadership, and strategic direction to the Board of Directors, volunteers, and donors. Chase will serve as the MPDM's senior representative and spokesperson, oversee its \$3 million capital campaign, seek to build relationships within MPDM's six-county community, and assist in overall museum site development and management.

Chase obtained a Doctor of Education from Eastern Michigan University, with an emphasis on Educational Leadership. She received a Master's Degree in Counseling from Central Michigan University and is a licensed professional counselor. She has held administrative positions at Mid-Michigan Community College, Central Michigan University, Alma College and Aquinas College. She has also served on the Board of Directors of Mid Michigan-Industries and Mid-Michigan Red Cross.

Chase remarked, "Having raised three children in our central Michigan community, I remember travelling long distances to find fun, educational opportunities for my children. Because I know what it means to families in our area, I am anxious to be a part of building a hands-on children's museum closer to home."

MPDM chair, Jennifer Fields, commented, "Out of the large pool of candidates, we were impressed that many of the most qualified were right from our own backyard. We are thrilled that Trish has joined our team. Her combination of experience, leadership, and ability to reach out to people is exactly what we were looking for in our founding executive director."

A reception to meet Dr. Chase, as well as learn of museum progress, will be held in late September.

Since its inception in early 2008, the Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum has grown to include a nine-member Board of Directors, steering committee, and youth advisory committee. MPDM has sponsored a variety of community events and is currently hosting a 900 sq. ft. magnet-themed exhibit as a peek into what the museum will offer. Due to its popularity, "The Magnetic Field" exhibit may extend its stay into the fall at the Museum of Cultural and Natural History at CMU.

MPDM's 2010 capital campaign took off with a generous \$1 million donation from the Morey Foundation. In addition, the foundation has offered a matching grant for an additional \$500,000 through April 2012. To encourage community giving, donations made by school or church groups will receive a two-to-one match, while all other donations will be matched equally. Additional funding is actively being sought through grants, opportunities for naming rights, and exhibit sponsorships.

Once capital campaign donations reach \$2 million, construction on the museum will begin. Meanwhile, architectural and interior exhibit plans are currently underway, and MPDM continues to seek community feedback in all aspects of development.

For more information, visit www.mpdiscoverymuseum.org.