

2006 Preliminary Conference Program



Mountain-Plains Museums Association
When Cultures Converge, Doors Open

53rd Annual Conference: Monday, September 18 — Friday, September 22, Taos, NM



Welcome From MPMA's President



The Mountain-Plains Museums Association Annual Conference comes to Taos, New Mexico, in 2006, and what better place to soak up art and culture! New Mexico's "Land of Enchantment" offers a rich southwestern cultural legacy amid the striking contrasts of its natural beauty.

And it has been for centuries a place where cultures converged, from early man to the Indian cliff-dwellers, to the Spanish conquistadors and priests, and finally to the Anglo arrival in the mid-1800s. To this day the Indian, Hispanic, and Anglo cultures mix their cultures, traditions, and talents, and yet they remain distinct.

And that mixture will be ever present in MPMA's conference. There will be sessions devoted to cultural convergence, material culture as well as to the burning museum issues of the day. Illegal antiquities, anyone? You will also be able to participate in unique sessions and workshops: there will be pottery classes on Taos and Hispanic pottery; a forum on the pending closure of three Indian museums located in the MPMA region; and sessions devoted to Taos history, its alternative ways of living (past and present), and its amazing art collections.

While you are in one of the state's northernmost cities, we'll help you take in its architecture and atmosphere as well as the views of the mountains, the many art galleries, and fantastic museums. You'll discover the city's natural beauty and see the convergence of its rich ancient cultural heritage with the contemporary art scene. Find out why so many people feel at peace when visiting New Mexico and why we have chosen as our conference theme, "When Cultures Converge, Doors Open." Taos is a great place to see and experience the arts, and we'll make sure you see all of it.

MPMA's conference planners are making sure this is a memorable meeting. Charles Lovell, Christy Sturm and Shelby Tisdale, Co-Chairs of the Host Committee, have done a fantastic job with evening events and tours. Robin Gavin and Katie Gardner, Co-Chairs of the Program Committee, with help from Arthur Wolf, have put together what is perhaps the finest program MPMA has ever had. The Town of Taos has provided tremendous support for the conference by providing transportation and staff support. And we are pleased to have as conference partners the Museum Association of Taos, New Mexico Association of Museums (NMAM), New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, and New Mexico's Office of the State Historian. I want to thank all of them for their work, support and generosity. And a big thanks to our speakers. We had more session proposal submissions than ever before, and present to you a program of over 70 sessions and workshops. Plus, we will have a full exhibit hall featuring the latest in products and services for the museum field. The conference will close with a cowboy dance, so be sure to bring your western wear or buy something western in Taos. We'll make sure you have time to shop in the downtown famous for its stores.

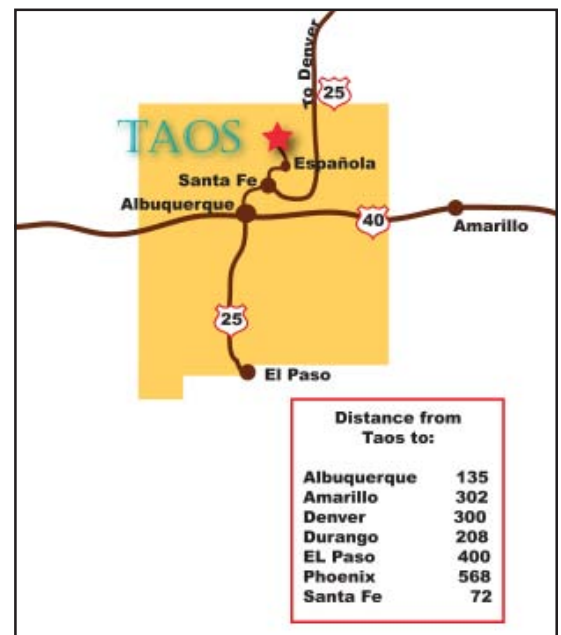
I look forward to seeing you in Taos for a mixture of learning, fun, and relaxation.

Dee Harris

President, Mountain-Plains Museums Association
Director of Visual Arts & Humanities, Mid-America Arts Alliance,
ExhibitsUSA, Kansas City, MO / Bonner Springs, KS

The conference is designed to be a rendezvous in the traditional Taos sense - trading goods (ideas in our case), socializing heavily (we do that well), and learning from other cultures.

Art Wolf



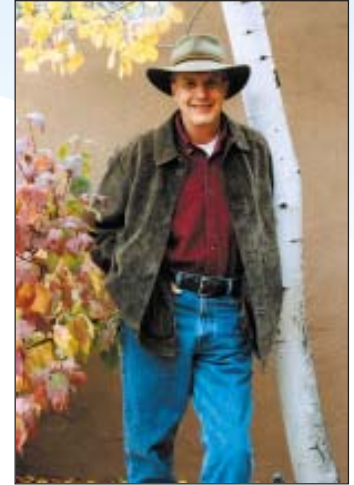
Distinguished Speakers

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James F. Brooks

Dr. Brooks is president /CEO of the School of American Research, in Santa Fe, NM. Trained in history and anthropology while pursuing his doctorate at the University of California, Davis, he has taught at the University of Maryland and the University of California, Santa Barbara. A noted ethnohistorian, his book "Captives and Cousins: Slavery, Kinship, and Community in the Southwest Borderlands" (University of North Carolina Press, 2002), won eight prestigious scholarly awards. His other books include "Confounding the Color Line: the Indian-Black Experience in North America" (University of Nebraska Press, 2002) and "Women and Gender in the North American West" (University of New Mexico Press, 2004).



James F. Brooks



Stuart Ashman

Stuart Ashman

Stuart Ashman was raised in Cuba and arrived in New York at the age of 12 in 1960. He studied photography and fine art at the City University of New York and the Rochester Institute of Technology. He settled in New Mexico where he has lived since 1977. Stuart has served in many positions, but always in relation to arts and culture. He was artist in residence for the New Mexico Arts Division for over 10 years, he was the art teacher at the New Mexico State Penitentiary, he served as Curator of the Governor's Gallery at the State Capitol, for five years he directed the Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe and he was the founding Director of the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art. In 2002, he received the Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts and in September of 2003, he was appointed by Governor Bill Richardson to serve as his Cabinet Secretary for the State's Department of Cultural Affairs.

Erik Ledbetter

Erik Ledbetter has been with the American Association of Museums in Washington, D.C. since January 2003. As Senior Manager of International Programs, Erik manages the staff of the U.S. committee of ICOM, oversees the International Partnerships Among Museums program, and monitors cultural property issues. Previously, Erik served as Project Manager for AAM's Nazi-Era Provenance Internet Portal. Before joining AAM, he spent six years in the distance learning field, managing the development of Web-based courses for corporations, academic institutions, and nonprofit associations. His experience includes graduate degrees in US History, academic teaching, and work in the curatorial departments of several mid-Atlantic museums.



Erik Ledbetter



Distinguished Speakers continued



Gary F. Edson

Gary F. Edson

Gary F. Edson is the executive director of the Museum of Texas Tech University and director of the Center for Advanced Study of Museum Science and of the Heritage Management. He is also a professor of Museum Science and has served as director of the Museum of Texas Tech, acting curator of Art, chair of the Department of Art and professor of Art. Prior to that, he served professorships at West Virginia University, Indiana University and Northwestern Louisiana State University. He was also a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador. He received a BFA (Sculpture) from Kansas City Art Institute, and a MFA (Ceramics) from Tulane University, New Orleans. He is also a 1986 alum of the Winedale Museum Management Seminar. His publications include "Mexican Market Pottery" (1979) and the "International Directory Of Museum Training" (1995) and several other publications on which he was a co-author or contributor. He has also edited many publications including "Museum Ethics" (1997). Presently, he serves on the Executive Council of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), and the Editorial Advisory Board of Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archive Professional. He has served on the boards of the University Museums and Galleries (ACUMG) and the American Association of Museums (AAM), and on Executive Committee of the U.S. National Committee of the International Council of Museums (AAM/ICOM). He served as chair of the U.S. Committee on Museology (US/ICOFOM), was secretary of ICOM's Committee on Training of Museum Personnel (ICTOP), and served on the ICOM Ethics Committee.



Gov. Joe A. Garcia

Joe A. Garcia

Joe Garcia is the governor of *Ohkay Owingeh* (formerly the San Juan Pueblo) in New Mexico and was recently elected president of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). Governor Garcia served NCAI as first vice-president, two terms as San Juan lieutenant governor, two terms as the governor of San Juan Pueblo and is a former school board chairman. A community advocate, Governor Garcia serves as president of TSAY, a tribally owned business. He has his own consulting business, Misty Lake Consulting.



Thomas E. Chávez

Thomas E. Chávez

Dr. Chávez is a graduate of the University of New Mexico. He recently retired as the executive director of the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Before that, he was director of the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe, New Mexico, for twenty-one years. Dr. Chávez is the recipient of a Fulbright Research Fellowship, a Distinguished History Award Medal from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and a 1997 Excellence in the Humanities Award from the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities. His publications include "Spain and the Independence of the United States: An

Intrinsic Gift" (2002; Spanish edition 2006), "In Quest for Quivira: Spanish Exploration on the Plains, 1540-1821" (1992), and "An Illustrated History of New Mexico" (1992). He is currently working with the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico, to raise an endowment.



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I have been coming to MPMA's annual conference longer than most people. I come because of the people and the friends I've made over the years through my conservation business. I also come because it is a great place to make contacts and to network.

Carmen Bria

Pre-Conference Workshops

All workshops held at the conference hotel unless indicated otherwise



Monday, September 18, 2006

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

1. Traditional Taos Pueblo Pottery Making (C)

Nationally-known ceramics artist, Sharon Dryflower Reyna will conduct a pottery workshop at her studio at Taos Pueblo using local micaceous clay. Participants will create a piece of Taos pottery using traditional methods. Lunch will be included. Slip will be applied at the artist's studio on Wednesday, 1:30 pm, and a firing session, following the traditional Technique of "pit firing," will be held Friday, 9:00 am. Participants will be able to take their piece home! Limited to 15 participants only.

Presenter: **Sharon Dryflower Reyna**, Artist, Taos Pueblo, NM

2. Certified Institutional Protection Manager (AG, F)

This IF CPP-sponsored full day workshop provides essential protection information for any institution that opens its doors to the public. The only national certification that addresses safety & security concerns specific to cultural facilities, the CIPM program covers everything from fire protection to emergency preparedness to protection of collections and not to be missed for any museum professional involved with the protection of facilities, staff, visitors and assets. Successful completion of full day course work and on site exam earns participants nationally recognized certification. Contact us at 800/257-6717 or <http://www.ifcpp.org/> for more information.

Presenters: **Stevan P. Layne**, CPP, CIPM, CIPI, President, Layne Consultants International, Dillon, CO; other instructors TBA.

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

8:30 - 12:30

3. Cultivating History: Gardens at Museums and Historic Sites (C, ED)

American Indians, Mexicans, Spaniards and Americans with diverse backgrounds collected and cultivated native, introduced, wild, and domesticated plants. These same plants - used from the colonial period through the early 1900's in urban and rural settings, on plains, deserts and at high altitude - can be grown and interpreted in a historic setting. Presenters will discuss federal guidelines and terminology for historic landscapes and will give examples of ways to restore, establish, and interpret gardens at museums and historic sites. Additional topics to be covered are funding, garden research, plant material and marketing. Participants are encouraged to share brochures and other material that feature their institution's gardens.

Chair: **Paula Manini**, Director, Trinidad History Museum, Trinidad, CO

Presenters: **Peggy Froeschauer Nelson**, Historical Landscape Architect, National Park Service, Santa Fe, NM; **Joseph Bell**, Director of Facilities Services, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO; **Celia Curtis**, Coordinator of Interpretation, Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver, CO; **Patricia Price**, Museum Educator, Spanish Colonial Arts Museum, Santa Fe, NM.

9am - 12 pm

4. Spanish Colonial Pottery (C)

Immerse yourself in the history, geography and archaeology of Spanish Colonial pottery and get your hands dirty at the same time! Camilla Trujillo, a traditional artist from northern New Mexico, has researched the 18th and 19th century pottery made and used in Spanish Colonial and Hispanic households. Participants will make one item by hand using clay that results in Casitas Red-on Brown. Limited to 10 participants.

Presenter: **Camilla Trujillo**, Adjunct ceramic teacher, Northern New Mexico College at Espanola, Santa Fe, NM

5. From Digital Capture to Database Presentation: the Complete Digital Workflow (TECH, C)

The complete digital workflow is a simple, easy-to-understand process designed to create low-cost, high quality photographic results. This workshop will cover this method and is designed for the non-professional photographer (curator, collection manager, registrar) who needs to perform like a pro, or the experienced photographer who wants to be current with best practices for digital imaging. Handouts will include clearly explained theoretical concepts, as well as digital imaging standards that conform to internationally accepted digital imaging best practices. Workflow includes: studio set ups for 2D and 3D objects, lighting techniques, camera controls, PhotoShop techniques, and archive management. This workshop emphasizes the simplest and least expensive approach and how high quality results are achievable without expensive equipment.

