

Darwin Day 2026 at UWM

WGS had a display table at Darwin Day 2026 at UWM on 2/14/26. Pierre and Kayla were at the table answering questions about the club and recruiting new members. Kayla was especially enthusiastic about getting younger members to join. We have one completed application and handed out 15+ applications.

Rocks and minerals on display were pink and red themed and heart shaped. Pierre provided minerals from his collection. Jody provided some rocks from her collection and Paul Schmidt provided a Laips heart. The basalt and sandstone beach rocks, as well as the Lapis heart and the fluorescent rubys garnered much attention from the public. Thomas Muenster stopped by with a bag of Rose Quartz Hearts to give away, and the kids loved them.

For the hands-on section of the table, there was a selection of 1.5-2.7 billion year old rocks to hold and examine under a magnifying glass or microscope. Some Ordovician fossils from Fennimore and some Cambrian sandstone rounded out the display. The magnifying glass and microscope were a hit with kids and adults.

The most talked about piece was the heart-shaped rock made from Rapakivi Granite from Waupaca. This naturally occurring shape was assumed by most to have been man made and they were impressed with the story of its discovery.

WGS was thanked multiple times by UWM students and staff as they walked past our booth and we were mentioned at the beginning of the keynote speaker event featuring Dr. John Isbell, as well as given a huge thanks at the end when they took the group photo.



