



Friends of the UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA PALEONTOLOGY CENTER

We would like to extend this opportunity to join the “Friends of the University of Montana Paleontology Center”. The UM Paleontology Center’s (UMPC) mission is to enhance education by serving as a center for research and public outreach, in order to preserve the fossil heritage of Montana and other regions. We are located in the Department of Geosciences, C.H. Clapp Building and house a large collection of irreplaceable fossils from all over the world. The Friends was organized to act as a support and advocacy group for the UMPC.

The UMPC’s research collection was established in the 1890’s through the work of Earl Douglass, first recipient of a graduate degree at the University of Montana in 1899. The full collection has an estimated 40,000 specimen-lots (an estimated 100,000 specimen elements), with 1050 of these are type specimens. Much of the current collection focuses on fossils from the northwestern United States but the collections also includes specimens from more than 18

countries. The holding contains an extensive Triassic invertebrate collection, a Cenozoic mammal collection, a Cambrian trilobite collection, a Burgess Shale collection, and a Mississippian Bear Gulch collection. All specimens are housed in a compactor system that accommodates 192 metal storage cases. Roughly 20,000 specimens have been digitized to the online website/database (www.cas.umt.edu/paleontology). This database offers students and professional researchers remote access to a diverse suite of UMPC fossils. The UMPC also maintains minerals, economic samples, and a petrographic collection. Our facilities include a photography/computer office, acid and preparation lab, and exhibit areas on the 1st and 3rd floors.

Funds Generated by the Friends of the Center will:

- Renovate the Paleo Prep Lab.
- Creation more public exhibits.
- Expand the tour and education program.

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YES, I would like to be a member of the Friends of the UM Paleontology Center!

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Gift _____ |

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Note that dues are for a period of **two** years! Checks should be made payable to: *UM Foundation/Friends of the UMPC*. All contribution to the Friends are tax deductible to the full extend provided by law.

Send membership forms and payment to: UM Paleontology Center – Department of Geosciences – The University of Montana – 32 Campus Dr. #1296 – Missoula, MT 59812