Robert Hickerson, Photographer/Database Project Manager, Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Endorsed by RC-MPMA, NAME, MPMA's Technical Committee



Tuesday, September 19, 2006 continued

6. From Field to Kitchen: Research and Identification of Foodways Tools (C)

Is identification of farm machinery a harrowing experience for you? Having trouble telling a pie crimper from a pizza cutter? This workshop will help you understand, research, and identify the tools that put food on our table, from corn drills and plows to hog scrapers and oyster shuckers. Our presenters will draw upon extensive hands-on experience both on the farm and in the kitchen. Workshop participants are invited to bring photographs of tools which they need help identifying.

Presenters: **Steve Friesen**, Director, Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave, Golden, CO; **Todd Topper**, Director of Collections Management, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO

12:30 pm – 4:30pm

7. Good Enough to Eat: Making Faux Food (C, EX)

Food is a great way to add interest and new interpretive elements to museum exhibits and historic sites. Since real food is rarely a viable option, come learn fun and inexpensive methods of making your own artifact-friendly faux food! This workshop is very hands on and messy, so dress appropriately. Limited to 20 participants.

Chair: **Kathy Dickson**, Outreach Director, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, OK

Presenter: **Martha Ray**, Historic Homes Department Director, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, OK

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

8. Being Creative in Small Volumes: Product Development for Museums (D, SM)

Modeled on a program of the City of Las Vegas Museum and New Mexico Women's Foundation, this workshop will explore building connections between museums and local women artisans to create shop products, marketing ideas and to determine how to evaluate success. Participants will identify collection icons, connect object with message and calculate earned income potential. Activities will include evaluating museum products from around the country, plugging ideas into the "Potential Matrix," and tackling issues related to rights and reproductions in contracts. Workbook provided.

Co-Chair's: **M. Susan Barger**, Technical Services, Museum Development Associates, Santa Fe, NM; **Linda Gegick**, Director, City of Las Vegas Museum & Rough Riders Memorial Collection Las Vegas, NM

Presenter: **Barbara B. Hagood**, Administrative Services, Museum Development Associates, Santa Fe, NM

Endorsed by SMAC

9. Inexpensive, Quick, Easy-to-Make, Reusable, Artifact-Friendly, Custom-Made Mannequins (C, EX)

Historic clothing requires properly sized mannequins to achieve the appropriate look while supporting the garment. Commercial store mannequins are often the wrong size, shape and materials; purchased, custom-made mannequins are expensive; and most museum-made mannequins require time and talent to create. An exhibit with a tight budget and schedule requires custom mannequins which is how the pole mannequin was invented. Pole mannequins are easily made from everyday materials that your museum may have and/or can purchase at local hardware and fabric/craft stores. Participants will make a scaled mock-up of a mannequin to take back with them.

Chair: **Jenny Yearous**, Curator of Collections Management, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck, ND

Presenters: **Lee Roach**, Preparator, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck, ND; **Erin Storc**, Curatorial Assistant, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck, ND

Endorsed by RC-MPMA, NAME

10. Planning for Success: Preparing for Capital Projects (AG)

Nothing is riskier to an institution than a capital project. The proper planning critical for success is often elusive for many because this planning is not a core competency of museum leadership and decisions are often subject to significant board involvement. This workshop will provide practical guidelines for the process, from preparing and managing a board to identifying the complete scope of a project in very early stages. Institution leaders will learn some tools and strategies, and come away with information on how to begin the process internally, develop financial and political support, work with consultants and determine what to demand from them, and where to find information. Participants will also learn how to create a realistic assessment of needs and an action plan to accomplish these goals. A significant emphasis will be placed on determining cost. The session will end with discussion on the importance of marrying the capital plan with ongoing business and operations plans.

Presenter: **Walter L. Crimm**, AIA, LEED AP, Vice President, Cultural Practice, EwingCole, Philadelphia, PA

Conference Session Chairs and Presenters

The session chair organizes the session and receives conference information from MPMA. Presenters: Contact your chair for updates about your session. Session guidelines are available on MPMA's website.

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SPC/AFFINITY COMMITTEES

MPMA's SPC/Affinity Committees are offering many opportunities to mingle with colleagues from similar professional backgrounds.

Anyone may attend these events. The Affinities include:

ACUMG

Association of College and University Museums
and Galleries

COMPT

Committee on Museum Professional Training

CurCom

Curator's Committee

Distance Managers

For those managing distant museum sites

EdCOM

Education Committee

NAME

National Association of Museum Exhibitors

RC-MPMA

Registrars and Collection Managers

SMAC

Small Museum Administrators Committee

Tribal Museum Network

Tribal Museum Professionals

Volunteer Coordinators Committee

Volunteer Managers and Coordinators

Monday, September 18 — Friday, September 22



Conference Hotel: Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center

Monday, September 18

Conference Registration	8:15 am — 9:30 am
Pre-Conference Workshops <i>(see page 3)</i>	9:00 am — 3:00 pm
MPMA Board Welcome Dinner	5:00 pm
2006 Program Committee Meeting	7:30 pm
MPMA Board Orientation	7:30 pm
MPMA State Representatives Meeting	7:30 pm

Tuesday, September 19

All events at Conference Hotel: Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center unless otherwise indicated

Conference Registration Opens	8:00 am — 5:30 pm	Meet Ups:	
Board of Directors Meeting	8:00 am — 12:00 pm	Technology Committee Meeting	3:30 pm
Pre-Conference Workshops <i>see pages 3 & 4</i>	8:30 am — 4:30 pm	Open to those who would like to meet others involved with website development.	
Exhibit Hall Set Up	10:00 am — 5:00 pm	Membership Committee Meeting	3:30 pm
New Mexico Association of Museums(NMAM) Annual Meeting and Luncheon Ticketed Event	12:00 pm — 2:00 pm	MPMA's Membership Committee will strategize a plan for 2007.	
All conference delegates and guests invited. Awards presented and officers installed.		Scholarship Recipients	3:30 pm
NMAM Silent Auction	12:00 pm — 6:00 pm	Scholarship recipients will meet each other and receive special instructions.	
		Mentors and Mentorees	4:00 pm
		Mentors will be introduced to their conference mentorees at this time.	
		First Time Attendees	4:15 pm
		This is for delegates attending their first MPMA conference.	

Evening Events:

Welcome Reception 4:00 pm — 5:30 pm
MPMA's Tribal Museum Network provides a razzle-dazzle welcome to the Land of Enchantment, complete with tribal music, dancing and food. Open to all delegates
Sponsored by Arthur H. Wolf, WOLF Consulting, Las Vegas, NV



Millicent Rogers

Opening Reception: Celebrate the Southwest at the Millicent Rogers Museum 6:30 pm — 8:30 pm
Ticketed Event
See one of the best collections of southwestern art in the state collected by this heiress whose passion for southwestern art formed the foundation of the museum. Buy the latest book on its jewelry collection and have it signed by the author. Listen to a flute player from the Taos Pueblo and watch the San Juan "Ohkay Owingeh" Buffalo Dancers.

Late-Nite at the Bar: To Collect or Not to Collect...That is the Question 9:00: pm — Til ?
MPMA's late night bar sessions pose controversial questions that are often better approached in an informal setting. As we gather in the quaint hamlet of Taos, this year's question concerns the ethical implications of private collecting by museum staff members. Can a museum benefit from collecting by staff or does such collecting result in a sea of troubles? Should staff members be allowed and even encouraged to collect as a way to enhance their knowledge? Or should collecting be prohibited under all circumstances to avoid conflict of interests? Join us as we suffer the slings and arrows of these ethical dilemmas and, through lively discussion, perhaps end them.

Moderators: **Francine Carraro, Ph.D.**; **Steve Friesen, Director, Buffalo Museum and Grave, Golden, CO**



SESSIONS

Wednesday, September 20th

At Taos Convention Center / Shuttles available from conference hotel

Conference Registration 7:15 am — 5:00 pm

Breakfasts 7:30 am — 8:30 am
Ticketed Events

Start the conference off with a bang by joining colleagues for the smell of coffee, a hot breakfast and interesting discussions.

RC-MPMA

Open to RC-MPMA members and anyone interested in issues related to collections management and registration, the annual business meeting breakfast is the place to be! Find out what's happening at the state, regional and national level, weigh in on important issues, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow registrars and collections managers.

COMPT, ACUMG, and EL

New and established professionals, training providers, and students are invited to joint COMPT, ACUMG, and EL members in roundtable discussions of career opportunities and challenges.

Tribal Museum Network

Join us for a thoughtful discussion about Tribal museum concerns and challenges. Meet colleagues who are directly involved with these issues and share your own concerns in a small roundtable format. You'll come away with solutions and new friends. *Moderator: Arthur H. Wolf, WOLF Consulting, Las Vegas, NV*

Sponsored by Arthur H. Wolf, WOLF Consulting, Las Vegas, NV

Van of Enchantment - Open to Delegates 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Visit New Mexico's Van of Enchantment and see what's inside. Tom Leech, director of the Press at the Palace of the Governors, will be on board to



introduce visitors to the colorful story of New Mexico book artists, their dedication to a timeless craft, and their extraordinary contribution to literature in the region. The van's exhibits highlight the state's first press, brought to New Mexico by Padre José Antonio Martínez; works by some of New Mexico's most venerated printers and book artists and books and collections material from the Press at the Palace of the Governors, where numerous award-winning publications have been designed, developed and produced. Our thanks to the State of New Mexico's Department of Cultural Affairs for providing the Enchantment Van, AKA The BIG Girl. It will be parked outside of the Taos Convention Center.

Concurrent Sessions 9:00 am — 10:15 am

A1

Don't Fence Me In! 12,000 Years of New Mexico Art and Architecture (C)
Beginning with objects made by Clovis hunters and ending with contemporary art, this slide talk emphasizes aesthetic and cultural fusions between American Indian, Hispanic and European American traditions. This session will orient delegates to the diversity of New Mexico art and culture, and suggest local museums where delegates may see more of the material presented in the slides. Join Santa Fe Art Historian and Curator Joe Traugott for this delightful and witty introduction to your MPMA week in Taos.

Presenter: Joseph Traugott, Ph.D., Curator of Twentieth Century Art, Museum of Fine Art, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, Santa Fe, NM

Endorsed by CurCom

A2

Putting a Positive Spin on "No Child Left Behind" (E)

This year's EdCOM Marketplace of Ideas will expand on last year's breakfast meeting topic. Participants will work together to put a positive spin on the "No Child Left Behind" mandate by exchanging current strategies and ideas for program planning, marketing, and evaluation. A packet of models and evaluation rubrics will be available for participants. Please come prepared to share your strategies.

Presenter: Kathrine Schlageck, Education and Public Programs Supervisor, Beach Museum of Art, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

Endorsed by EdCom

A3

Taking a Small Museum from Uh Oh to Excellent (SM, AG)

What are the core questions that small museums must face in the quest for excellence? This panel shares three case studies: 1. New Mexico's newest and smallest museum to attain AAM accreditation; 2. A rural museum on the way to becoming a prominent force in its community; 3. A small city museum about to face the arduous task of self examination.

Chair: Susan Berry, Director, Silver City Museum, Silver City, NM
Presenters: M. Susan Barger, Technical Services, Museum Development Associates, Santa Fe, NM; D. Ray Blakely, Director, Herzstein Memorial Museum, Clayton, NM; Barbara B. Hagood, Administrative Services, Museum Development Associates, Santa Fe, NM

Endorsed by CurCom, SMAC

A4

Museum Geeks vs. Blue Collar Workers or, How I Learned to Love Bob the Plumber (AG)

When museum professionals work with professionals from other fields, there is often miscommunication because each speaks a different language. Understanding each other is never more important than when embarking on the creation of a new museum facility. This session aims to help museum professionals learn to speak the language of architects, general contractors, exhibit design firms, and move contractors. Come and learn from our mistakes and successes!

Chair: Erin Quinn, Collections Curator, City of Greeley Museums, Greeley, CO

Presenters: Abbie Chessler, Design Director, Quatrefoil, Inc., Laurel, MD; Nancy Lynch, Exhibits Curator, and Diane Karlson, Kinetics Curator, City of Greeley Museums, Greeley, CO; Michael Laspina, Quality Compliance Manager, The Move Center/St. Vrain Moving, Fort Collins, CO

Endorsed by SMAC

A5

The Year of the Museum: The Past, Present and Future of Professional Training (PD)

On this one-hundredth anniversary of the American Association of Museums, students from museum studies and public history programs in colleges and universities throughout the MPMA region will present papers focusing on professional training. This session will give students and museum practitioners the opportunity to enter into dialogue with each other regarding the training and education of our upcoming professionals in "best practices" for a museum career. This session is sponsored by the MPMA's Committee on Museum Professional Training (COMPT) in conjunction with MPMA's ACUMG (Association of College and University Museums and Galleries) and MPMA's Emerging Leaders Affinity Committee.

