

Cincinnati Museum Group's

# Bat Flight Program

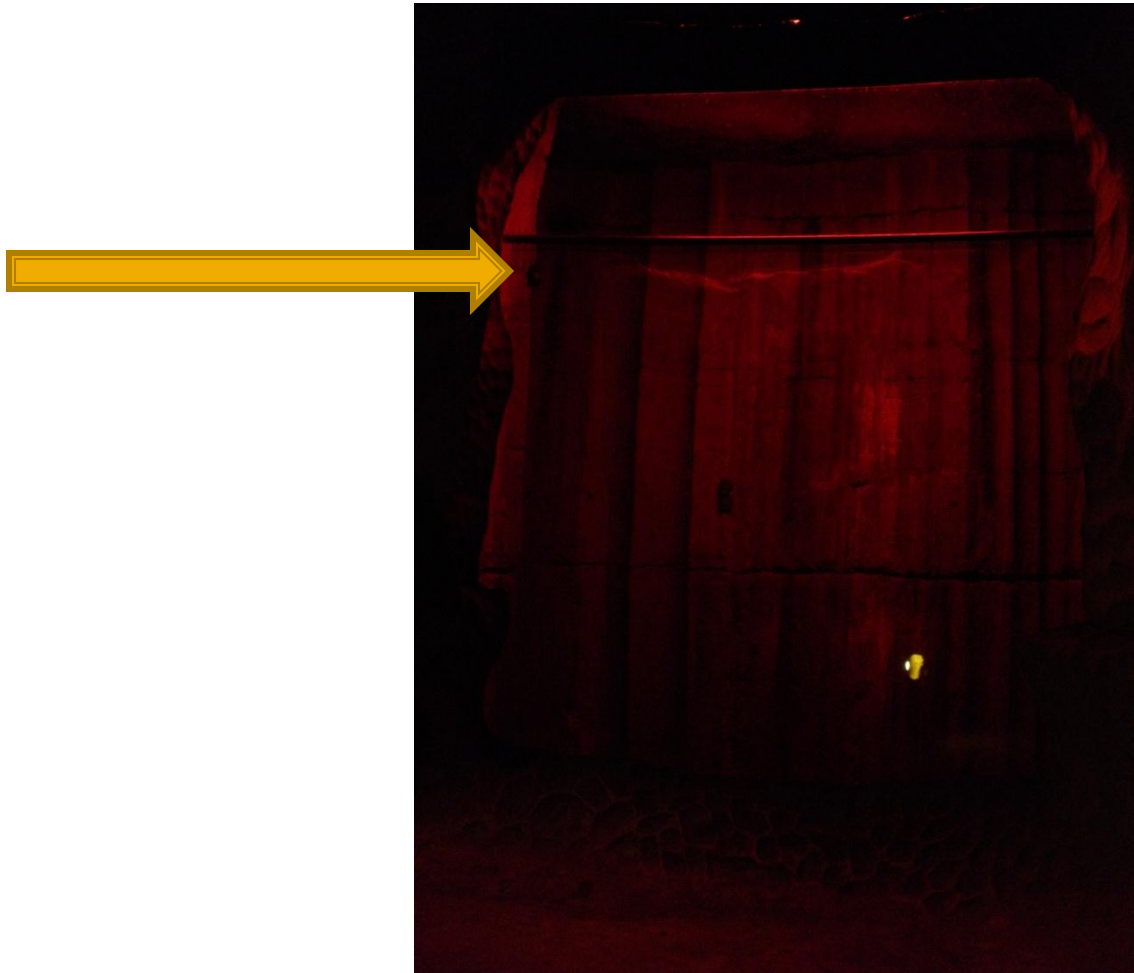
# At CMC - Our Bat Colony

behind the scenes



# At CMC - Our Bat Colony

a visitor's view from inside the cave



# At CMC - Our Bat Colony

the escape route for our bat cave colony



# At CMC - Bat Flight

the cage and information center



# At CMC - Bat Flight

Ann and the bats in action!



# At CMC - Bat Flight

Ann and the bats in action!



# At CMC - Bat Flight

awwwww!





# At CMC - Bat Flight

bat in a box



# At CMC – Displays and Exhibits

## The Bats of Ohio



**Eastern Red Bat**  
*Lasiurus borealis*



**Evening Bat**  
*Myotis austroriparius*



**Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat**  
*Plecotus rafinesquii*



**Hoary Bat**  
*Lasiurus cinereus*



**Indiana Bat**  
*Myotis sodalis*



**Silver-haired Bat**  
*Lasiurus noctivagus*



**Tri-colored Bat**  
*Pipistrellus subflavus*



**Big Brown Bat**  
*Eptesicus fuscus*



**Little Brown Bat**  
*Myotis lucifugus*



**Northern Long-eared Bat**  
*Myotis septentrionalis*



**Eastern Small-footed Bat**  
*Myotis grisescens*

With almost 1,000 species, bats comprise nearly one-quarter of all mammals and are the only ones with true flight. Bats occur in all habitats except extreme desert and polar regions, but show their greatest number and diversity in the tropics. They are nocturnal and the majority use echolocation, based on reflected sound waves, to navigate and find food. Most species feed on insects and eat nearly their entire weight in food every night. Other bats feed on fruit, nectar, pollen, small vertebrates, and blood.

