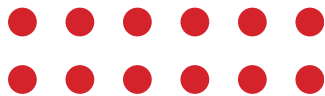




ANNUAL REPORT 2023



315 W COURT STREET
CINCINNATI, OH 45202





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



2023 was full of improvements in the 1904 Beaux-Arts firehouse the Cincinnati Fire Museum calls home. We installed new carpeting in the first floor exhibition area, renovated our *Safe House* exhibit that teaches visitors how to prevent a fire and escape if one should occur in their home, and installed signage on the façade that illuminates at night. We also expanded our programming that encourages visitors to explore our two floors of exhibitions and learn important fire history facts and fire safety information, and published a new, modern website.

Our achievements are a direct reflection of the support we receive from our donors. The growth at the museum would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters, which includes many active and retired firefighters, foundations, and businesses who believe in our mission of preserving the storied history of the Cincinnati Fire Department and saving lives through fire safety education.

It will be hard to top the accomplishments and growth of 2023, but I am up for the challenge. It continues to be my honor to serve as the Executive Director of this important institution and commit to the steady advancement of the museum's exhibitions, programming, and community engagement. I hope you will visit us in the upcoming year to experience our progress firsthand and take part in our history and fire safety activities.

SARAH STRICKLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**"IT WILL BE HARD TO TOP THE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GROWTH OF 2023,
BUT I AM UP FOR THE CHALLENGE."**



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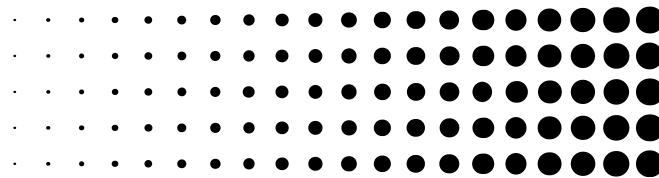
Charles Riefle
Cincinnati Fire Department



MISSION AND VISION

The Cincinnati Fire Museum highlights the significant contributions that Cincinnati has made to the firefighting profession. Cincinnati is the birthplace of professional firefighting and we are proud to display its history.

Our mission is to share and celebrate the history of firefighting in Cincinnati while providing a unique fire-safety education experience. Our vision is to bring the traditions of firefighting to life—in a museum that helps save lives.



Mission

To share and celebrate the history of firefighting in Cincinnati, while providing a unique fire-safety experience.

Vision

To bring the traditions of firefighting to life in a museum that helps save lives.





THE CFM COLLECTION

The Cincinnati Fire Museum's Collection is comprised of over 700 items plus a sizeable archive of photos, documents, and records. It represents the firefighting history of Cincinnati from the very first volunteer fire company formed in 1808. The fire alarm drum and brass key to the first fire house in 1808, along with parade hats, impressive hand pumped engines, and wooden water pipes have been displayed to illustrate the exciting bucket brigade years of the Cincinnati Fire Volunteers.

In 1852, Shawk and Latta of Cincinnati built the nation's first steam fire pumper. This invention paved the way for Cincinnati to establish the first professional fire department in the United States in 1853.

The exhibits highlighting this important period feature an impressive horse-drawn steam pumper, ladder wagons, helmets, badges, and many more fascinating items.

In 1917, Cincinnati became one of the nation's first fully-motorized fire companies, and the Ahrens-Fox Company of Cincinnati emerged as a leading builder of fire equipment. Two full-size Ahrens-Fox Engines in all their glory, are featured along with many other pieces of equipment. The outstanding collection of artifacts and graphics are the nucleus of the Cincinnati Fire Museum, making it a unique and prominent national attraction.





Fire Safety Education

Fire safety education is an important part of our mission, making the CFM a vital resource in our community.

In 2023, the museum renovated our Safe House exhibit - a mock house that teaches visitors, especially children, how to prevent a fire in their home and how to safely escape if one should occur.

The United States Fire Administration reported 94 fatal fires in Ohio in 2023, including 11 victims under the age of 15.

These alarming statistics prove the importance of the Fire Museum's fire safety education mission. Currently, the CFM is the only museum in our area that teaches this life-saving material.



A staggering 94 fatal fires were reported in Ohio in 2023.

