



Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan

Besser Museum, Museum of Alpena Michigan

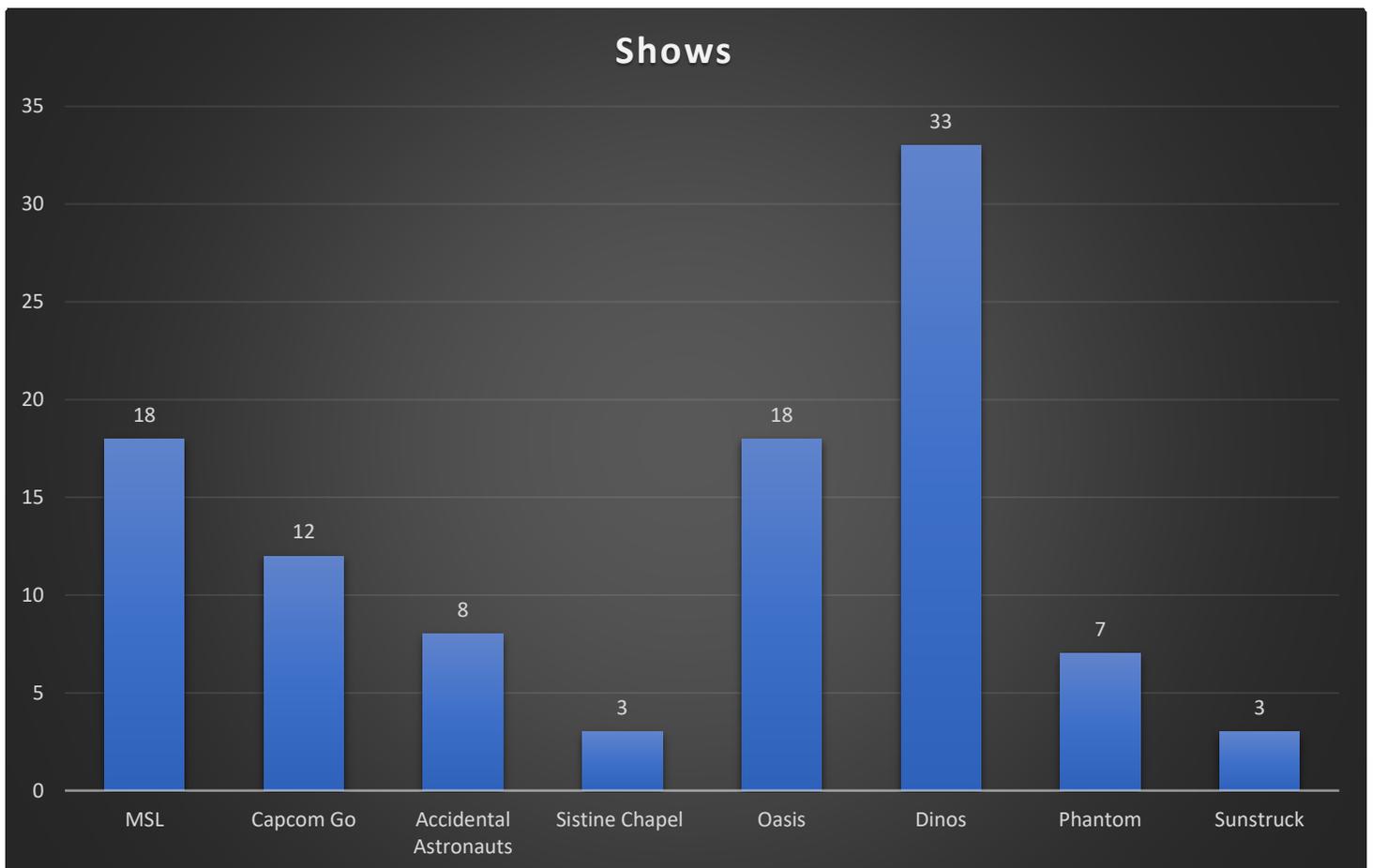
Museum of Alpena, Michigan, 491 Johnson Street 49707-9998

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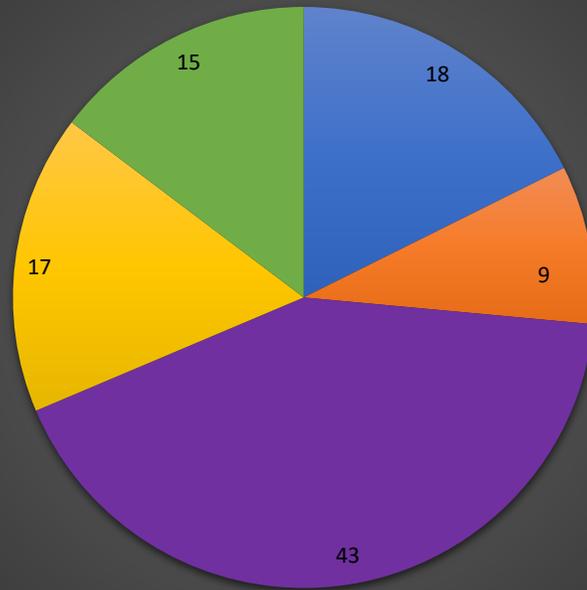
- (1) February Goals
- (2) Astronomy Update
- (3) Attendance
- (4) March Goals

