



+

build  
something.

+  
hello.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Editing and Copywriting  
Ashley Streichert

Toledo Zoo photos  
Corey Wyckoff

Graphite Design + Build  
15 N. Huron St.  
Toledo, Ohio 43604

**[www.graphitedandb.com](http://www.graphitedandb.com)**  
[info@graphitedandb.com](mailto:info@graphitedandb.com)

[@graphitedesignplusbuild](#)  
[#graphitedesignplusbuild](#)







+  
build  
something.



+

dream.  
design.  
build.  
nothing is impossible.

Creativity, collaboration, community — these are the forces that drive us to excel every day. We're Graphite Design + Build. A team of professional artists ignited with a passion for creating interactive worlds filled with details that blur the lines between reality and fantasy. From larger than life dioramas to miniature versions of anything, we approach every project the same — with respect for its history and space.

In 2011, Jeremy Link and Doug Kampfer founded Graphite Design + Build in the Warehouse District of Toledo, OH. Since planting roots, we've fostered a community of powerhouse creatives, working with partners, including the Toledo Zoo, Columbus Zoo, Lucas County Libraries, Toledo Museum of Art, and Toledo Metroparks. Collaboration drives our success. By connecting our areas of expertise with our clients' in-depth knowledge, we transform imaginative ideas into incredible realities.

Every project begins with a goal — to inspire and educate generations for years to come. We dive headfirst into the research to ensure what we create is a reflection of the idea and source. Going into the field, books, interviews, we find every single detail and bring visions to life. That's what makes us unique.

Let's build something together.







## educational environments.

From full-scale models to captivating dioramas, our team transforms spaces into educational experiences that help preserve history.

Our models and dioramas represent the wild, from current to prehistoric. Our research process is exhaustive. With every sculpture, we capture the unique characteristics of creatures to bring them back to life for education and inspiration. We collect data and visual representations to ensure every detail is represented — from the texture of the fur to the lengths of the blades of grass. When a visitor encounters our work, we want them to question what's real and created so they can fully immerse themselves into the scene.

Beginning with a design maquette, we help bring our clients visions to life by working together to confirm that every angle, movement, and direction is perfect before creating the final piece. We then integrate the scenes into their space, staying true to the beauty of the building. Everyone on our team takes ownership of their artistic expertise, working together as one to build immersive environments that ignite the senses at virtually every angle.

It's those fine details, respect for history, and focus on accuracy that defines the work we do day in and day out.



*Ohio After the Ice*  
Glacier cold-touch wall  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**





Owner and artist, Doug Kampfer, sculpting a scale model  
**2019**



Ohio After the Ice  
Woolly Mammoth, Mastodon, and Stagmoose dioramas  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**











## bringing history to life.

In 2016, we began to completely transform the Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo. It was a dream job for Link and Kampfer, two history and nature aficionados. The museum originally opened in the 1930s as a Works Progress Administration or WPA project. Our team collaborated with local firms to completely restore the building's original architectural character to create a historically accurate museum that will stand the test of time.

Over three years, we spent time in the field, visiting surrounding nature preserves and digging into archives to study the biodiversity of the region. Our research helped us create numerous dioramas of prehistoric animals and plant life that was found in the northwest Ohio region more than 13,000 years ago. The larger than life scenes live with a two-story greenhouse that houses an assortment of native plants and insects, as well as a dedicated section for educating visitors on venom biodiversity around the world.

One of the most remarkable scenes is at the opening of the space — a Woolly Mammoth protecting her young from a Sabertooth Tiger stalking their prey. This gorgeous scene started with a pencil and paper. Unlike most firms today, we like to keep it old school. After the art was ready for production, we painstakingly sculpted the skeleton of the Woolly Mammoth and got approval before moving on. We created a miniature metal armature that only bends where the bones can bend to ensure every prospective pose could occur in the wild. Once the final pose was approved, we completed the sculpture. All of these steps lead to the client receiving exactly what is approved and expected.