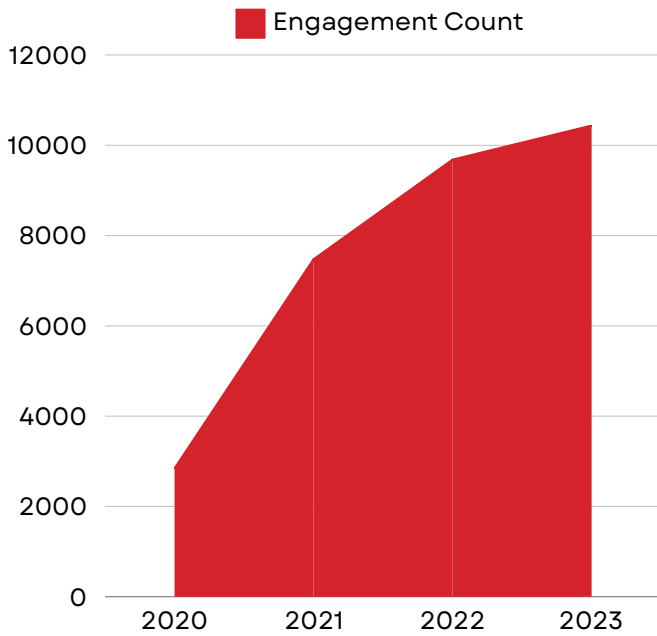


Visitorship

In 2023, the Cincinnati Fire Museum reached our highest attendance rate in the past two decades.

CFM attendance increased by 8% from the previous year

Growth Trends



2020

2,836
Visitors

2021

7,469
Visitors

2022

9,678
Visitors

2023

10,433
Visitors



2023 CFM Happenings

Easter Egg Hunt



Our third annual Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. We sold out the event and welcomed 100 children and their parents into our firehouse before we opened at 9 a.m. to hunt for eggs amongst our two floors of exhibits. To our guests' delight, the Easter Bunny also made an appearance. Visitors also explored our Safe House exhibit to learn crucial fire safety information.

Santa Rescue

2023 marked the fourth year of our annual Santa Rescue. We had a record amount of attendees lined up to visit with Santa inside the museum after he was bravely rescued by the members of Cincinnati Fire Department. Staff was on hand to explain exhibits and promote fire safety.

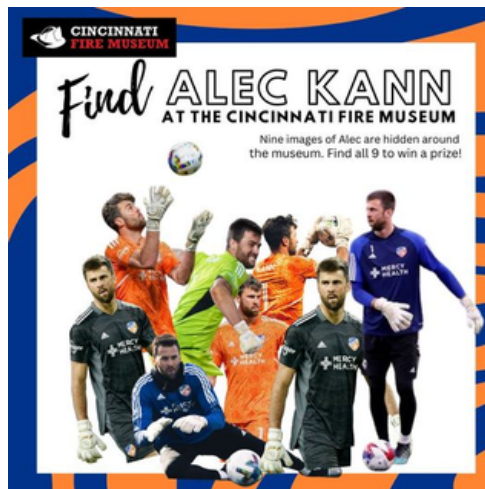
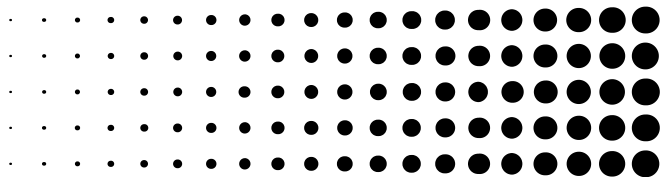




2023 CFM Happenings

Seasonal Programing

To stay relevant with current times and encourage repeat visitors, the Museum creates programs that incorporate pop culture and seasonal activities to inspire the exploration of our history and fire safety signage and exhibits.





Fundraising

In 2023, we carried out many fundraising events and campaigns. Fundraisers not only support operating costs, but also fund special projects and programs.

Super Bowl Squares

It is a CFM tradition to offer Super Bowl squares for purchase to help support museum operations. Thanks to our Events Coordinator, Gumby, we raised \$5,500 with this event in 2023.

Summer Letter Campaign

In mid-summer, we wrote to our supporters to keep them apprised of museum happenings and request their continued support. This campaign successfully raised \$13,500.

FC Pre-game Party

To leverage the popularity of our FC Cincinnati neighbors, we hosted a grill-out before the FC Cincy vs. Nashville match.

CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM

**FC CINCINNATI
PRE-GAME PARTY
AT THE CFM
7/15 | 3 - 8**

ALL AGES!

Explore the two floors of exhibits at the Cincinnati Fire Museum before FC Cincinnati beats Nashville. Beer, soda, snacks, and hot dogs will be available for purchase. We are a short walk from the stadium.

315 W Court St. | Downtown Cincy | tickets on sale at cincyfiremuseum.org

Halloween Party

The museum hosted an adult Halloween party on October 28th with many halloween related auction items available to guests.

CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM

HALLOWEEN PARTY

October 28 | 8 - 11 pm

Join us for this chilling event at the haunted Cincinnati Fire Museum. Tickets on sale at cincyfiremuseum.com.

315 W Court Street | Downtown Cincinnati

End-of-Year Letter Campaign

In keeping with tradition, we send our supporters an end of the year letter updating them on the improvements and successes the Museum enjoyed and the future challenges we anticipate. This campaign raised \$21,000.

CFM Firefighter Cook-Off and Fundraiser

The Third Annual CFM Firefighter Cook-Off and Fundraiser was a success. It was hosted by poet Kim Duap and judged by a panel of local food experts and personalities that included two James Beard nominated chefs, Hideki Harada of Kiki and Elaine Uykipang Bentz of Mochiko, the owner and chef duo of Fireside Pizza, Sam Dobrozi and Eric Seabolt, and FC Cincinnati player, Nick Hagglund. Attendees had the opportunity to taste the firefighter chefs' dishes and vote for their favorite. Additionally, guests enjoyed a bar of beer and wine, cookies by Busken Bakery, live music by the talented Siri Imani, and the chance to win raffle prizes from popular Cincinnati institutions such as Goodfellas Pizzeria, Taste of Belgium, Gold Star, and many more! The event successful raised \$17,600.



Thank you to our sponsors!

2023 CFM FIREFIGHTER COOK-OFF FUNDRAISER
November 18 | 7 PM

Featuring

RAFFLES
OPEN BAR
AUCTION
FIREHOUSE CHOW

CHEF ERIC SEABOLT
CHEF HIDEKI HARADA
CHEF ELAINE UYKIMPANG BENTZ
SAM DOBROZSI
NICK HAGGLUND
CHEF ELAINE UYKIMPANG BENTZ
LIVE MUSIC BY SIRI IMANI
SIRI IMANI

CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM
 SPONSORED BY

Sileo
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Cincinnati Fire Foundation