Co-Chairs: Carolyn Pool, Professor, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK; Susan B. Moldenhauer, Director/Chief Curator, University of Wyoming Art Museum, Laramie, WY; Alison Miller, Asian Art Intern, Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.

Presenters: To be selected from student applicants in May 2006.

Endorsed by ACUMG, COMP, and EL

Wednesday, September 20th continued

A6**The Archival Connection: Strengthening the Cultural Significance Between Object and Audience (C/ED)**

Many museum archives are sacrificed whenever there are budgetary constraints or space issues. Yet, they are a valuable and integral part of a museum's collection. Learn why archives are essential to museums and how they contribute to the overall understanding of collections and exhibits. *Presenters: Helen M. Krische, Archivist/Exhibit Coordinator, and Kerry Lippincott, Registrar/Curator, Watkins Community Museum of History, Lawrence, KS*

A7**Useful Tool or Fleeting Fad? Museums, the Web and the Preservation of Culture (TECH)**

Success stories from museums on the World Wide Web abound. Is this technology a help or a hindrance to staff who must maintain these sites? Does it really bring more people to museums? And what about generations X, Y, and Z? With multiple generations already in a post-literate stage, will they take advantage of the web to access our great collections and museums? This session explores costs for creation and maintenance of a museum web site and the desirability of investing in the future of "web culture."

Chair: George Laughead, Manager, President, Ford County Historical Society, Dodge City, KS, www.vlib.us

Presenters: Heather McClenahan, Los Alamos Historical Society, Los Alamos, NM, www.losalamoshistory.org; Jeremy Clark, Principal, Orinda Group, Los Angeles, California, www.orindagroup.com

Endorsed by MPMA's Technology Committee
Endorsed by CurCom, EdCom

Exhibit Hall Opening and Food Break 10:15 am — 10:45 am

Fresh coffee and donuts await you as the conference gets under full swing with tasty morning morsels served in the Exhibit Hall. This is a great opportunity to see the latest products served up by the exhibitors and see old friends.

Sponsored by all of the Exhibitors

General Session 10:45 am — 12 Noon

Welcome by: MPMA President **Dee Harris** and the Honorable **Bobby F. Duran**, Mayor of the Town of Taos.

Stuart Ashman: Museums in New Mexico

New Mexico's Cabinet Secretary for the Department of Cultural Affairs discusses how museums are doing in the state of New Mexico.

James Brooks: The American Southwest: Our Troubled Paradise

Dr. James F. Brooks takes a sweeping look at the forces that have sculpted society in the American Southwest in this multi-media presentation. Human conflict, cultural exchange and social renewal have played important roles and left enduring legacies. Diverse populations of the region have long struggled over scarce natural resources and engaged in social conflict; however, these processes have also produced much of what we celebrate as the Southwest's distinctive cultural milieu today. Drawing upon archaeology, history, ethnography, art and music, Brooks explores the ambiguous relationship between violence and revitalization in our region's past, present and future.

MPMA Business Lunch 12:15 pm — 1:30 pm
Ticketed Event

Converging Cultures International: Opening Doors Across Borders
U.S. museums serve a complex mosaic of cultures and peoples. Through our collections and programs we contribute significantly to understanding **diverse cultures**. This is more than a local calling—it is by its nature an international endeavor. Learn about two ways your museum can take the encounter among cultures to the next level by working across borders. AAM has two programs that make it easy for U.S. museum professionals to connect with colleagues abroad—the International Council of Museums and the International Partnerships Among Museums program. Historically, both ICOM and IPAM have not been well known in the MPMA region. Find out why working internationally can help your museum fulfill its mission at home, and learn how museums in the MPMA region can use ICOM and IPAM to make those key connections with international colleagues.

Distinguished Speakers:

Gary Edson, Member of the International Council of Museums Executive Council, and Director, Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX;
Erik Ledbetter, Senior Manager of International Programs, American Association of Museums, Washington, DC

Exhibit Hall Closed 12:15 pm — 1:30 pm**Silent Auction Preview in Exhibit Hall Open 1:30 pm — 3:00 pm****Book Signing – Shelby Tisdale**

Fine Indian Jewelry of the Southwest: The Millicent Rogers Museum Collection (Museum of New Mexico Press, 2006)

Concurrent Sessions 1:45 pm — 3:00 pm**B1****The Long and Ancient Road: Potholes and Smooth Sailing in the Development of the Camino Real International Heritage Center (CC)**

The presenters will explain the long and complex history of the efforts to create a center in New Mexico dedicated to broadening the public awareness of *El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro*, or The Royal Road to the Interior Lands. This session will present three perspectives from persons who were directly involved at important points in the development of the project, and show how the Center is now interpreting this ancient and historically significant road of exploration, commerce, conquest and settlement between the American Southwest and central Mexico.

Chair: Tim McElroy, Director, El Camino Real International Heritage Center, Socorro, NM

Presenters: Ingrid Biel, AICP, Principal/Senior Planner, Architectural Research Consultants, Inc.; Kate Padilla, MaggINK, Writer/Consultant, Retired BLM Manager, New Mexico

B2**Creating Outstanding Audio/Video Programs (TECH, CM)**

Effective communication across cultures requires knowing how common words can have another meaning when delivered in a different way. This session will help participants planning an audio/video program understand the principles of production and how various decisions will affect the quality and ultimately the success of the project.

Presenters: Stasha Boyd, President, and Michael Lutz, Technical Director, Q Media Productions, Inc., Winter Garden, FL

Endorsed by NAME



Wednesday, September 20th continued

B3

Hands-on History Camp: Exploring the Past by Getting Down and Dirty (ED)

Our human history lies just beneath our feet! See how staff at the Siouxland Heritage Museums makes history fun by making it dirty at their brand new archaeological day camp. Children learn archaeological techniques, discover pieces of material culture and engage in critical thinking about what they uncover at this "pseudo-site." Topics of discussion include how to choose a time period, creating a site, and how to find your site again months later! Hear about this unique archaeology program as well as similar "off campus" programming from other institutions.

Presenters: April Woodside, Curator of Exhibits, Siouxland Heritage Museums, Sioux Falls, SD; Matthew Woodside, Naturalist, The Outdoor Campus, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

Endorsed by EdCom

B4

Acquisition and Care of Digital Collections (T, C)

This session will discuss the technology, policy and procedures for acquiring and properly archiving and caring for digital collections of documents, photographs, and art. We will look at the various forms of digital media and their differing physical requirements for longterm care, and the technology required to achieve that goal. Suggested procedures, policies and techniques for organizing such collections will be discussed, with an eye toward developing a standard approach to such documentation. This topic involves a crossroads of both technology and museum culture, which will have significant longterm effects on the field museums wrestle with the constant changes in digital technology.

Chair: Mark Janzen, Registrar/Collections Manager, Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita, KS

Presenter: Mark Ryan, Vice President of Registration and Collections, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND

Endorsed by CurCom, RC-MPMA

B5

Moving your Museum toward Tomorrow with Funding from IMLS (D)

Join IMLS senior program officers to learn about grant opportunities and updates to grant programs: Museums for America, grants which strengthen the ability of museums to serve the public more effectively by supporting high-priority activities that advance the institution's mission and strategic goals, National Leadership Grants, Conservation Project Support Program, the 21st Century Museum Professionals, the Native American Museum Program and the Partnership for a Nation of Learners. Updates and significant changes to the Conservation Assessment Program and Museum Assessment Program will be discussed as will plans for the new program addressing African American history and culture.

Presenters: Schroeder Cherry, Deputy Director for Office of Museum Services; Mary Estelle Kennelly, Associate Deputy Director for Office of Museum Services, Sandra Narva, Senior Program Officer; and Jennifer Headley, Program Specialist, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Washington, D.C.

B6

In Pursuit of the Extraordinary: Millicent Huttleston Rogers, 1902-1953 (C)

Hear the former director of the Millicent Rogers Museum (MRM) talk about Millicent Rogers as a collector and how her southwestern Indian jewelry collection formed the foundation for the MRM collections. The presentation will feature images of the collection as well as a sample of the jewelry she designed and created. The presenter will sign copies of her recent book on the collection during the conference and at MPMA's special event at the museum.

Presenter: Shelby J. Tisdale, Ph.D., Director, Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM

Endorsed by CurCom

B7

Tackling Tough Terrain: Addressing "Problem Areas" for Administrators (AG)

How do you solve the tough questions that directors, CEOs, deputies, and top administrators have to deal with such as controversial exhibits and major personnel problems? Share and exchange ideas with these experienced museum directors who come from a variety of backgrounds. Topics include preventive measures, tactics, and methods, as well as preserving your own sanity in the process. Supervisors and Administrators, bring us your "issues" and we'll discuss next steps.

Chair: Peter B. Tirrell, Associate Director, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Presenters: Jennifer Cook, Executive Director, Foothills Art Center, Golden, CO; Jim McNutt, President/CEO, National Museum of Wildlife Art, Jackson, WY

Concurrent Sessions

3:30 pm — 4:45 pm

C1

Economic Impact of Arts and Cultural Industries (AG)

How do arts and cultural industries impact the economy? Are they a drain on city coffers or do they provide financial support to a town's tax base? A recent study done by Creative Santa Fe, the McCune Foundation and the University of New Mexico looked at economic impact of the arts and cultural industries on the city of Santa Fe, NM, and the results may surprise you. Come hear about this case study and how it included questions not usually asked in museums communities such as how many jobs created by the arts and cultural industries, what income is generated from those jobs and what kind of taxes do they generate for the city, county and state. Find out why statistics from studies like this one matter to museums.

Presenter: Tom Aageson, Executive Director, Museum of New Mexico Foundation, Santa Fe, NM and founding Chairman of Creative Santa Fe

C2

Show Them the Money: Putting Numismatics in Your Exhibits (EX)

If you want to produce diverse and lively exhibits, select objects from diverse sources and of differing types that represent a wide range of cultures and political systems. Where can you find such objects? In the collection of money in your own museum. World currency is a surprising source of history, culture and diversity, yet most people overlook it. This session will show you how to incorporate your money collection into exhibits. Discussion and examples will be drawn from the exhibition, "Money of the World Today," at the Money Museum in Colorado Springs.

Presenter: Douglas Mudd, Curator of Exhibits, American Numismatic Association Money Museum, Colorado Springs, CO

C3

Teacher Training: Museums and Schools Do it Better (ED)

Museums and schools are rethinking about what students learn about the past and how they learn it. See how historians' tools—documents, artifacts, historic places and the wisdom of elders—can produce better educational outcomes and prepare students for a multi-cultural world. Learn how partnering with local school districts and colleges can result in training programs to teach teachers how to transform their classrooms and museum visits.

Chair: Ann Billesbach, Assoc. Director for Museums & Historic Sites, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, NE

Presenters: Karen Stanley, Social Studies Coordinator, Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln, NE; John Carter, Senior Research Associate, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, NE; Lynne Ireland, Assistant Director for Program Development, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, NE

Endorsed by EdCom

Wednesday, September 20th continued

C4**Public Trust, Perception and the Gray In-Between: The Dilemma of Ethics in Our Museums (AG, C)**

Now as never before, museums operate under intense public scrutiny. With ever shrinking budgets, the seemingly endless expansion of collections, a stream of bad or "iffy" press, and questions about the need and legitimacy of museums, it is imperative that museum professionals operate in an ethical, frank and open environment. This session will address the need for, and the advantages of, ethical operations in our museums and throughout the museum community and why transparency and accountability are important to our institutions.

Presenters: Mark Ryan, Vice President of Registration and Collections, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND; Heidi Vaughn, Director, Museum of the Cherokee Strip, Enid, OK; Gary Edson, Director, Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Endorsed by CurCom

C5**NAGPRA: A Convergence of Cultures, Past, Present & Future (C)**

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act has brought together museums and Indian tribes in the MPMA region. Learn how past wrongs that resulted from converging cultures have been righted through NAGPRA consultation. Hear how these new convergences can lead to a mutually beneficial future for museums and Indian tribes.

Chair: Jan I. Bernstein, President, Bernstein & Associates, Denver, CO

Presenters: Deborah Confer, Anthropology Section Collections Manager, University of Colorado Museum, Boulder, CO; Arden Kukate, Councilman, Pueblo of Zuni; Myron Gonzales, NAGPRA Representative, Pueblo of San Ildefonso

Endorsed by CurCom, RC-MPMA, Tribal Museum Network

C6**Nicolai Fechin's Problematic Paintings: Conservation Issues and Treatments (C, CM)**

Russian artist Nicolai Fechin spent the last part of his life living and working in Taos and was known for his portraits of American Indians. Conservators at the Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Art in Denver have worked closely with the museum staff at the historic Fechin House in Taos and with Fechin's artwork over a period of years. They will report on many problems they encountered with Fechin's paintings, based on the artist's choice of materials and techniques. Examples of problems with the artwork include Fechin's choice of a dry matte surface appearance and the desire not to varnish his paintings. Fechin's house, filled with furniture and metalwork also made by Fechin, is also now the Taos Art Museum, and is currently showing paintings from the Taos Society of Artists from the collection of the Stark Museum in Orange, Texas. This session will provide an excellent background for those interested in Fechin's art or who want to know more about the art of New Mexico, as well as providing a compelling case study in conservation.