*Ohio After the Ice*  
American lion diorama  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**





Ohio After the Ice  
Bootherium diorama  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**





*Ohio After the Ice*  
Giant sloth and Short-faced bear diorama  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**





*Ohio After the Ice*  
Dire wolf diorama  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**









Fig. 1



Fig. 2

#### Wetlands and Lakes

Fig 1: Underwater diorama build

Fig 2: Open water diorama

Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo

2019









Wetlands and Lakes  
Marsh diorama  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**





Oak Forest  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**





Oak Forest  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**













Quetzacoatlus  
The Toledo Zoo  
**2013**





Great White shark  
The Toledo Zoo Aquarium  
**2014**





How different venomous animals can impact the body  
Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**

## + educational interactive stations.

Think back to your childhood. Imagine the first time you touched and interacted with an exhibit. It's magical. That moment sticks with you forever. That's how we approach our interactive educational stations — through the mind of a child. When the movements and actions correlate with the facts, these stations open up the opportunity for engagement, allowing families to learn together and create lasting memories.

We work with our clients to understand their educational goals. Then we collect data and create methods for visitors to touch, move, and listen, fully immersing themselves into the information.

Through these unique experiences, we strive to educate visitors with designs that maintain a seamless feel throughout the entire exhibit.







Interactive cabinets

Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo

2019



Shark bite interactive station

The Toledo Zoo Aquarium

2014





*Smilodon bite interactive station*  
The Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**



*Live animal display cabinets*  
The Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo  
**2019**





## + donor recognition.

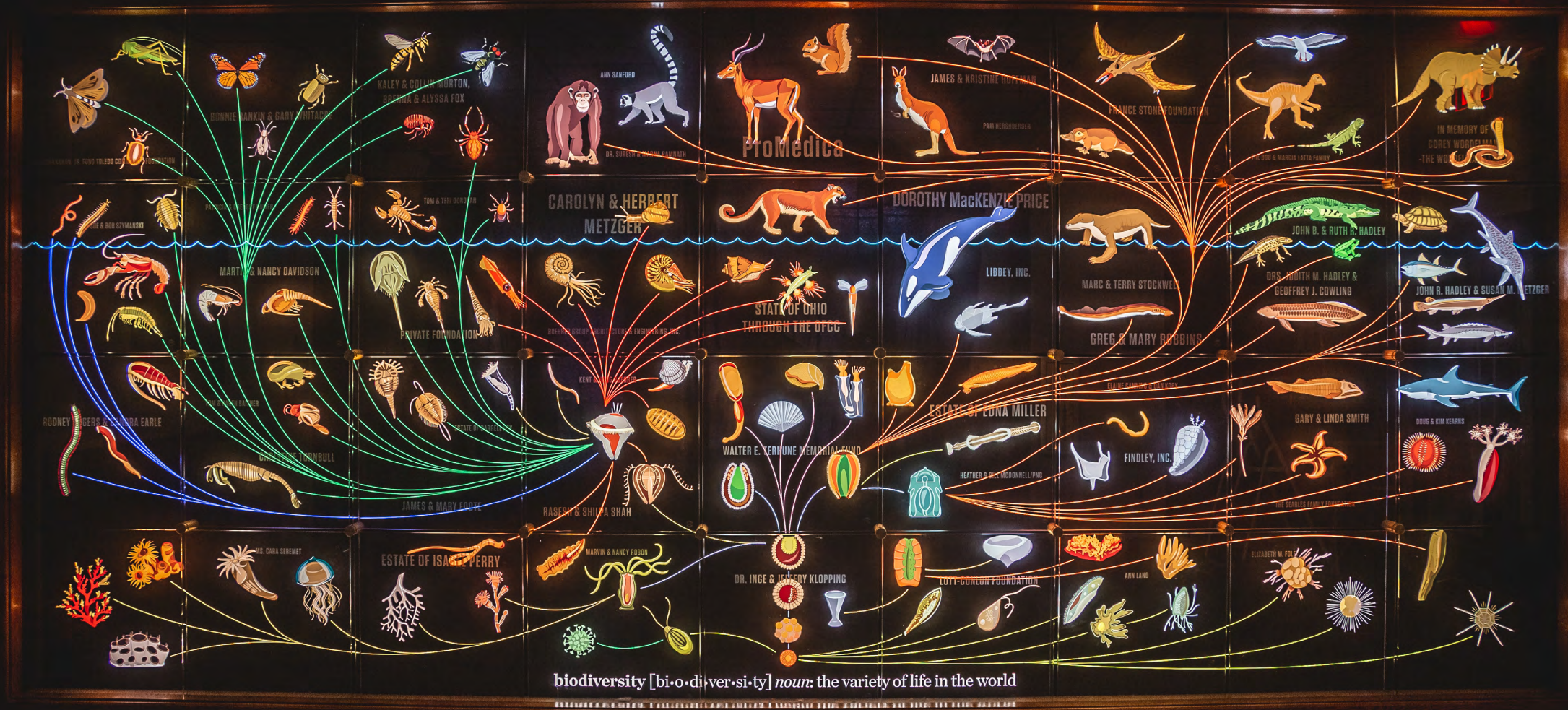
One of the first projects we took on as Graphite Design + Build was a donor piece. That project helped us understand the significance and potential of these spaces. Since then, we vowed to take a creative approach when working with the names of generous donors. Donor recognition is an opportunity to inspire and educate while paying homage to those that invested in your area to make it a reality.