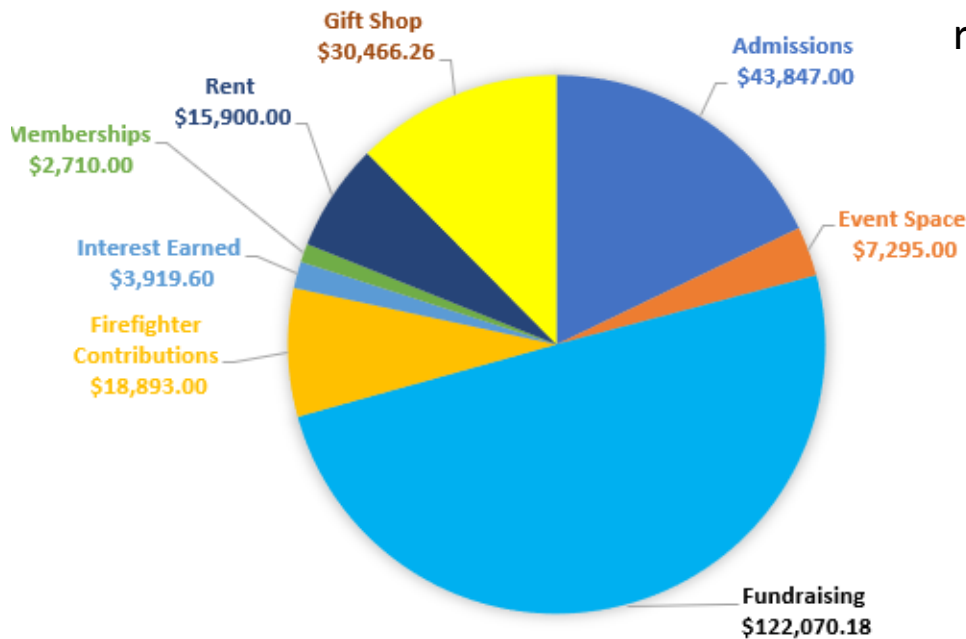
KZFDESIGN
Designing Better Futures

Gold Star



Financial Year in Review

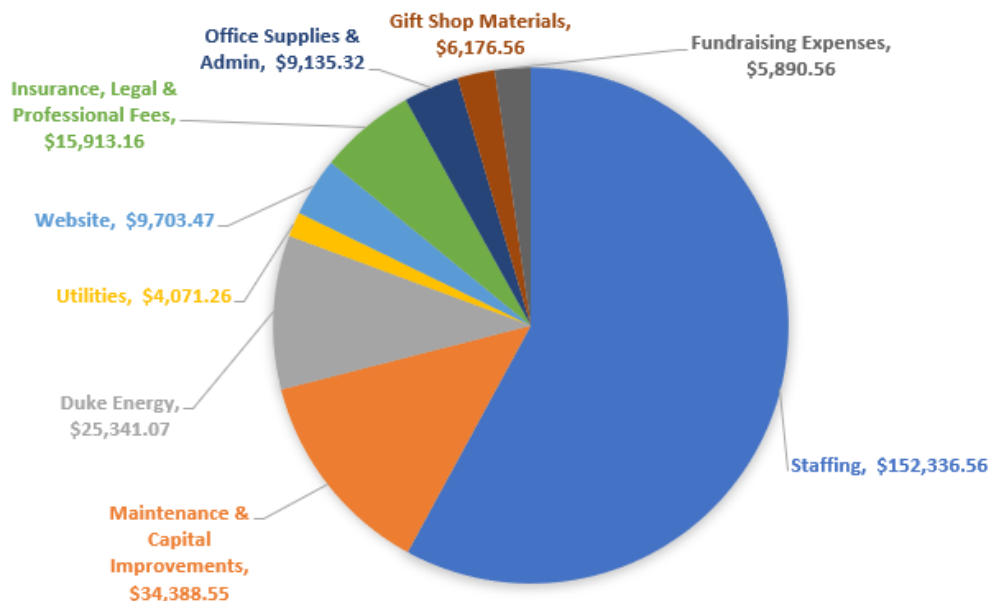
The Cincinnati Fire Museum relies heavily on donations for operating support. These donations come in the form of gifts from individual donors, foundations, grant awards, memorial gifts, and corporate support. We also receive support from the Cincinnati Fire Department members who opt into the payroll deduction program in which contributions are deducted automatically from their salaries.



Income

As demonstrated in this chart, the largest expense to the Museum is staffing followed by maintenance and capital improvements. This section includes the cost of new carpeting on our first floor exhibit level.

Expenses





Contributions

The Cincinnati Fire Museum could not fulfill its mission without the generosity of the support it receives from donors and foundations. It is with enormous gratitude that we present the following list of 2023 supporters.

\$25,000 - \$30,000

The Hardy Foundation

\$10,000 - \$15,000

Robert and Adele Schiff Family Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Ahrens Family Foundation

Helen E Allen Charitable Foundation

The Edelweiss Foundation

Harry Goetz

Gary and Carolyn Miller

The Unnewehr Foundation

\$2,000 - \$4,999

The Cincinnati Fire Foundation

Kemba

KZF Design

Roehr Insurance

Ethan and Susan Pagliaro

Michael Schueler

Silco

Unity Financial

\$1,000 - \$1,999

Manley Burke

Children's Hospital

Cincinnati Firefighters Union Local 48

Scott Csendes

Patricia Dudsic

Steve Hagy

Rick Jahnigen

Fire & Iron Motorcycle Club

Charles Scott Riley Foundation

Western and Southern Financial Group

\$500 - \$999

Peter Alpaugh

James Bunner*

Chris and Judy Dalambakis

William and Rita Diss

Al Gerhardstein & Mimi Gingold

Gary Gruber

Gregory Jeranek*

Joseph Newcomb

Haley and Jodi Snowden

\$200 - \$499

Kimberley Abner

Bill Brown

Michael Brown*

Kenneth Christo*

Thomas Crowthers

Alan Eccard*

Miles Greenwood Club

Derek Riley Johnson*

Jack and Tari Kennamer

Nathaniel Kroeger*

Daniel and Barbara Kuhn

Adam Lacefield*

Louis Rauh

Miles Greenwood Society

Mario Jackson*

Andrew Jones*

Robert Morgan

Robert Kuhn

Thomas Lane

Lynn Love

Randy and Carol Ludwig



John Nagy
 Louis Rauh
 Jim and Beverly Richardson
 Charles Riefle*
 Janis Roper*
 Waldon Schaffer
 John Sibert
 Diana Skeabeck
 The Steelcase Foundation
 Bryan Stockelman*
 Joshua Williamson*
 Matthew Wright*
 Beth and Chip Wood
 Michael Zimmerman*

**Donor is also a member of Club 1853*

Club 1853



This club is comprised of the Cincinnati Fire Department members who are enrolled as sustaining donors in the payroll deduction program. This year, we had a record amount of firefighters participate and received our largest contribution from Club 1853 yet, totaling \$18,801.