Presenters: Camilla Van Vooren and D. Hays Shoop, Senior Paintings Conservators, Western Center for the Conservation of Fine Art, Denver, CO

Endorsed by RC-MPMA

C7**Taos Pueblo: In the Presence of a World Landmark (T)**

Taos Pueblo is the only living Native American community designated both a World Heritage Site by UNESCO and a National Historic Landmark. Its multi-storied adobe buildings have been continuously inhabited for over 1000 years and is still home to many people. This presentation will offer a variety of perspectives about its history and its place within today's community.

Presenters: Tony Rena, Former Governor of Taos Pueblo; Gilbert Suazo, Lt. Governor, Taos Pueblo; and Marcie Winters, Tourism Coordinator, Taos Pueblo

Endorsed by Tribal Museum Network

Evening Event**A Taste of Taos: Art, History and Cuisine**

6:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Buses leave at 5:45 from Conference Hotel: Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center

Ticketed event

Indulge in a variety of food and art as you marvel at the collections in three of Taos' best museums. See examples of Taos Art Society art, contemporary Taos art, and one of the earliest and most historic buildings in Taos. Taos Art Museum is located in the historic home of Russian born artist, Nicolai Fechin. The museum's permanent collection includes paintings by the founders of the Taos Society of Artists, the Taos Moderns and Nicolai Fechin. The Fechin House is on the National Register of Historic Places and is filled with his hand carved doors, windows and furniture. The Harwood Museum of Art was



Fireplace at the Fechin House Studio



Harwood Museum of Art

founded in 1923 and is the state's second-oldest museum and a real treasury of Taos art. You'll find paintings, prints, sculpture, and photographs created by the artists who put Taos on the map as an art center. The building is an outstanding example of Spanish-Pueblo architecture. Our last stop will be at the *La Hacienda de los Martinez*. Bought by Don

Antonio Severino Martinez in 1804 and was continuously expanded through 1827. On the National Historic Register, it is one of the few restored examples of New Mexican Spanish Colonial architecture and life. It has a great courtyard.



La Hacienda de los Martinez



Thursday, September 21st

Conference Registration

7:30 am — 6:00 pm

Breakfasts

7:30 am — 8:30 am

Ticketed Events

Hit the ground running by joining colleagues for the smell of coffee, a hot breakfast and provocative discussions.

EdCOM (Education Committee)

As museums continue to strive to be all inclusive, what issues does a convergence of cultures place before educators? How does it change the information we present, the ways we give our tours, and how we think about and respect our different audiences? Join your colleagues for a lively discussion. *Chair: Kathrine Schlageck, Education and Public Services Supervisor, Beach Museum of Art, Manhattan, KS*

Get It While It's Hot: Results of the 2006 Director's Survey

Results of the 2006 MPMA Director's Survey will be released and leading indicators of concerns, hopes, and predictions for institutions, leadership and the future of the field will be discussed by a panel of former and current directors. Open to all delegates. *Moderator and Discussant: Arthur H. Wolf, Principal, WOLF Consulting, Las Vegas, NV; Discussants: Dr. James C. Moore, Director Emeritus, Albuquerque Museum, Albuquerque, NM; Joe Schenk, Director, Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, OK*

Sponsored by the Thomas Gilcrease Museum Association

NAME (National Association for Museum Exhibition)

New Trends in Exhibition Design

Share in a discussion about your latest inspiration in exhibition design. A visual overview of the winners of this year's AAM Excellence In Exhibitions will be included. *Moderated by NAME (National Association for Museum Exhibition), Regional Representative, Charles COUNTER, Exhibits Director, University of Colorado Museum, Boulder, CO.*

Exhibit Hall Opens

9:00 am — 5:00 pm

Concurrent Sessions

9:00 am — 10:15 am

D1

A Snake in the Garden? Museum Collecting, the Internet and You (C)

The Internet has brought unprecedented collecting opportunities for museums. Object acquisition is now easier than ever, thanks to sites like eBay, the speed of email messages, and the search capability of Google. Like a Google search, this session will explore a variety of interrelated subjects, all united by the single word "collecting" and stimulated by the Internet. Learn how to build your collection with confidence and careful connoisseurship. Discover ways to maximize your time on and avoid the pitfalls of eBay. Discuss traditional ethical dilemmas, such as personal collecting, in the context of this new resource.

Presenters: Monta Lee Dakin, Executive Director, Mountain-Plains Museums Association, Littleton, CO; Steve Friesen, Director, Buffalo Bill Museum & Grave, Golden, CO

Endorsed by CurCom

D2

Charitable Giving: Making it an Integral Part of Your Museum's Culture (AG, D)

More and more museums are encouraging donors to participate in charitable and planned giving programs to help fund and stabilize their museums for the future. There is a wide range of methods for benefactors to make charitable contributions to the operations and legacy of their favorite museum or association. This presentation will feature a range of charitable gift techniques, mechanisms and strategies that can be implemented in a variety of situations.

Presenters: James F. Barrette, Registered Representative, New England Financial, Denver, CO; Francis J. Evans, Attorney at Law, Denver, CO

D3

Sky City Cultural Center: Rebuilding from the Ashes (D, SM, AG)

This session will focus on the planning and re-building of the new Cultural Center at the Pueblo of Acoma, NM. After a fire destroyed the Acoma Tourist and Visitors Center, the Acoma community banded together to formulate ideas and plans for a new cultural center that would save Acoma's historical past and bring this small community together.

Presenters: Damien Garcia, Hoakú Museum Curator, and Prudence Correa, Museum Planner, Sky City Cultural Center, Acoma, NM

Endorsed by SMAC, Tribal Museum Network

D4

Hidden Treasure: Moving Your Collections from Storage into the Public Eye (EX, C)

Many museums have treasures that they long to move out of storage and into the public eye. This session follows the development of an exhibition of Pre-Columbian art with special needs, from the initial concept to the preparation and construction of the display. Presenters will discuss the lessons they learned and how they addressed issues associated with the conservation, display and scholarship associated with art from Pre-Columbian cultures.

Chair: Mackenzie Massman, Registrar, Wichita Art Museum, Wichita, KS

Presenters: Leslie Servantez, Head Preparator, Wichita Art Museum, Wichita, KS; Brian Lee Whisenhunt, Public Programs Manager, The Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Endorsed by CurCom, NAME

D5

Can My Volunteers Develop Exhibit Content? Successful Models for Less Than Perfect Scenarios. (V, EX)

What if you can't afford a dedicated curator or content developer to work with your designer on a new exhibit project? You have a group of dedicated volunteers and an enthusiastic board, but how do you successfully and productively use them as a resource? We'll present team and process examples and answer your questions.

Chair: Abbie Chessler, Design Director/Founding Partner, Quatrefoil Associates, Laurel, MD

Presenters: Laura Bloomsma, Executive Director, Telluride Historical Museum, Telluride, CO; Bridget Burke, Project Director, American Mountaineering Museum, Golden, CO

Endorsed by SMAC, Volunteer Coordinators Committee

D6

The History of Alternate Lifestyles in Taos (T)

Alternative lifestyles have been a way of life in Taos for years, going back to the early 20th century if not before. Hear about contemporary concepts paired with those from long ago to get an historical perspective on the impact that "other" ideas have had on a traditional community. Presenters will discuss commune living, earthship architecture and alternative lifestyles from the 1920s.

Presenters: Art Bacharach, Owner of Moby Dickens Bookshop, Taos, NM; Anne MacNaughton, poet, Taos, NM; Mike Reynolds, Founder, Earthship Biotechnology, Taos, NM

Exhibit Hall Morning Refreshment Break 10:15 am — 10:45 am
Sponsored by **Leo A Daly, Omaha, NE**

Concurrent Sessions 10:45 am — 12:00 pm

E1

When Strangers Meet: Guest Curators and Museum Professionals (EX)

Museum professionals and guest curators converge from varying interests and expertise. While the resulting programs can be innovative and rewarding, achieving this convergence can be challenging. The panel will present two perspectives: museum professionals will present lessons learned from working with many guest curators and a seasoned guest curator will summarize her experiences working with many museum staff.

Chair: Linda Bahm, Director, University of New Mexico (UNM) Art Museum, Albuquerque, NM

Presenters: Dr. Joyce M. Szabo, Professor, Art & Art History, UNM; Dr. Michele Penhall, Curator of Prints and Photographs, and Lee Savary, Exhibitions Manager, and Bonnie Verardo, Collections Manager, UNM Art Museum

Endorsed by CurCom

E2

Through Their Eyes: Interpreting American Indian Heritage at Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site (ED, AG)

Presenters will recount their efforts to work with the City of Colorado Springs to plan, develop and implement an American Indian component at Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site, and to install a cutting-edge and credible interpretive program for it. Fostering a forum for American Indian people to tell their story the way they want it told, the City made a commitment to utilize American Indian employees to present their message to visitors. Topics discussed will include building bridges between cultural communities, selecting a time period to be interpreted, determining which Native Nations to be included in the interpretation, developing master and interpretive plans, re-creating an authentic camp environment, recruiting and training of staff and volunteers, and handling sensitive issues.

Chair: Eugene Smith, Visitor Services Supervisor, City Cultural Services Division, City of Colorado Springs

Presenters: Jared W. King, Cultural Arts Program Specialist, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Diné Representative; Alden B. Naranjo, Museum Consultant, and Ute Representative

Endorsed by EdCom, Tribal Museum Network

E3

Demystifying the Strategic Planning Process (AG)

It has never been more important for museums to think strategically and to plan tactically to meet goals, yet the planning process can be difficult and the results unproductive. This session will outline a process for creating a Master Plan, Strategic Plan, as well as Tactical and Action Plans. The session will provide valuable tools to make the planning process effective and invigorating, and to promote communication among the stakeholders, decision makers, and implementation team.

Chair: Francine Carraro, Ph.D.

E4

Collections Management: Get it Right and Your Museum Will Be Successful (C,CM)

Collections management is a critical part of the work of museums. While it is not glamorous or visible, museums cannot put their best face forward without it. This session will discuss how good collections management can help museums preserve and maintain the security of their collections and produce better exhibition and educational programs.

Presenter: Peggy Schaller, President, Collections Research for Museums, Denver, CO

Endorsed by RC-MPMA

E5

Recruiting and Training Fundraising Volunteers (D, AG, CM)

Are you effectively using volunteers in all aspects of your development program? Learn the various roles volunteers can play that will increase the results of your fundraising efforts. We will discuss where to find volunteers, how to recruit them and how to keep them involved and energized by offering them orientation, support, education and recognition. This author will be signing copies of her book, "Recruiting and Training Fundraising Volunteers," during the conference.

Presenter: Linda Lysakowski, President/CEO, Capital Venture, and Advanced Certified Fundraising Executive, Las Vegas, NV; Marne Jurgemeyer, Director, Fort Morgan Museum, Fort Morgan, CO

Endorsed by SMAC, Volunteer Coordinators Committee

E6

A Candid Conversation on Cultural Property (C, AG)

Over the past year, museums have come under often hostile press scrutiny on cultural property issues, particularly the acquisition of antiquities from other countries. In response, AAM has convened an Ethics Task Force on Cultural Property to reexamine AAM's standards and best practices in this area, and we need your input. Join us for a discussion on recent changes in law, ethics, and public perceptions as they relate to cultural property and voice your concerns about the competing obligations museums now face when making collections decisions concerning cultural property.

Presenters: Erik Ledbetter, Senior Manager of International Programs, American Association of Museums, Washington, D.C., Marilyn Phelan, Ph.D, Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Law, Professor of Museum Science, Texas Tech University School of Law, Lubbock, TX

Endorsed by CurCom

E7

Russian Artists in Taos (C)

This session will focus on the celebrated artist, Nicolai Fechin, as well as other Russians who came to live and work amongst the Pueblo and Hispanic peoples in Taos. The presentation will elucidate the lives of these artists and what they hoped to accomplish and will explain why Nicolai Ivonovich Fechin left Russia in 1924 to live in this remote region of northern New Mexico.

Presenter: Erion Y. Simpson, Executive Director, Taos Art Museum & Fechin House, Taos, NM

Lunch (Open to all delegates) 12:15 pm — 1:30 pm

Ticketed Event

American Indians and Museums

Do native peoples visit museums to learn about their cultures and, if not, why? Is your museum welcoming to native peoples? Governor Garcia, who has served in national and local tribal leadership roles, will address the roles that tribal and non-tribal museums are playing and can play in educating native peoples about their history and culture.