We ensure these galleries work with your space — staying true to the theme of the exhibit and the architecture of the building. Whether it's leveraging the connections between animal species or creating a stunning artistic mural, our designs encourage visitors to take a moment to appreciate and honor everyone connected to your project.



George K. Saloff Family Children's Library donor wall  
Toledo Lucas County Public Library-Downtown  
**2019**





Donor recognition wall

Promedica Museum of Natural History at the Toledo Zoo

2019



## + scale models.

Scaling a scene, like a familiar building or landmark, to a fraction of its original size, allows people to view something they know so well through a new lens. It's very eye-opening. That's why many clients request miniature models for their space. Our team takes precise measurements, ensuring every inch of the design is scaled true to its original size. It's always fun to hear the astonishment when someone discovers the real dimensions of structures related to its surrounding environments.



Scale model  
Ludwig Mill, Metroparks Toledo  
**2013**



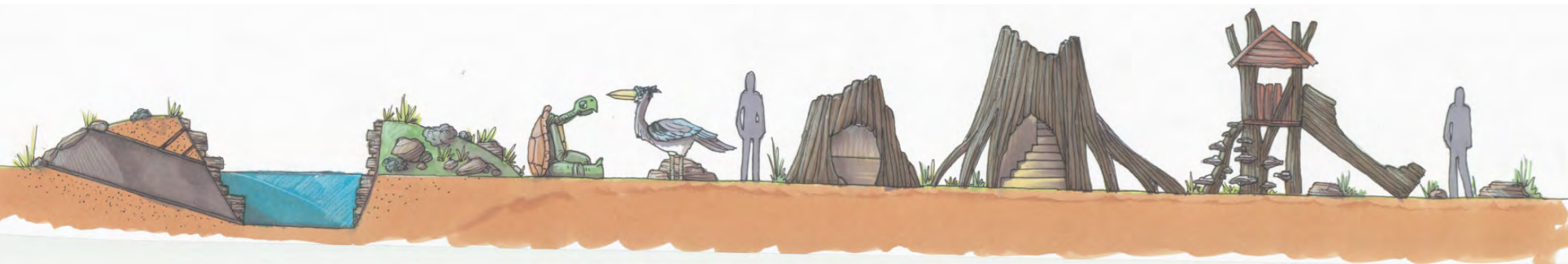


Scale model  
Toledo Museum of Art  
**2012**



## + interactive spaces.

We believe in creating immersive experiences for everyone everywhere. Our interactive spaces leverage larger than life sculptures and detailed facades to invite visitors, both young and young at heart, to engage with their environment. Visitors are encouraged to touch and interact with works of art, enhancing their experience and igniting their imagination.