1. My main priority for this month was to properly utilize the 360 Camera that we were borrowing. This was done as a proof of concept for us as the idea that a camera could be used to put content on the planetarium's dome was still more idea than reality. After a couple weeks of work and many hours behind the computer, I managed to effectively produce full dome slides and video with the resources on hand. This process required me to learn how to use adobe aftereffects as well as generally improving my skills in photoshop. It was a bit tedious at times, but I figured out the process and can now replicate the results as needed. I look forward to learning more in the future about 360 camera and using them to improve our outreach, as well as the overall quality and quantity of content that we produce at the Besser Museum.
2. Astronomy Update for March 2020. The evening sky for March is one of transition, as the wintery constellations like Orion, Taurus, and the Geminis make their descent towards the western horizon. While formally high and bright directly above the southern Horizon, the center of this Group, Orion, is now leaning towards he south west, and will continue to descend towards the horizon until he sets later on in the spring. In planet news, Venus is still shining brightly above the West starting at sunset but is nearing its pinnacle in the sky and will begin to follow Orion by month's End. While Venus won't be lingering in our skies for much longer, there are three plants lined-up in the morning to replace it, Jupiter, Saturn, and Mars. Starting early on in the morning around 6-7, the three planets will be lined up diagonally in the south east. However, Mars is currently in retrograde and is now moving back towards the eastern horizon, which means Jupiter will be passing Mars by before the end of the month. For an extra special view, head outside in the morning of the 18th, and you'll be treated to a special sight. Jupiter, Mars, and the Moon will all by right next to each other in the sky, with Saturn close behind on the left. All of this will create a special view the sky, as our solar system neighbors appear to stop in to say hi.
3. General Admission for the planetarium this month hovered just above 100, with our 366th day this year just pushing us over the 100-guest threshold at 102. This number is independent of planned groups which brought in about 75 guests.

4. For March of this year I would like to focus on preparing for the numerous events coming my way in the next few months. In March I'd like to send out a special event to the astronomy club, giving them a free or discounted first showing of Michigan Skies Live, on the Saturday after the Solstice (March 21st) ; this means that I need to complete the show by then. Next is Earth day, which is exactly one month away, while the planetarium is ready, there's still plenty of setup for the event as a whole. After that we have the WW2 event, so I need to photoshop all of the photos and images we want to use into the dome format. Once that's done, I need to prep my speech for the May 2nd astronomy day event that I'll be participating in up at the headland's, which should be as simple as short speech and presentation. After Astronomy Day there is the music group from Arizona. They've been rather lax with the details, so I'm hopefully going to talk with them on the phone soon and finish getting that prepared. And once all of that is said and done, or more likely done whilst juggling everything else, I need to see if Tanabata would be possible throw again this year. That's what Spring is looking to be for me. I have no doubt other events will pop up and divert my attention so I just hope that I can accomplish everything in time and to a satisfactory level.

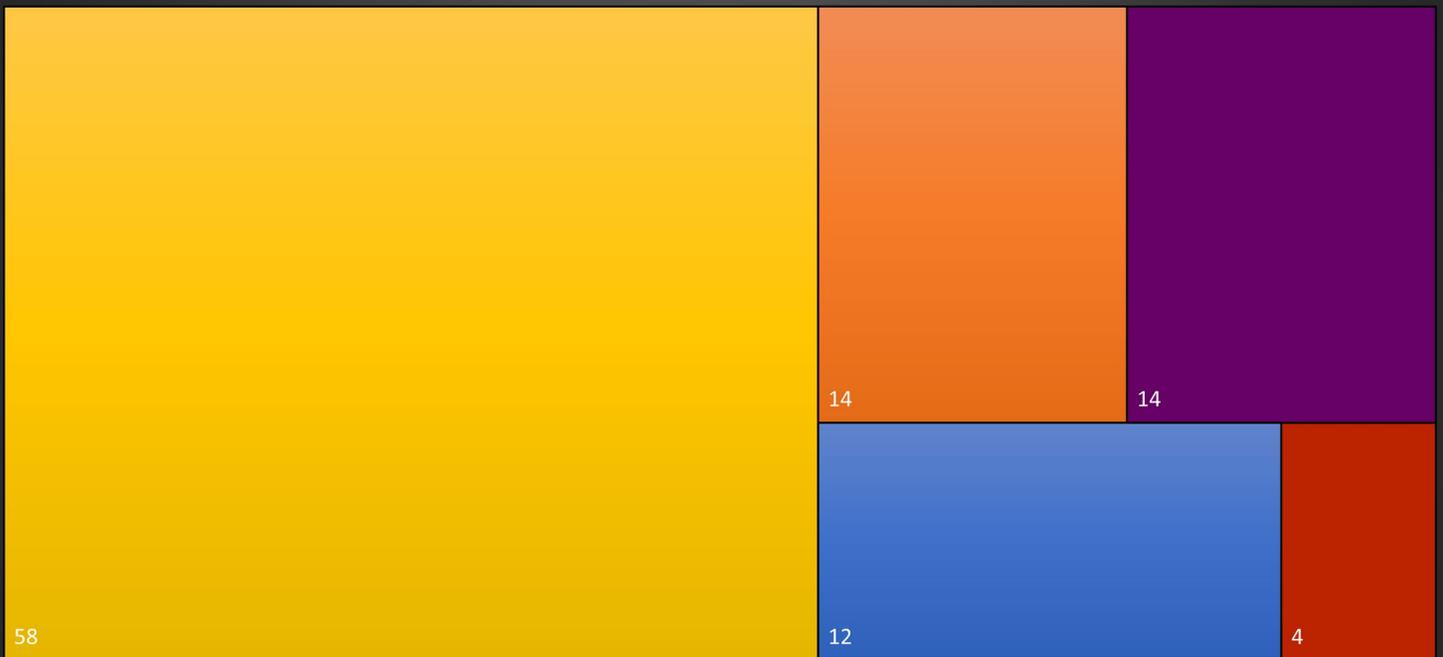


Showtimes



■ 12:00 ■ 1:00 ■ 2:00 ■ 3:00 ■ 4:00

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE



■ Wednesday ■ Thursday ■ Friday ■ Saturday ■ Sunday