Joe Garcia, Governor of Ohkay Owingeh, (Pueblo of San Juan, New Mexico) and President, National Congress of American Indians

Exhibit Hall Closed

12:15 pm — 1:30 pm

Exhibit Hall Open

1:30 pm — 5:30 pm

Book Signing: Linda Lysakowski, Recruiting and Training Fundraising Volunteers (Wiley Press 2005)



Thursday, September 21st continued

Concurrent Sessions

1:45 pm — 3:00 pm

F1

Forum on the Closing of the Department of Interior's Three Indian Museums

The proposed elimination of funds and closure of the three museums operated by the Indian Arts and Crafts Board of the U.S. Department of Interior is of serious concern to the Mountain-Plains Museums Association (MPMA). These museums, Southern Plains Indian Museum, Anadarko, Oklahoma; Museum of the Plains Indian, Browning, Montana; and Sioux Indian Museum, Rapid City, South Dakota, are all located in the MPMA region. Learn why the Department of Interior wants to stop funding these museums and what impact all of this will have on the tribal communities. Hear about the resolution adopted recently by the National Congress of the American Indian to support the museums.

Moderator: Gov. Joe A. Garcia, President, National Congress of the American Indian

Endorsed by SMAC, Tribal Museum Network

F2

It's Not Landscaping; It's an Outdoor Interpretive Planting! (EX)

Presenters share their experiences and helpful hints on transforming your landscape into an outdoor interpretive exhibition. They will discuss using your current plantings and new ways of labeling to improve their educational value, and will share their experience in developing a comprehensive outdoor interpretive plan for your museum or historic house landscaping.

Presenters: Sarah Polak, Director, Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center, Chadron State College, Chadron, NE; Lucinda Mays, Public Horticulturalist, former host of PBS' "The Victory Garden," Chadron, NE

Endorsed by NAME

F3

When Outreach Becomes Buy-In: A Successful Model for Working with Non-Traditional Audiences (CC, ED)

Museums are looking for ways to cultivate new audiences that reflect our country's changing demographics. This session will focus on an award-winning program (*Proyecto Futuro*) that has succeeded in forming relationships with underrepresented communities through positive museum experiences. We will discuss strategies used to recruit family and teacher participants, sustain and nurture relationships with schools and families, and address audience needs.

Presenters: Maddie Correa Zeigler, Grant & Education Development Specialist, and Carolyn Gregory, Proyecto Futuro Coordinator, New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science, Albuquerque, NM

Endorsed by EdCom

F4

The Relationship Between Curators and Collectors: Getting Oral History From Donors (C, ED)

In 2003, William H. Thams gave the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art a collection of paintings by the Taos Society of Artists in memory of his wife. Prior to packing up the collection, Bill Thams shared the stories behind the collection that he and Roxanne had built with the curator of education. Find out how this information along with his meticulous written records has enriched museum visitors' experience of these paintings. This is an excellent case study for planning ahead on recording the right information when donations come in to a museum.

Presenters: Susan Baley, Curator of Education, Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK; Leah Davis Witherow, Archivist, Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum, Colorado Springs, CO

Endorsed by CurCom, EdCom

F5

Twelve Security Lessons from Katrina and Rita (C, S)

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita spread havoc along the Gulf Coast in 2005. Hear twelve valuable lessons museum security staff learned from these storms and see how they apply to other types of disasters that might befall museums, large and small and hundreds of miles from the coast. Are you prepared? What do you need to get ready? Digest these hard-learned lessons of the recent past and learn how you and your museum staff can be better prepared to deal with such an event.

Presenters: James, L. Mustoe, Ph.D., Head of Security and Facilities, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman, OK; Leon Gillium, Physical Security Director, Oklahoma City National Memorial, Oklahoma City, OK

Endorsed by SMAC

F6

The Mantón de Manila and the Changing of Cultural Hands (C)

Chinese silk shawls were first imported to Spain and Mexico from Asia through the Spanish colony in Manila. In Spain and Mexico they became an important part of popular and material culture and their design was altered to incorporate indigenous flora and fauna of the Americas. Brought by Spanish colonists to New Mexico, the mantón designs were reflected in the local colcha embroidery, bringing colorful and exotic motifs to the far northern frontier of New Spain. This slide talk will demonstrate the converging of cultures through the medium of Chinese silk shawls.

Presenter: Nicolasa Chávez, Associate Curator, Albuquerque Museum, Casa San Ysidro, Corrales, NM

Endorsed by CurCom

Concurrent Sessions

3:30 pm — 4:45 pm

G1

The Renaissance of Green Culture: Can It Give Your Museum a New Lease on the Future? (AG, D, CM)

Given the conveniences of our present industrial society, it is easy to forget that prior to the industrial revolution a lifestyle compatible with nature was essential to life itself. There is now a convergence happening between the green culture of our past and modern innovations of the future that promises to change the way we live and work. How might a renaissance of green culture change your museum? This session will address how museums can benefit from harnessing the power of green. Learn what those benefits are, how you can achieve them, and what mechanisms exist to aid and provide recognition for your efforts.

Presenters: Sheila J. Ireland, LEED A.P., Architect in Training, Leo A Daly, Omaha, NE; Amanda E. Bogner, LEED A.P., Mechanical Engineer & Co-Director of Sustainability, Leo A Daly, Omaha, NE

G2

Directors as Agents of Change (A)

Museum leaders must embrace and implement change if the institutions they oversee are going to thrive. Good decisions, however, are seldom created within a vacuum. Broad community support, together with board and staff acceptance, is essential for overcoming resistance. Panelists will discuss new initiatives at their museums as well as the dynamics of change, including strategies for success, from the director's perspective.

Chair: Edward E. Pauley, President/CEO, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND
Presenters: Jay S. Smith, Director, Hubbard Museum of the American West, Ruidoso, NM; Leo W. Smith II, Executive Director, Durham Western Heritage Museum, Omaha, NE

Thursday, September 21st continued

G3

Telling Their Stories: Incorporating Community Diversity in Exhibit Planning & Interpretation (EX, CC)

How do you incorporate diverse community voices into the exhibit development and interpretation process? Representatives from state, tribal and smaller museums will present strategies, experiences and advice about cultivating community involvement. The panel will also address community concerns that have been encountered in the process of telling their stories. This session will focus on building relationships with American Indian communities and other communities. Hear ideas and solutions to “telling the stories” of your community and participate in the audience discussion.

*Chair: **Bridget Ambler**, Acting Curator, Material Culture, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO*

*Presenters: **Modupe Labode**, Chief Historian, and **Alisa Zahller**, Associate Curator, Decorative and Fine Arts, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO; **Antonio Chavarria**, Curator of Ethnology, Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM*

Endorsed by CurCom, NAME, Tribal Museum Network

G4

Sound Model: A Collaborative Digitization Project Creates a Convergence of Cultural Voices (TECH)

This session offers an example of what museums of tomorrow will do with audio collections, outreach, and education. It will also cover how museums can make their collections relevant, accessible and indispensable to a more diverse body of users from teachers to students to lifelong learners. The CDP currently works with 34 institutions in 10 western states to digitize audio material and make them available online. The content of the audio material is remarkable and represents the collective memory of immigrants, artists, war veterans, dancers, early Jews in the west, civil rights mediators, homesteading women, lawyers, and American Indians, as well as recordings of wildlife calls.

*Chair: **Leigh Grinstead**, Projects Coordinator, Collaborative Digitization Program (CDP), Denver, CO*

*Presenters: **Steve Hussman**, Department Head Archives and Special Collections, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM; **Todd Welch**, Digital Access Librarian, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ; **Tim Hawkins**, Archivist, Naropa University, Boulder, CO*

Endorsed by MPMA’s Technology Committee

G5

Controlling Relative Humidity — It is Easier to Herd Cats! (C)

The control of temperature and relative humidity: are these the biggest threats to collections? Is relative humidity even controllable? Are traditional approaches practical or cost effective anymore? These questions came up during the design phase of new facilities at the National Park Service. Hear how NPS staff found answers to these questions and discovered cost effective solutions to long-term collection preservation. Discussion will include major museum facilities and historic house museums.

*Presenter: **Richard Cronenberger**, Curatorial Collections Consultant/Historical Architect, National Park Service, Intermountain Regional Office, Lakewood, CO*

Endorsed by RC-MPMA

G6

CVs, Resumes, and Portfolios: What You Need to Know (PD)

This session is designed to help students and emerging professionals do a great job of presenting their credentials on paper. Fifteen minutes will be designated to each topic and the last fifteen minutes will be for questions and answers. Guests will receive handouts and guidelines as well as examples of the session materials.

*Presenters: **Jason Harris**, Curatorial Assistant, and **Kimberly Penrod**, Director of the Oral History Project, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK*

Endorsed by COMP, EL

G7

Collecting Taos: Great Museum Collections of the Masters of the Taos Society of Artists (C)

Paintings by members of the Taos Society of Artists are represented in many MPMA regional museums. Representative staff members will focus on these collections and how they came to be. In addition, the history, style, philosophy and creative expression of artwork from the Taos Society will also be considered by the panelists. Currently tours of the Fechin House/Taos Art Museum include Taos Society artwork from the Stark Museum of Art.

*Chair: **Joe Schenk**, Director, Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, OK*

*Presenters: **David Hunt**, Director, Stark Museum of Art, Orange, TX; **Nancy Klein**, Curator, Phillmont House, Phillmont Boy Scout Ranch Museums, Cimarron, NM*

Endorsed by CurCom

Closing Reception for Exhibit Hall : 4:00 pm — 5:30 pm

Winedale Reunion 4:00 pm — 5:30 pm

The Winedale Museum Seminar, located in Round Top, Texas, has provided continuing education for over thirty years to museum professionals seeking to study museum issues in depth. For the first time, MPMA offers a reunion for the many graduates of this program. Hosting the event are people who have been associated with the program over the years: *Graduates **Dennis Medina**, Dwight D. Eisenhower Museum, Abilene, KS; **Mike Bruce**, Director, Museums Department, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, OK; **Betsy Martinson**, Buffalo Bill Museum & Grave, Golden, CO; and the former director of the Museum Seminar, Kit Neuman, TX.*

Final Bids for Silent Auction Due 5:30 pm

Exhibit Hall Break Down 5:30 pm — 7:00 pm

Evening Events

At the Conference Hotel: Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center

Receptions 6:00 pm — 7:00 pm

► **Inclusive Practices Mixer and Dialogue about Community Matters**

As museums strive to create opportunities for the local, national and international citizenry to develop an even richer understanding of the multi-cultural, historic, and scientific world challenges emerge. The MPMA’s Inclusivity Committee is committed to providing regional support for museums working to ensure that boards and staff develop and implement inclusivity practices that provide audiences with innovative ways of using museums to make positive contributions to humanity. Come join us for a gathering, mini-workshop, and an opportunity to meet the members of the Inclusivity Committee. *Co-Chairs: **Lorne Render**, Beach Museum of Art, Manhattan, KS; **Ella Maria Ray**, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Metropolitan State College, Denver, CO*

► **KU Alums and Students** – Gather with your ol’ chums from the University of Kansas in Lawrence and find out who is doing what these days. Meet current students who can bring you up-to-date about everything on campus. *Host: **Rachel Saalweachter**, KU student, Lawrence, KS*

► **Museum Directors Roundtable Cocktail Hour**
Members of the Qm2 Executive Directors Roundtable are hosting a cocktail party (cash bar) for anyone interested in finding out about roundtables. *Hosts: **Lindy J. Hoyer**, Executive Director, Omaha Children’s Museum, Omaha, NE; **Edward E. Pauley**, President/CEO, Plains Museum of Art, Fargo, ND; **Laurie Rufe**, ED of Roswell Museum of Art Center, Roswell, NM*

► **New Mexico Association of Museums Reception**
NMAM hosts a gathering for conference delegates. Meet colleagues who work in the New Mexico museum community and place final bids on NMAM’s silent auction items.

MPMA Awards Banquet and Live “MPMA Aid” Auction Dinner/Program (Ticketed Event) 7:00 pm — 9:30 pm

A highlight of the conference is the Awards Banquet. It is a time to catch up with new and old friends, see good work acknowledged by the awards and to meet the field’s new leaders of tomorrow. The evening wraps up with MPMA’s Live Auction, the proceeds of which go to MPMA’s Scholarship Fund. You won’t want to miss the oohs, ahs and gasps as the auctioneers crack up the audience while raising money for scholarships! This fun event is always full of interesting and sentimental surprises.



Friday, September 22nd

Conference Registration

7:30 am — 5:00 pm

Breakfasts: Ticketed Events

7:30 am – 8:30 am

Volunteer Coordinators – Gather with those who work with volunteers to share solutions, concerns and challenges. And join the network! *Chair: Beth Campbell, Visitor Services Coordinator, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck ND*

CurCom (Curator's Committee) – Join your curatorial colleagues for breakfast and a lively roundtable conversation about “Spanning the Divide: the Art and Science of Communicating Across Professional Disciplines.” Points of discussion will include getting a better handle on the roles and responsibilities of your institutional colleagues, how they intersect with curatorial practice, and insuring curators remain a vital part of the institutional dialogue. *Co-Chairs: Elisa Phelps, Director of Collections and Library Division, Colorado Historical Society; Denver, CO; Ella Maria Ray, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Metropolitan State College, Denver, CO*

SMAC (Small Museum Administrators Committee) – Meet those who care about and work in small museums. Join this peer network for people who work in small museums. Learn, share knowledge and support one another.