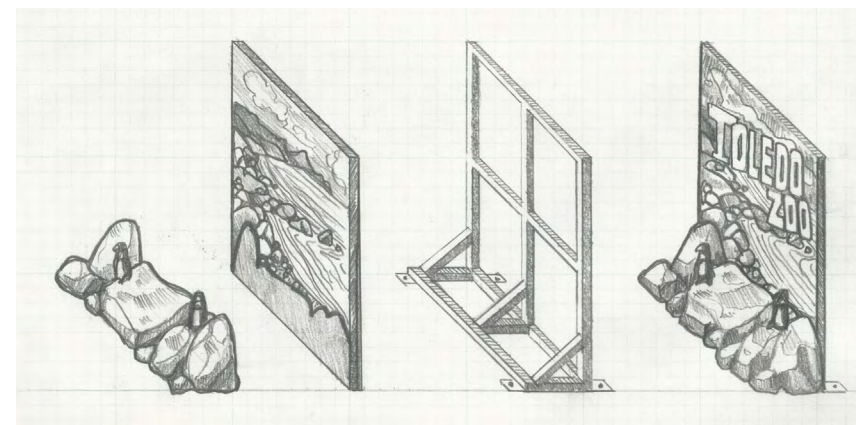
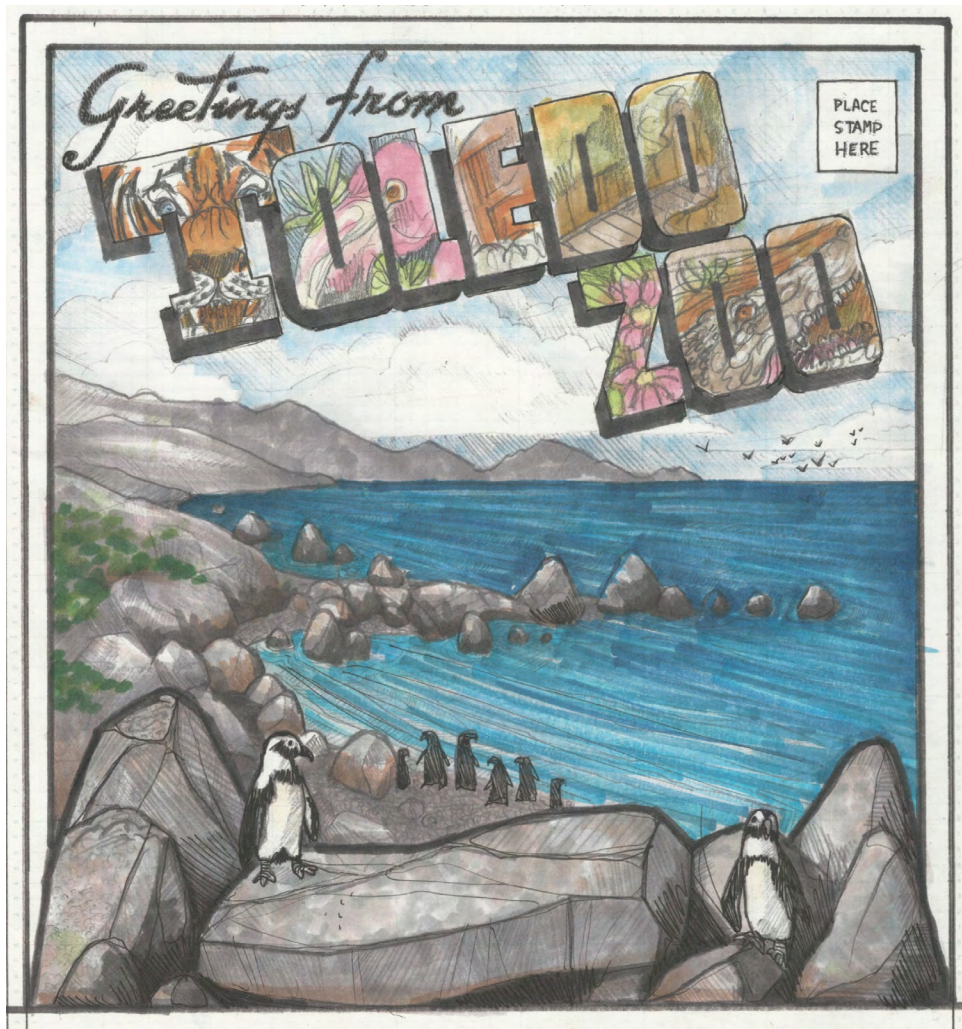