Although they may resemble mice and rats, bats are not flying rodents. They comprise their own group, Chiroptera. This name, meaning "hand wing," refers to the thin, sturdy membrane stretched between greatly elongated arm and finger bones.

Most of the approximately 45 bat species in the U.S., and all 11 species in Ohio, eat only insects. Some Ohio species such as Big Brown, Little Brown, and Indiana Bats are social and roost together by the tens, hundreds, or thousands, in caves, abandoned mines, tree cavities, and buildings. They spend winters in hibernation. Other species such as Red, Hoary, and Silver-haired Bats are solitary, roost in trees, and migrate in winter to feed on insects in the southern U.S. or Central America. Tri-colored, Big-eared, Long-eared and the other species pictured are rare and seldom encountered by people.

Big Brown Bats are among the most common Ohio bats. They occur in many habitats- from cities to farms to woodlands. They are often found near human dwellings where they consume crop pests such as June Beetles, Cucumber Beetles, and leafhoppers. Little Browns are also quite common. They forage near water and feed on small, soft-bodied insects like midges, mayflies, caddisflies, and mosquitoes. Most Ohio bats have one young per year and live up to 20 years. They are not aggressive, avoid contact with people, and bite only in self defense when handled.

Bat populations are declining worldwide. In the U.S. nearly half of our species are endangered or threatened. Reasons for this trend include habitat destruction, pesticides, inadequate wildlife protection laws, and intentional destruction by humans. Another major threat to bats is the fungus that causes White Nose Syndrome. This fungus was first discovered in the U.S. in 2006 and has since killed millions of bats.

Cincinnati Museum Center

# At CMC – Displays and Exhibits



# At CMC – Displays and Exhibits



# At CMC - Bat Fest

sponsored by the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust



# At CMC - Bat Fest

sponsored by the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust  
greater cincinnati grotto

Watch local grotto members demonstrate skillful rope techniques to scale the Rotunda. Learn about cave ecology from the experts.



# At CMC - Bat Fest

sponsored by the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust  
fruit tasting

Did you know bats pollinate foods that we eat every day?  
Sample a variety of fruits from around the world pollinated by bats!



# At CMC - Bat Fest

sponsored by the **Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust**  
other presenters

- **Copperhead Environmental Consulting** - Learn all about bat research by checking out some equipment used to study bats in the field!
- **Cincinnati Parks** - Meet some of Cincinnati parks bat staff and get information about bats while doing some cool hands-on activities!
- **ArtReach: A Division of The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati**- Join a teaching artist from The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati as we fly deep into the fantastic world of bats! Through dramatic play and using popular children's literature as a springboard, this interactive storytelling experience invites children into familiar stories.
- **ECHO Bats, Inc** - See live bats up close and enjoy bat activities to learn the important role of bats in our ecosystem, and information about White Nose Syndrome.
- **Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division** - Pick up the latest publications to see what's happening in the world of local wildlife found in your backyard.
- **Ann Froschauer from the US Fish & Wildlife Service** - Learn about bats and what is threatening them, including white-nose syndrome, in one of Ann's 30 minute presentations!



# At CMC - Bat Fest

sponsored by the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust  
other activities

- **Clever Crazes for Kids** - Test your science knowledge with CleverCrazes.com, a STEM integrated website for families, after-school programs, and schools.
- **Budding Scientists: Bats Are Handy** - How is a bat wing similar to your hand? Visit us and find out!
- **Young at Art: William Wegman** - Artist William Wegman loves to dress his pets up in costumes and take their pictures. Have fun looking at his work while making a costume collage of your own!
- **DIY Disguise Lab**- Forgot your costume? Don't worry! Stop by and create a one of a kind costume to showcase in the Costume Parade.
- **Costume Parade** - Meet near Kids' SPACE in *Duke Energy Children's Museum* to show off your spooky threads and parade through the museum.
- **Dance Party: Monster Mash** -We'll have a howling good time boogying down monster mash style.
- **Bat Flight** - Ask our bat specialists questions as you watch our Big Brown Bats take flight in this 30-minute program (beginning of every hour).
- **Batty Brain** - Test your bat I.Q. with a twist on the classic game of Jeopardy.
- **Scavenger Hunt** - Flap into fun with our BatFest Scavenger Hunt earning *Nature's Trading Post* points.
- **The Cave** - Explore 500 feet of dark passages in one of the world's largest artificial limestone caves!
- **Cincinnati Museum Center's Programs-on-Wheels** - Try on a pair of bat ears, create a bat bookmark and become a "bat expert" after learning fun facts from hands-on bat-related activities.

# On the Road – Programs on Wheels

- Biggest vs smallest
- Baby bats in a cave
- Baby bat feet
- Hearing and Voicing
- Vampire bats and blood
- Bats and the fossil record

# On the Road – Programs on Wheels

- Karen Venetian and her team will be giving their Bat Program and invite you to watch, participate and enjoy!
  - Tuesday December 10 at 6:30pm
  - Boone County Kentucky
  - Walton Branch of the Boone County Library
    - 21 South Main Street  
Walton, KY 41094

# Thank you!

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