Helping Hands Workshop

8:45 am — 3:00 pm

Registrars Committee's Helping Hands Brigade will be held at a variety of Taos Museums. See back cover for details

Concurrent Sessions

9:00 am — 10:15 am

H1

Connecting Cultures Through Heritage Management (AG, CC)

The convergence of cultures can be achieved by connecting cultures in a community through heritage management. This session will address the theory and practice of heritage preservation, heritage resources management, heritage tourism, heritage planning, heritage interpretation, and heritage visitor management. Questions posed will be: How do we connect cultures of the past, present and future? What kind of institutions are involved in connecting cultures? Why do we need to connect cultures? *Presenters: Yun Shun Susie Chung, Professor, and Diana Buchanan, Graduate, and Lori E. Waters, Graduate Student, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX*

Endorsed by CurCom

H2

Public Program Collaboration: Mysteries Revealed! (ED)

Collaboration between organizations can exponentially increase a program's impact. This panel discussion will delve into the workings of a public program run daily during the summer tourist season in a small tourist-destination town in southwestern North Dakota. Four organizations that generally had little to do with each other came together to produce a daily walking tour of the historic town, and a museum theater production performed four days a week. Panel members will share what their specific organization contributes to and what it receives out of the collaboration, the successes and pitfalls of running such a program, and what we've learned so far. Discussion will include expected and unexpected outcomes of the collaboration.

Presenters: Diane Rogness, Site Supervisor, Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, State Historical Society of North Dakota, Medora, ND; Karen Nelson, Adjunct Instructor of Speech, Dickinson State University, Dickinson, ND; Leona Odermann, Museum Manager, Billings County Museum, Medora, ND

Endorsed by EdCom

H3

Project Management: Converging the Cultures of Your Colleagues to Get the Job Done (AG)

Museum projects require collaboration of staff and consultants with differing talents and work styles. Learn how project managers can ensure a convergence of corporate and departmental cultures so that projects are completed on time and within budget.

Chair: Georgianna Contiguglia, President and CEO, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO

Presenters: Alisa Zahler, Associate Curator of Decorative and Fine Arts; Joseph Bell, Director of Facilities Services, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO

H4

Taos Art Colony: Perspectives from Descendants (T)

This session compliments the more academic offering on the Taos Art Colony elsewhere in the program. It features people who are still active with the Taos Arts Colony as descendants of the artists and now involved in documenting their lives and keeping alive the Taos Art society energy. This session offers an unusual opportunity to get a perspective from living relatives on major American artists.

Presenters: Barbara Brenner, granddaughter of Oscar Berninghaus (co-founder of Taos Art Colony); Ginny Leavitt, granddaughter of Eanger Irving Couse (member of Taos Society of Artists), Taos, NM; Robert Parsons, owner, Robert Parsons Fine Art, Taos, NM

H5

The Firearms Toolbox: How to Deal with Firearms in the Collection on the Cheap (C)

Using the best methods available is not always possible for museums with tight purse strings. The goal of this session is to enable museum staff to better identify, accession, and record the information on firearms in their collection while not blowing the budget. We will look at all of the steps, from a gun showing up at the front door to setting it in the rack when you are done. How-tos, demonstrations, and handle-able objects will help to explain the whats, whys, and hows of accessioning.

Presenter: David Kennedy, Curator, Cody Firearms Museum, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, WY

Endorsed by CurCom, RC-MPMA

H6

Object Conversations (EX)

Museums build collections for a variety of reasons. Once objects enter a museum collection, their perceived value changes. Value changes yet again when objects are placed on exhibition and are infused with the public's experience. Explore how we find value in objects as we listen to visual artist, poets, performance artists and musicians discuss a selection of objects from the University of Colorado's natural history collections in the exhibit “Object Conversations.”

Presenters: Charles Counter, Exhibits Director, University of Colorado Museum, Boulder, CO; Salle Tulchin, Exhibit/Graphic Designer, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Denver, CO

Endorsed by NAME

H7

Distance Managers Affinity Meeting (AG)

Find out about MPMA's newest affinity group. Who are we? Museum and historic site supervisors, regional arts or cultural professionals, statewide project coordinators, or anyone else involved with off-site, distance operations. Join the dialogue on common issues such as supervising remote or distant historic sites, coordinating off-site curatorial or exhibit teams, facilitating educational programs at distant locations, working with grant projects that involve off-site operations and traveling to other museums.

Chair: Mike Bruce, Director, Museums Department, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, OK

Endorsed by Distance Managers

Friday, September 22nd continued

Coffee Break 10:15 am — 10:45 am

Concurrent Sessions 10:45 am — Noon

I1

University Museums: A Convergence of Cultures (AG)

University museums often have a not-so-clear role on campus. How do we meet the needs of divergent academic and student cultures if there are no academic programs aligned with the museum? How do we justify our existence with budget cuts? Can the museum reach beyond the limits of its collections to a wider campus application? Learn how the Schingoethe Center for Native American Cultures found creative solutions to these dilemmas and hear how others have dealt with "parent institutions."

Presenter: Meg Bero, Associate Director, Curator, Schingoethe Center for Native American Cultures at Aurora University, Aurora, IL

Endorsed by ACUMG, Tribal Museum Network

I2

The Director/CEO's Role in Managing the Board of Directors/Trustees—Is It a Convergence of Cultures or a Clash? (AG)

Building on the enthusiastic response to last year's session of similar topic, this session will present and provide discussion of case studies of directors relationships with their boards, citing what works best and what doesn't work. Time will be allotted for questions from the audience and further sharing of stories. This session is intended for directors, senior level management staff, and trustee or board members.

Chair: Lindy J. Hoyer, Executive Director, Omaha Children's Museum, Omaha, NE

Presenters: Laurie Rufe, Executive Director, Roswell Museum & Art Center, Roswell, NM; Holly Turner, Executive Director, Nicolaysen Museum, Casper, WY

I3

Reaching Out to the Home School Audience (E)

Does your museum reach the Home School audience? What special challenges do museums encounter when offering educational programs to the Home School visitors? How can your museum meet their needs? This workshop will provide museum educators the opportunity to discuss challenges they have encountered and to provide practical tools to be successful in the future. Take the first steps to creating Home School educational opportunities that will work well for both the Home School audience and your Museum!

Presenters: Andrea Hamilton, Youth Programs Coordinator, and Kristen Jensen, Youth Programs Assistant Coordinator, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Denver, CO

Endorsed by EdCom

I4

Carriers of Native Knowledge: Objects, Themes, and Interpretation at the National Museum of the American Indian (C,ED,AG)

Staff members and former staffers of the NMAI will discuss the unique approach taken at this new national museum of using the foundation of Native perspectives as the context for the museum experience and community-derived exhibits. Topics to be covered include consultations and collaborations with Native communities, identification and selection of interpretive subject matter, and visitor expectations. Participants will gain an understanding of the significance of NMAI and its role as the newest museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

Presenters: Cynthia L. Chavez, Ph.D., Museum Director, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM (San Felipe Pueblo/Hopi/Tewa/Diné); Jim Pepper Henry, Associate Director for Community & Constituent Services (Kaw/Muscogee), and Jared Weston King, Cultural Arts Program Specialist Diné, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C.

Endorsed by CurCom, EdCom, NAME, Tribal Museum Network

I5

Collecting the Here and Now (C)

Most museums are full of just "old" stuff, but should they be? What about events that happened twenty years ago, or perhaps last week? Are there current groups in your community whose stories are not being told? Presenters will discuss how to develop a collection plan that identifies topics of cultural and historical significance in your community (past and present) and will give examples of collecting items associated with recent events.

Presenters: Laura Vannorsdel, Museum Curator, Kansas Museum of History, Topeka, KS; Donna Rae Pearson, Collection Development Specialist, Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, KS

Endorsed by CurCom

I6

La Gente: Culture of Spanish New Mexico (CC)

In 1998 New Mexico observed its *Cuarto* Centennial (400th anniversary) by celebrating the founding of the Spanish colony at the Tewa village of Ohkay in 1598. Spanish culture permeates every facet of life in northern New Mexico. Learn how different villages celebrate the culture and history of the area, how water is the lifeblood of the region, and the historic role of women in the culture.

Presenters: Kathryn M. Cordova, Ph.D, University of New Mexico Los Alamos and New Mexico Highlands, Taos, NM; Arsenio Cordova, University of New Mexico Los Alamos, Taos, NM; Larry Torres, University of New Mexico, Taos, NM

I7

Program Planning Session for MPMA's 2007 Conference

This planning and brainstorming session offers MPMA members and delegates an opportunity to provide input about sessions and workshops for MPMA's 2007 annual conference. New ideas, suggestions and creative ideas are welcome. The MPMA Program Committee is always searching for leads for possible keynote speakers, innovative museum exhibits, vendors, or museum staff members who can share their unique or new experiences with the MPMA membership.

Lunch (Open to all delegates)

12:15 pm — 1:30 pm

Museums and the Cultural Patrimony of New Mexico

Dr. Thomas Chávez, a noted historian with over 20 years experience as a museum director, takes on the issue of what makes museums important. Using New Mexico as an example, he explores the state's fascinating and tumultuous history and goes on to discuss how cultural institutions have been the deliverers of a very important message, not only for New Mexico, but for the rest of the world.

Thomas E. Chávez, Ph.D, historian, Consultant to the Museum of Spanish Colonial Art, Santa Fe, NM

Book signing: David Kennedy, *Guns of the Wild West: A Photographic Tour of the Guns that Changed our Country's History* (Courage Publishing, 2005)





Friday Tours & Events

TOURS

1:45 - 5:00 pm / Ticketed Events

Tour 1: Historic Homes and Artist Studio Tour

Visit with local artists at their studios and see Taos art - past and present - up close. Delegates will visit the Couse Historic Home, home of one of the founders of the Taos Society of Artists who was its first president and also a painter of Native Americans. Then head over to the Mabel Dodge Luhan Home. Here the wealthy heiress from Buffalo, New York, who came to Taos and married a Taos Pueblo Indian, held court with celebrated artists, writers, and thinkers of the day and oversaw the expansion of the art community. The next two stops will be at the studios of well-known contemporary artists, Victor Goler and Tony Abeyta. The tour will bring delegates to the historic Mural Room by the downtown Plaza. Limited to 15.

Tour 2: Historic Tour of Taos

This tour begins with the breathtaking scenery of the Rio Grande Gorge where the river carves through the 800 foot deep gorge. Next is the Kit Carson Home and Museum, a National Historic Landmark that captures the lifestyle of the famous mountain man and scout. Then it's on to Taos Pueblo, the northernmost and one of the most popular of all the pueblos. Its adobe, multistoried homes have captivated painters and photographers since the 1920s. The setting, billed as "one of the oldest continuously inhabited communities in North America," continues to enchant visitors as it has done for the past 1,000 years. It was designated a World Heritage Site and a National Historic Site in 1992 and is credited with inspiring the Pueblo Revival style of architecture in contemporary New Mexico. The final stop is the Rancho de Taos. An icon of Spanish Colonial architecture, the circa-1800 San Francisco de Assisi Church in Rancho de Taos, has been an inspiration to artists such as painter Georgia O'Keeffe and photographer Ansel Adams.

Tour 3: Shopping and Historic Tour

(Taos Drums, Ranchos Plaza, Arroyo Seco, Taos Plaza)

This is no ordinary shopping trip since delegates will visit some of the most historic sites in the Taos area. First stop will be the Taos Drum Company which has the world's largest selection of Indian drums. Each drum is handmade and is a singular work of art. Next is the historic village of Ranchos de Taos which was settled by the Spanish in 1716 and is known for the Ranchos Church, which was completed in 1815 and commands center stage in the plaza of adobe shops and homes. Afterwards, visit Arroyo Seco, a small northern New Mexican village set in a stunning environment and on the main road to Taos Ski Valley. To the east, a flank of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains towers above the old plaza, while the expansive western horizon displays spectacular sunsets almost every day. See the adobe Holy Trinity Church, completed in 1834 and recently restored. The tour ends at Taos Plaza, undeniably the main focal point of the Town of Taos. This lovely plaza is where the community gathers to enjoy the culture, fine food and great galleries that Taos is known for.



EVENING EVENTS

5 pm – 6 pm Wine & Cheese Reception in the Historic Mural Room

(Open to all delegates) Conference Badge Required for Admittance

Nestled near the Taos Plaza and the Taos Convention Center is the Old County Courthouse. Inside are Depression-era murals by early Taos artists and the site of MPMA's reception. Enjoy these incredible artworks along with light refreshments before heading out to experience fine dining and the incomparable art in the galleries in Taos. The murals were commissioned by the Public Works Art Project in the 1930s and are by four Taos artists.