Michael Anderson
 Joshua Abner
 Drew Ahern
 John Aisenbrey
 Alex Anderson
 Bentley Andrews
 Joseph J. Arnold
 Melissa M. Arnold
 Alex Arnold
 Antonio Axle
 Ashley Ba (Booker)
 John Baer
 Lawrence Baibak
 Steven, William Baldauf
 Nykeba Banks
 Jeffrey Bauman

Joseph Becker
 Jason Becker
 Matthew Black
 William Bland
 John Bloomfield
 Vincent Bodkins
 Shawn A. Bogle
 Daniel Boller Jr.
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 Jared Boots
 Casey Boyd
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 Joel Brown
 Jerrell Brown
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 Keona R. Brown
 Kevin Brown
 Christopher Brown
 Rebecca Bryant
 Brian Bucher
 Darrell Bullock
 Eric Burns
 Ryan Burns
 Hogan, Edwin Burns
 Benjamin Calabrese
 Thomas Campbell
 Jacob Campbell
 Markis Carey
 Augustus Carpenter
 Adam Cary
 Lasha Cauthen
 Steven Cerise
 Hunter Chaney
 Camden Christo
 Matthew Clark
 Seth Clement
 Jordan Cochrane
 Zachary Cranfill
 Ryan Curtis
 Breana Dale

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Ronald Dangerfield-Bracey

Ashley Daniels

Megan E. Davidson

TreVaughn Q. Davis

Conner Davis

John Deal

Hunter Deaton

Timothy DeVita

Jordan Dirr

Zachary Doran

Ashley Doyle

Eric Driver

Chad Duccilli

Jenna Duebber

Clevon Dukes II

John Dunn II

Bradley Eberhart

Mark Edsall

Kyle Egbert

Michael Engelkamp

Zachary Enterline

Louis Faillace

Dominic Faillace

Daniel Faillace

Timothy (Jr) Findley

Kyle Findley

Matthew Flagler

Ben Foote

Matthew Fornshil

Erin, Kelsey Fox

Douglas Freeland

Ortiz, Osvaldo Gallego

Mitchell Geers

Brady Goins

Joseph Gonzalez

Daniel Graham

Andrew Gramke

Anthony Greve

Jackson Griffin

Nick Guilkey

Michael Hafner

Chris Handley

Mark Hardin

Jonathan M. Hardman

James Christien Hare

Andrew Harrington

David Harris

Anthony Harris

Jeffrey Hartman

Connor Hartmann

John Hautz

Brian Hawkins

Ehmil D. Henderson

Perry Herbert

Jared Hicks

Richard Hines

Andrew Hines

Alexander Hines

Benjamin L. Hodgson

Joseph Homan

Neil Houser

Richard Shelton Hunt

Damara Hunt

Chad I. Hunter

William Hursong Jr.

Cameron Jameson

Matthew Johnson

David Johnson Jr.

Jacob Jones

Michael Kappa

Robert Kastner

Donald Wayne Kavanaugh

Michael Kilcoyne

Joshua Kim

Robert Klasemer

Jeffrey Klug

Samuel Gregory Krugel

Thomas Lakamp

Joseph Lang

Tyler Lang

Jacob Allen Lawhorn

Emma Leidenbor (Harper)

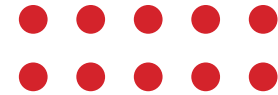


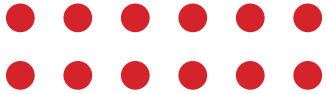
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Masai Leigh
Drew Lenhardt
Robert Liston
Luke Lonneman
Cesar Lopez-Comacho
Ryan Lucas
William Lustenberger
Michael Lustenberger
Benjamin Marchioni
Kyle William Mashy
Adam M. Maurer
Anthony Mazzaro
Sean McAllister
Eric J. McCarthy
Theodore Dylan McCulley
Timothy McElveen
Max Meisel
Robert Mengler
Matthew Metzner
Kylie Meyer (Baur)
Cameron Middlebrooks
Jenna Millay
Daniel T. Miller
Edward PJ Miller
Troy Mirick
Anthony Molfetta
Michael P. Monahan
Tyler Monahan
Bryan Moore
Tyler Morgan
Antonio Murphy
Stephen Myers
Cameron Napier
Nicholas Nappi
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Briana Oakley
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Ryan Schumann
Stephen Schwettmann
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Eric Whitis
John Williams
Peter Willig
Brandon Wittwer
Pete Wood
Chad Woodrum
Kelvin Woods
Sam Woodward
Kristen Worth
Seth D. Wright
Douglas Wunder
Jacob Young





*Squad 52 in front of the now
Cincinnati Fire Museum*



CINCINNATI FIRE MUSEUM

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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info@cincyfiremuseum.com
513.621.5553

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