

## Lakes of Fire AfterBurn Report 2018



Great Lakes Experimental Arts LLC, held its 10th Lakes of Fire Event with the theme Bedtime Stories. The 2018 Effigy took the form of a large bed titled "BEDdazzle". For the eighth year, our Event was held at the Lucky Lake Campground and Outdoor Center property in Montague, Michigan. This was our tenth anniversary as an event. Set-up began on June 8th. Gate opened to General Ticketed Participants on June 13th. Effigy was burned on June 16th. The last volunteers vacated the venue on June 19.

**Pre Event.** Infrastructure Teams and Effigy Build Crew began to arrive on site June 8, 2018. Infrastructure Construction and Effigy Build occurred with few interruptions from Michigan weather. Morning Lead meetings began on June 11. Early arrivals for qualifying volunteers, Theme/Sound camps, and Art installations began on June 12, 2018.

Most departments were set up and staffed when Gate opened to the General Ticketed Participants on June 13, 2018. Our effigy was complete and open for participant interaction. Our Board Communications were established with Event Departments, Landowner, and local authorities.

**Event.** 2,199 tickets were sold. Participation waivers were signed by adults 18 years of age and older. Children 17 and under were assigned wristbands and the parent or guardian completed a 'child registration form' that included basic information: parent name, child name, camping location. Approximate number of attending children was 65. 66 Art Grant and Honoraria recipients received \$50,000 in funding in 2018 and were among a huge variety of displays brought by over 93 Theme Camps and several large Sound Camps. A total of 21 Mutant Vehicles were registered with the DMV including 6 small vehicles. We ran 22 Organizational Departments with over 1,200 participant volunteers under those departments totaling over 20,000 hours.

**Challenges.** Vehicle camping growth presented some manageable issues within the event this year, causing some displacement within theme camps and in open camping spaces. This issue was effectively managed on site, and will be addressed going forward with better controls and a revised registration form. 2018 was our first implementation of a post-event wristband identification system designed to help identify the persons authorized to be on premises during the post-event period. During the post-event site tear-down a participant was witnessed by event personnel going through multiple camps and rummaging personal property, and was observed hiding items in bushes for later retrieval. The individual was removed from the premises and the items were returned.

**Post Event.** Event personnel were onsite until June 19, 2018 for completion of infrastructure tear-down, storage, and full site clean-up and restoration.

**Finances.** Closed the books with a deficit of \$9,222 after paying expenses of \$219,182. Total revenue was \$209,959.