Sponsored by the Taos Gallery Association

6 pm – 9 pm – Dinner on your own and Gallery Walking Tour

Taos has wonderful galleries filled with beautiful, unique and whimsical works of art. Venture in and out of the shops that line the historic Taos Plaza during the Gallery Walk. They will be open late, especially for delegates and courtesy of the Gallery Association.

9 pm – Leave downtown by shuttle – back to Conference Hotel

9 pm – Cowboy Dancing at the Historic Sagebrush Bar (No Ticket Required)

The bar at the historic Sagebrush Inn (our conference hotel) is one of the best in the area. Historic drums, Taos paintings and adobe walls provide the backdrop to the evening's Cowboy Dance. Bring your cowboy duds and prepare to go two step'in with your friends for one final fling at the conference.

2006 SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS

MPMA's annual conference features a silent auction with 100% of the proceeds funding MPMA's scholarship programs. MPMA's Emerging Leaders Scholarships Fund provides conference travel and participation in the association conference for professionals who might otherwise not be able to participate. This program is a vital component of our mission to reach all sectors of our region. The auction adds to the attraction of the exhibit hall and increases delegate attendance. We encourage you to contribute an item to the auction to help us raise money for these programs and generate interest in the exhibit hall. Items contributed by exhibitors may either be placed on the auction table, or may be displayed in their booth (they can display a photo of the item at the auction table).

Suggested items: Museum gift shop items, craft items, jewelry, books, and wines, business products and services; Registration for the 2007 MPMA conference (requires purchase from MPMA for \$264) or a travel package to the conference (donating hotel nights and/or air miles); or a vacation stay.

Items may be brought or sent directly to the conference location, but you must fill out a form in advance in order to receive proper acknowledgement at the conference table. Please send in your form by September 10, 2006, with a description of the item and estimated value. Deadline: FedEx item by Sept. 8, 2006, or hand deliver by September 19, 2006. To receive a donation form, please contact Auction Chair Melissa Bechhoefer 303/866-4692 or Melissa.Bechhoefer@chs.state.co.us or MPMA 303/979-9358 or mountplains@aol.com.

2006 SILENT & LIVE AUCTION DONOR FORM

Please Help Support MPMA's Scholarship Program

MPMA's 2006 annual conference in Taos will again feature both silent and live auctions with 100% of the proceeds funding **MPMA's Scholarship Programs**. MPMA's scholarship fund provides awards for MPMA conference travel and registration to professionals that otherwise wouldn't be able to participate. We encourage everyone to contribute items to our auction or to make a donation directly to the scholarship fund. Silent and live auction items will be displayed throughout the conference inside the Exhibitors Hall. Items contributed by exhibitors may either be placed on the auction table, or may be displayed in your booth (a photo of the item can be displayed at the auction table).

Items may be brought directly to the conference location or sent ahead to the address below, but you must fill out this form in advance in order to receive proper acknowledgement at the conference table.

Donor's Name/Company: _____

Item: _____

Additional Description: _____

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$ _____ (donations are tax deductible as allowed by law – receipts provided)

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the scholarship fund ___ in place of ___ in addition to an auction item

I will bring my item to the conference (delivered by September 19, 2006 before 5:00 p.m.)

I will send my item in advance to arrive before September 8, 2006

Send to: Colorado Historical Society
Melissa Bechhoefer
1300 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203
 Telephone: **303/866-4692** Fax: 303/866-5739

I will provide a photo and description of the item and ship to the high bidder after the conference (at my expense)

(1) Fill out donor form providing all information above

(2) Fax or mail this completed form to Melissa Bechhoefer before September 10, 2006 at 303/866-5739.
 Attach a copy of this form to the item and mail it or bring it along to Taos

Donation Suggestions:

- Museum gift shop items
- Art or craft items
- Jewelry
- Business products and services
- Wines
- Books
- Registration for the 2007 MPMA Conference (can be purchased from MPMA for \$210.00)

Meeting peers from the region is one of the most successful parts of the conference. Networking is so important to the success of smaller and regional museums, and while it is nice to meet people from across the country at national conference, the regional contacts are much more useful. Attendees of the MPMA conference are very relaxed, nice and open to becoming acquainted with everyone. The social barrier is non-existent. I had the opportunity to make new friends from Texas to Montana. In addition, it was a great opportunity to catch up with friends from Kansas and Oklahoma.

Brian Whisenhunt
 Emerging Leaders Scholarship Recipient 2004



2006 Registration Forms

**EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:**Postmarked by
July 14, 2006**ADVANCE
REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:**must be received
by August 14, 2006**Mountain-Plains Museums Association
Taos, New Mexico
SEPTEMBER 18 – 22, 2006****PLEASE NOTE:**

Institutional Members may send a specified number of staff at the Member rate. Non-members must register at the nonmember rate or join now and register at the member rate. Only those registered for the conference may attend conference events.

OFFICE USE ONLY

cca _____ ck _____ po _____

pif _____ cs _____ ssns _____

mdp _____ wo _____ fta _____

aa _____ nm _____

3 EASY WAYS TO REGISTER**ONLINE** at www.mountplainsmuseums.org**FAX** your completed registration form to 303/979-3553**MAIL** your completed form with payment to:Mountain-Plains Museums Association
7110 West David Drive, Littleton, CO 80128-5404**Deadline Dates:** please check the deadlines listed in the registration rates box.**REGISTRATION RATES**

The complete package includes: registration, two lunches, four evening events and a Friday afternoon tour.

Events included in the complete package are marked by an * on page 19.**REGISTRATION**

Fill out the form below and mail or fax (credit card payments only) to MPMA:

PERSONAL DATA

First Name _____ MI _____

Last Name _____

First Name Badge Preference (or nickname) _____

Position Title _____

Museum/Company _____

Work Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Please be sure to provide an accurate email. Registration confirmation and program updates will be send by email.

Significant Other First _____ MI ___ Last _____
(if registering) Delegates, check here if you do not want your phone number and email address listed on the attendees list. Conference Speaker

Session Title: _____

 I have special accessibility needs requiring consideration
(You will be contacted by MPMA staff) Is this your first MPMA conference?

Registration Rates	Early Bird Postmark on or before 7/14/2006	Advanced Postmark on or before 8/14/2006	On-site or after 8/14/2006
Member	\$155 * \$264 complete pkg	\$170 * \$279 complete pkg	\$185 * \$294 complete pkg
Non-Member	\$225 * \$334 complete pkg	\$235 * \$344 complete pkg	\$255 * \$364 complete pkg
Student Member (Student ID required)	\$85	\$110	\$135
Student Non-Member (Student ID required)	\$110	\$135	\$160
Significant other (Registration must accompany delegate's registration; separate registrations not eligible for this category)	\$85 * \$194 complete pkg	\$110 * \$219 complete pkg	\$135 * \$244 complete pkg
<i>Circle all that apply</i> Daily Registration Rates:			
Wednesday (Member)	\$100	\$110	\$120
(Non-Member)	\$120	\$130	\$140
Thursday (Member)	\$100	\$110	\$120
(Non-Member)	\$120	\$130	\$140
Friday (Member)	\$100	\$110	\$120
(Non-Member)	\$120	\$130	\$140

Event Tickets (meals, evening events, tours): only a limited number of tickets for events will be sold on site IF THEY ARE STILL AVAILABLE. Advice: buy event tickets ahead of time.



EVENTS (WORKSHOPS, TOURS, EVENING EVENTS)

Events included in the complete package are marked by an *.

You must check the appropriate boxes to attend all events, even if there is no fee for the event. Space is limited for some events. Registration will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Monday, September 18th

EVENT# & DESCRIPTION	Conf. Registrants		Non Conf. Registrants		
	NO.	COST	NO.	COST	TOTAL
Pre-Conference Events					
1. Workshop - Taos Pottery	___	\$50	___	\$70	___
2. Workshop - CIPM	___	\$175	___	\$195	___

Tuesday, September 19th

EVENT# & DESCRIPTION	Conf. Registrants		Non Conf. Registrants		
	NO.	COST	NO.	COST	TOTAL
3. Workshop - Historic Gardens	___	\$30	___	\$50	___
4. Workshop - Hispanic Pottery	___	\$50	___	\$70	___
5. Workshop - Digital	___	\$30	___	\$50	___
6. Workshop - Historic Tools	___	\$30	___	\$50	___
7. Workshop - Faux Food	___	\$30	___	\$50	___
8. Workshop - Product Development	___	\$40	___	\$60	___
9. Workshop - Mannequins	___	\$30	___	\$50	___
10. Workshop - Capital Projects	___	\$30	___	\$50	___
11. NMAM Annual Meeting/Lunch	___	\$16	___	___	___
12. Opening Reception* Millicent Rogers	___	\$20	___	___	___

Wednesday, September 20th

EVENT# & DESCRIPTION	NO.	COST	TOTAL
13. Affinity Breakfast - RC-MPMA	___	\$13	___
14. Affinity Breakfast - COMPT, ACUMG & EL	___	\$13	___
15. Affinity Breakfast - Tribal Museum Network	___	\$13	___
16. MPMA Business Lunch*	___	\$16	___
17. Evening Event: Taste of Taos*	___	\$20	___

Thursday, September 21st

EVENT#	NO.	COST	TOTAL
18. Affinity Breakfasts - EdCom	___	\$13	___
19. Affinity Breakfasts - NAME	___	\$13	___
20. Breakfast: Get It While It's Hot	___	\$13	___
21. Lunch: American Indians and Museums	___	\$16	___
22. Winedale Reunion	___	n/c	___
23. Inclusive Practices Gathering	___	n/c	___
24. University of Kansas Alumni Gathering	___	n/c	___
25. Museum Directors Roundtable	___	n/c	___
26. NMAM Reception	___	n/c	___
27. MPMA Awards Banquet/Auction*	___	\$25	___

Friday, September 22nd

EVENT# & DESCRIPTION	NO.	COST	TOTAL
28. Affinity Breakfast: Volunteer Coordinators	___	\$13	___
29. Affinity Breakfast: CurCOM	___	\$13	___
30. Affinity Breakfast: SMAC	___	\$13	___
31. Helping Hands Workshop	___	n/c	___
32. History of New Mexico Lunch*	___	\$13	___
<i>Pick one tour:</i>			
33. Tour 1 - Artist Studio Tour*	___	\$15	___
34. Tour 2- Historic Tour of Taos*	___	\$15	___
35. Tour 3- Shopping Tour*	___	\$15	___
36. Wine & Cheese Reception	___	n/c	___
37. Gallery Walking Tour	___	n/c	___
38. Cowboy Dance	___	n/c	___

Tickets and Registration for NO Fee Events (n/c)

Tickets and registration are required to provide an accurate count. Please make sure you have checked every event and meal you plan to attend.

Events (Workshops, Tours, Evening Events)

You must check the appropriate boxes to attend all events, even if there is no fee for the event. Space is limited for some events. Registration will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

SESSION LIST

SESSION PREFERENCES

Please help us determine space requirements by circling your anticipated choices. You are welcome to change your mind during the conference.

Wednesday, 9/20

General Session Please check box if attending the General Session

Morning	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7
Afternoon	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7
Late Afternoon	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7

Thursday, 9/21

Morning	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	
Late Morning	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	E6	E7
Afternoon	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	
Late Afternoon	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7

Friday, 9/22

Morning	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6	H7
Late Morning	I1	I2	I3	I4	I5	I6	I7



Scholarship Fund Donation:

MPMA offers limited scholarships to its conference. Help us send students, colleagues and retirees to the Taos conference. Indicate amount you would like to donate: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$ Other _____

To apply for a scholarship: a limited number of scholarships are available. To get a scholarship form, contact MPMA Scholarship Chair Susan Baley at 405/325-3272 or by email at sbaley@ou.edu.

Please provide the following information to help us better serve you.

- Dietary restrictions:
 - Vegetarian No Dairy Vegan Other: _____
- Mobility:
 - I require wheelchair accessibility for evening events and Friday's afternoon tour
 - Other _____
- Mentoring
 - I would like to mentor a conference delegate
 - I would like to have a conference mentor
 - I would like to have a mentor for the coming year

CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS

Only refund requests received in writing and postmarked by August 28, 2006, will be considered. Refunds will be processed after the conference. MPMA is not responsible for cancellations that were mailed or faxed but never received.

PAYMENT

All registrations, events, and membership must be prepaid. Forms received without payment will not be processed. Do not mail registration forms or payment after September 7, 2006. Do not fax registration forms or submit online registrations after September 12, 2006. Attendees are responsible for payment of all fees.

