

2023 Annual Impact Summary



MISSISSIPPI
**SHIPBUILDING
& MARITIME**
CENTER

The Mississippi Shipbuilding and Maritime Center works with many community representatives, maritime organizations, and governmental partners to carry out our mission of connecting people to Mississippi's 300-year history of Shipbuilding and Maritime Heritage while engaging the future of Mississippi's Maritime Innovations and Maritime Workforce Awareness.

We are incredibly proud of the work we accomplished in 2023! I'd like to share a snapshot of our successes, which could not have been possible without the support and collaboration of people like you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lorren West". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lorren West
Executive Director
Mississippi Shipbuilding and Maritime Center

Community Partner Civic leader Education Innovator
Conservation Trailblazer Economic Contributor

2023 at a glance



SHIPWRECKS

UNDERWATER ARCHEOLOGY



12

new exhibits
opened to
the public in
April 2023

1600

STUDENTS

sail through our ship's
learning programs

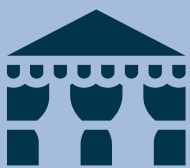


150-year old
MERMAN
arrives for
exhibition.

Bollinger Shipyard and
Signet Maritime Inc. donate
7+ Model Ships



PIRATE TREASURE



*Due to high demand,
ADDITIONAL EVENT SPACE
was opened for public use*

NOAA Hosts Maritime Workforce Hiring Events

Designated The Mississippi Heritage Trust 2023 Annual Convention Host



NAVIGATION

NOAA sponsors and creates
VALUABLE ARTWORK
showcased within our exhibits

Featured in TV-WKRG "MS Gulf Coast Attraction" Series

United States
Coast Guard
Auxiliary sells
out Boating
Safety classes

Tools of the
Ancient Mariner
installed

LOCAL HISTORICAL
SHIPBUILDER'S
TRIBUTE INITIATED

Our Volunteer
Program
awards several
"IMPACTFUL"
community
members



NOAA hosts
National Workforce
Recruiting
conference

REBRANDED

our name to ensure increased performance,
competence, and relevance –
Mississippi Shipbuilding and Maritime Center
(formally MS Maritime Museum)

MARITIME WORKFORCE AWARENESS

CIVIC LEADER – MSMC is committed to representing the diverse, dynamic population of the state of Mississippi through representation on its board, its staff, and its volunteer corp.

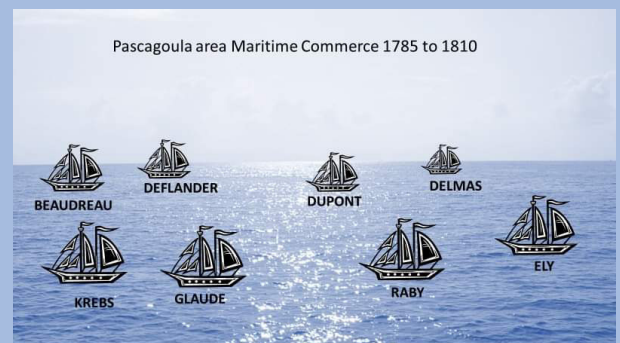
COMMUNITY PARTNER – We work with community organizations in Mississippi to provide affordable access, support charitable causes, and reach out to educate neighbors. Together we provide opportunities for all our communities to build connections and make a difference in our world.

*****Examples of organizations allowed complimentary access – MS Heritage Trust, American Business Women Association, NOAA, Jackson County Historical Society, Daughter of American Revolution-local chapter, and United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.***

CONSERVATION TRAILBLAZER – Climate Change, Ocean Resilience, and Marine Life Protection Displays!

Conservation plays an important role in our dedication to impacting diverse populations through maritime preservation, educational programming, and exhibits.

******2024 New Exhibit – “The Ishee Visionary Builder” sponsored in partnership with The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.***





EDUCATION INNOVATOR – MSMC supports its mission of connecting people to the maritime world with a diverse agenda of learning experiences for a wide range of learners including youth, teens, adults and families, and with resources for educators. From maritime subjects such as “Modes of Propulsion,” “Boating Safety Certification,” and “Marine Life Watercolor Painting,” we educated and entertained over 2000 students representing Beach, Central, Lake, Cherokee, Eastlawn, Jackson, Martin Bluff, Gautier, Vancleave, and Resurrection school systems.

**Maritime Workforce Awareness and Training initiatives were a critical part of our educational commitment to our maritime public. We are now in partnership with The University of Southern Mississippi’s GENSEA program, supporting classroom and STEM exhibit programs steeped in maritime technology careers.*

**Our 2023 “Pat Santucci” educational grant approval allowed us to invest in digital IPADS now playing an integral role in our education programming.*

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTOR – In 2023, we opened 12 impactful maritime exhibits and displays. We expanded and granted public access to an additional 4,000 feet of maritime entertainment venues. We are a future, innovative museum and maritime center. We are an employer, contractor, business leader and tourist, entertainment attraction.

****Approximately 48% of 2023 MSMC visitors came from outside the state of Mississippi area, including 10% visiting internationally. Our visitors directly impacted local tourism and spending within the state of Mississippi.*

****The American Alliance of Museums (AAM) estimates that museums contribute more than 33 billion dollars annually to the US economy.*