Pearson Park  
Metroparks Toledo  
**2015**

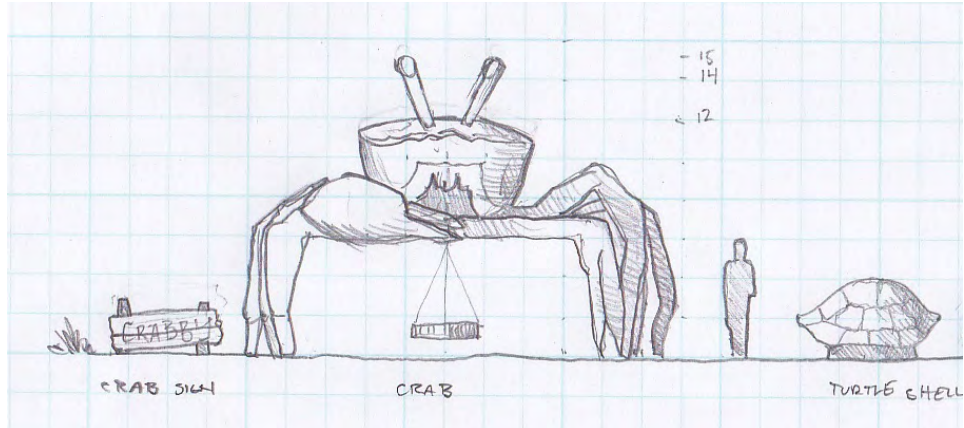












Aquarium Adventure Trail  
The Toledo Zoo  
2014





Children's Library  
Hudson Library, Hudson, Ohio  
**2016**



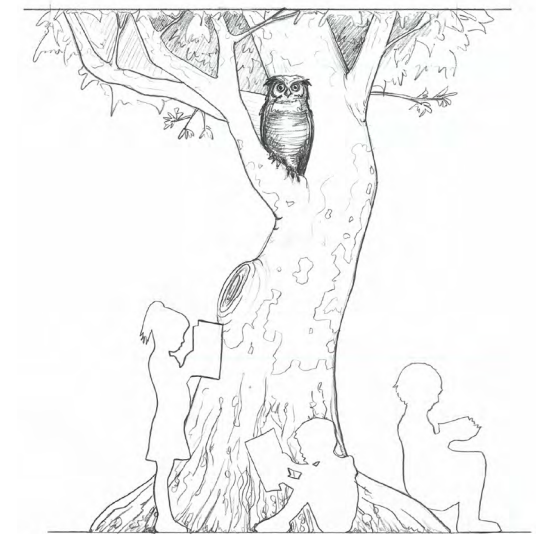




Children's Library  
Hudson Library, Hudson, Ohio  
**2016**



Children's Library  
Toledo Lucas County Public Library-West Branch  
**2015**



Children's Library  
Wood County Public Library-Walbridge Branch  
**2015**





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