PAYMENT ENCLOSED:

Registration \$ _____

Workshop \$ _____

Events \$ _____

Tours \$ _____

Scholarship Donation \$ _____

Membership \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Charge my credit card for the total amount

Credit Card Number (VISA or MasterCard only) _____ exp date _____

Name on Card _____

Authorized Signature _____

Check is enclosed (payable to MPMA)

Purchase Order Information:

Number: _____

Billing Information: _____

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

Mountain-Plains Museums Association

7110 West David Drive

Littleton, Colorado 80128-5404

Phone: 303/979-9358

Remember to fax **all 3 pages, (18, 19 & 20)** of the registration form. IF YOU FAX IN YOUR REGISTRATION, PLEASE DO NOT MAIL IT. DO NOT SEND DUPLICATE REGISTRATIONS. FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ONLY - FAX YOUR REGISTRATION TO **303/979-3553**.

Please indicate the events you wish to attend and the number of tickets desired. Note times and locations in order to avoid scheduling conflicts. Payment must be included with your Registration fees. Tickets will only be available for pick up during on-site registration hours. MPMA reserves the right to cancel any event. Only those registered for the conference may attend conference events.

MPMA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please check one:

INDIVIDUAL

- Student (Photo I.D.) and Retired \$ 25
- Individual \$ 45
- Donor \$100
- Contributor \$200
- Benefactor \$500

INSTITUTIONAL

- Below \$50,000 \$ 50
- \$50,000 - \$149,000 \$100
- \$150,000 - \$499,999 \$150
- \$500,000 - \$999,000 \$200
- \$1 million - \$2,499,999 \$250
- \$2.5 million & above \$300

(Dues based on annual budget)

BUSINESS

- Business Member \$100
- Business Patron \$200

Please check one:

- New Renewal

Name: _____

Museum: _____

Position: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Enclose payment with form and return to:

MPMA

7110 West David Drive, Littleton, CO 80128-5404

TRANSPORTATION

Taos is 125 miles north of Albuquerque; 70 miles north of Santa Fe. It is located on US 64 and New Mexico Highway 68. Driving time to Taos from Albuquerque is approximately 2 hours and 1 hour from Santa Fe. You will find the drive to Taos a scenic delight and an intriguing introduction to the beauty of Taos Valley.

AIR TRAVEL

Many visitors to Taos arrive at the Albuquerque Airport and either rent a car or take a shuttle to Taos.

The cost of air travel to Albuquerque is similar to flying to other cities. Frontier Airlines, a generous sponsor of the 2006 MPMA Conference, is offering great deals to the conference! A 10% discount off restricted fares. Call 1-800/908-9068 to book your reservations referencing **Shell Number MC027E**. Attendees may also use a travel agency by providing the agency with **Tour Code G27E** at the time of booking. The Tour Code must be properly applied to the ticket in order for the discount to be taken. Travel agency instructions are available from Frontier Airlines at www.frontierairlines.com. The discount rate applies to travel to Albuquerque between September 14, 2006, and September 26, 2006.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Shuttle and Bus Service

Faust Transportation, Inc - Airport shuttle, chartered tours, taxi, personalized express runs. 505/758-3410

Twin Hearts Shuttle - Charter service, airport shuttle, taxi service. 505/751-1201

Herrera Bus Charter - 505/242-1108

Sanchez Bus Line - 505/877-0697

Greyhound and TNM&O coaches offer service from Albuquerque Sunport to the Taos bus station on South Santa Fe Rd. 505/758-1144

Conference Hotel Shuttle Service: to arrange an airport shuttle through the conference hotel, call 1-888/751-1555

RENTAL CARS

Avis is a proud sponsor of the MPMA conference and is offering discounted rates. If you would like to rent a car while you are visiting Taos, contact Avis at 1-800/331-1600 and use MPMA's Avis Worldwide Discount (**AWD**) number **J790351**. Reservations also be made online at www.avis.com and entering in the AWD number in the box marked "Discount Codes" (go to the rates and reservation section; under the discount codes section, there will be a box for Avis Worldwide Discount number-AWD#, it is about the 2nd or 3rd page of the reservation process). Or you can go to MPMA's website at www.mpma.net (go to conferences) and find the direct link.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CONFERENCE HOTEL

Please contact your hotel to verify the location and directions. Visit www.sagebrushinn.com for more information

By Car:

From Albuquerque: I-25 to Santa Fe; exit on 599 north to by-pass Santa Fe; Hwy. 285 to Hwy. 68 to Taos.

From Denver: I-25 to Colorado Springs to Walsenburg; Hwy. 160 to Fort Garland; Hwy. 159 and Hwy. 522 to Taos.

From West Texas: I-40 to Clines Corners; Hwy. 285 to I-25 to Santa Fe; Hwy. 285 to Hwy. 68 to Taos.

HOTEL INFORMATION

MPMA's main conference hotel will be the Sagebrush Inn. Two other hotels are included in the conference discount program, all of which offer reduced room rates to delegates:

Sagebrush Inn and Conference Center

Mailing address: Post Office Box 557,
Taos, New Mexico 87571
Location: 1508 Paseo del Pueblo Sur Highway 68
(2-1/2 miles south of Taos Plaza)
Ph: 505/758-2254 Fax 505/758-5077
Reservations 1-800/428-3626
email sagebrush@newmex.com
www.sagebrushinn.com

Comfort Suite (on the same property as the Sagebrush Inn)

1500 Paseo del Pueblo Sur / Hwy 68
PO Box 1268 / Taos, NM 87571
505/751-1555 Fax 505/751-1991
Reservations 1-888/751-1555
This hotel has High-Speed Internet.

Quality Inn (one mile north of the Sagebrush)

1043 Paseo del Pueblo Sur / Taos, NM 87571
505/758-2200 Fax 505/758-9009
Reservations 1-800/845-0648
email quality@newmex.com
This hotel has High-Speed Internet.

HOTEL RATES AND RESERVATIONS

The following rates are for MPMA Conference Delegates. The special group rates apply to the following dates: September 17 - 23, 2006. Attendees must identify that they are with "Mountain Plains Museum Association" to receive special rates. The special discount rate cutoff date is August 17, 2006.

Delegates must make their own hotel reservations.

Reservation Phone Numbers:

Sagebrush Inn 1-800/428-3626
Comfort Suites 1-888/751-1555
Quality Inn 1-800/845-0648

Sagebrush Inn:

Standard Rooms	\$79.00 + tax per night
Fireplace Rooms	\$79.00 + tax per night
Small Suites	\$89.00 + tax per night
Deluxe Suites	\$89.00 + tax per night
Executive Suites	\$99.00 + tax per night

Comfort Suites \$82.00 + tax per night

Quality Inn \$69.00 + tax per night

HOTEL FEATURES

The historical Sagebrush Inn has hosted travelers since 1931. Its adobe architecture and the historical and southwest ambience will charm you. Its bar - located in the original part of the hotel, is the best in town. The Inn houses an impressive collection of Indian rugs and artifacts, New Mexico paintings and original R.C. Gorman works. On the same "campus" is the Comfort Suites and down the road is the Quality Inn. All three hotels offer delegates discounted rates.

The Sagebrush Inn has over 68 rooms with their own wood burning fireplace. All rooms have hand made furniture from Mexico, local art, cable TV, air conditioning, telephone, in room coffeemakers and hand hewn vigas. Non smoking rooms are available, and pets are welcome in pet designated rooms.

There is a seasonal outdoor pool, two indoor hot tubs, Cantina, live entertainment and dancing, the Los Vaqueros Dining Room, ample free parking. There will be a complimentary shuttle service provided from the Sagebrush Inn by the Town of Taos to the Taos Convention Center located downtown. Complete spa privileges are available at the Taos Health Spa and Tennis Club located within 500 yards of the Inn. Amenities at the other conference hotels are similar. For details on the Comfort Suites and the Quality Inn, visit the websites listed above or call the hotel's reservation number.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION POLICIES

Payment may be made by personal check, VISA and MasterCard. Purchase orders will be accepted ONLY from federal, state or municipal government agencies, and state educational institutions. Please return the completed form with full payment. Telephone registrations must be accompanied by a credit card number. Due to space, attendance to some events is limited. We encourage you to register early for the best selection of events. We expect events to be sell out, so purchase event tickets BEFORE the conference. If there is availability, tickets may be purchased during the conference for events. All registrations will be processed in the order they are received.

REGISTRATION DESK

All registration materials should be picked up at the registration desk.

Monday and Tuesday: Registration will be at the Conference Hotel: Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: Registration will be at the Taos Convention Center (Bataan Hall)

The registration desk is open during the following hours:

Monday, September 18	8:15 am — 9:30 am
Tuesday, September 19	8:00 am — 5:30 pm
Wednesday, September 20	7:15 am — 3:00 pm
Thursday, September 21	7:30 am — 6:00 pm
Friday, September 22	7:30 am — 12:00 pm

Transfers of conference registrations are forbidden. A complete transfer of registration may only be made prior to the conference by contacting the MPMA office.

EXHIBIT HALL

The Exhibit Hall will be located at the Taos Convention Center in Coronado Hall.

It will be open during the following hours:

Wednesday, September 20	10:00 am — 5:00 pm
Thursday, September 21	10:00 am — 5:30 pm
Exhibit Hall will close for lunch from 12:15 pm — 1:30 pm	

SECURITY

Name Badges are required for participation in the conference. Tickets are required to attend all events.

MESSAGE BOARD

A message board will be located by registration. Please check for lost and found, job notices, messages and program updates.

INTERVIEW ROOM

If you are interested in conducting interviews during the conference, please contact MPMA staff before the conference. To reserve the interview room, please call 303/979-9358 or email mountplains@aol.com.

Please bring this program with you to the conference.
An addendum noting session locations and changes will be provided in your registration packet.
Watch your e-mail for further information about conference happenings!

MPMA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program, sponsored by the Mountain-Plains Museums Association (MPMA), provides financial assistance to emerging museum professionals working in MPMA's 10-state region so that they may attend its annual conference. MPMA seeks the following scholarship candidates: current students who are considering a museum career and paid/unpaid beginning professionals whose attendance at the conference will benefit their future involvement in the museum field. MPMA's annual conference offers a wide array of sessions that will strengthen participants' commitment to the museum field. Scholarships for 2006 are funded by auction proceeds from the 2005 conference and by the Winedale Seminar Alliance.

The award will be based upon the applicant's merit and financial need. The award may not cover all expenses. Applicants should seek additional financial assistance from other sources to cover all expenses. All scholarship recipients will receive a complimentary, one-year MPMA membership. To apply for a scholarship, contact MPMA Scholarship Chair Susan Baley at 405/325-3270 or by email at sbaley@ou.edu. Deadline is June 15, 2006. You can download the nomination form at our website: www.mpma.net.

MENTOR PROGRAM

Is this your first MPMA conference? Are you a new professional looking for colleagues to help you succeed in the field? We welcome you to sign up for MPMA's Mentor Program. The arrangement is informal and can be tailored to your needs. The Mentor Program pairs newcomers with active members of MPMA. Your assigned mentor is just for the conference and may contact you prior to the conference. All mentors and mentorees will meet at the conference hotel on Tuesday, September 19, at 4:00 pm. To participate, please check the appropriate box on the registration form, and we will contact you with your mentor's name. Any delegate may request a mentor.

CALL FOR MENTORS

Have you been a member of MPMA for 2 years or more? Are you willing to share your expertise about career goals with new colleagues? We encourage you to volunteer for MPMA's Mentor Program. Mentors do not need to be career specialists but should be interested in and willing to help emerging leaders. Your assignment will be just for the 2006 conference. Mentors should be willing to provide guidance during the conference. Please join your fellow professionals to make emerging professionals feel welcome at the conference. To sign up, please check the appropriate box on the registration form. Mentors should arrange to greet their protégées on Tuesday, September 19, in the hotel lobby at 4 pm. MPMA's Mentor Chair is **Kathrine Schlageck**, Education and Public Services Supervisor at the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Manhattan, Kansas. She can be reached by phone at 785/532-7718, by fax at 785/532-7498, or by email at lwalk@ksu.edu.



FORMS AND INFORMATION

Available electronically for: Scholarships and Auction Items. Forms for applying for a scholarship to attend the conference and to submit an item for MPMA's Silent and Live Auctions can be found online at www.MPMA.net. These forms and materials are also available by email (write to mountplains@aol.com) or by phone 303/979-9358.

JOB INTERVIEWS

There will be a room for job interviews at the conference hotel. Contact MPMA at mountplains@aol.com to reserve the room. A bulletin board will be available for job announcements and for job seekers.

MPMA's REGISTRARS COMMITTEE HELPING HANDS BRIGADE

Friday, September 22nd
8:45 am — 3:00 pm

The Helping Hands Brigade will help at a variety of museums in Taos. This annual event is organized by the RC-Mountain-Plains Museums Association. It is where registrars, collections managers, conservators and



others share skills with institutions in the conference's host city. Collections-based activities could include inventory, condition reporting, re-housing of collections, moving collections and numbering collections. Helping Hands is a great way to go behind-the-scenes at museums and to make new friends. To participate in this annual event, contact Pat Roath, Registrar's Committee Vice Chair, at proath@montana.edu.



MOUNTAIN-PLAINS MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

of the American Association of Museums

7110 West David Drive
Littleton, CO 80128-5404

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**Our thanks to the town
of Taos for its support**

