



TUCSON MUSEUM of ART
AND HISTORIC BLOCK

2008 – 2009 BY THE NUMBERS

Visitors to the Museum: 137,521*

Exhibitions: 7

Accessioned Objects: 45

Participants in Public Programs: 7,923

K-12 students: 4,829

Participants in Outreach Programs: 7,225

Total Budget: \$3,435,507

*Numbers are reflective of the year-long closing and renovation of El Nacimiento and La Casa Cordova

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Website: www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Hours:

Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sunday, 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Admission:

General \$8.00

Seniors (60+) \$6.00

Students (13+) \$3.00

Members and children 12 and under are free

First Sunday of every month is free



TUCSON MUSEUM of ART
AND HISTORIC BLOCK

Mission:

Connecting art to life

To achieve its mission the Tucson Museum of Art and Historic Block preserves and interprets its collections of the Art of Latin America, Art of the American West, and Modern and Contemporary Art; cares for and interprets five significant El Presidio historic properties; and produces related exhibitions, education programs, and publications which expand understanding and appreciation of these unique community resources

Public Tours:

Free with Museum admission October – April

TUESDAY: Corbett House 11:00 am

*Major Exhibition 2:00 pm

WEDNESDAY: Historic Block 11:00 am

Art of Latin America 2:00 pm

THURSDAY: Historic Block 11:00 am

*Major Exhibition 2:00 pm

FRIDAY: Museum Highlights 11:00 am

Art of Latin America 2:00 pm

SATURDAY: *Major Exhibition 11:00 am

Art of the American West 2:00 pm

SUNDAY: Museum Highlights 2:00 pm

*Available only during major exhibitions

RESEARCH LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday - Thursday, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

COVER IMAGE:

Tom Uttech, *Nin Maninawendam*, 2006, oil on linen, 73" x 78"
Gift of the Contemporary Art Society

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From the Board President

The year started off with the

board welcoming new members Charles Rosenquist, Jack Westenberg, Michael Sullivan, and Anne Roberts. It is always exciting to bring in new supporters of the Museum with their enthusiasm, passion, and commitment to one of Tucson's oldest community organizations.

With this new influx of ideas and support we were optimistic about the future and all we could accomplish this year. The thing we didn't expect was the magnitude of the economic issues that faced many industries and people last fall. The city, still a supporter, was now looking at shrinking revenues; donors and members began to tighten their belts; and we were concerned about future fundraisers for the Museum.

With this sobering economic news still unfolding we were hit with a devastating discovery – a trusted employee had been embezzling funds from the Museum. This news was especially hurtful to the Trustees who believed we were doing everything right to protect us from such a crime, and had poured so much time and money to support everything the Museum brings to this community. We made the decision to be as transparent as possible in speaking to the press and our members. We acknowledged some failures on our own internal controls and made organizational changes. As the authorities worked on our behalf to bring the case to the courts, the Board, under the leadership of our new treasurer Harry George, instituted new safeguards and reports so there would be no repeat. A recovery fund was put in place with support organizations and every member of the Board and staff contributing. It was so gratifying to see the outpouring of support from every aspect of the Museum family and the community. Thank you to everyone who has offered their support, monetary and otherwise, so we can continue the good work of the Tucson Museum of Art.

This past year, however, should not be defined by one person's greed, but rather



by the exhibitions and programs that make this Museum something Tucson can be proud of – a great museum for a great city.

The exhibitions of Maynard Dixon's paintings, the photographs of premiere Mexican photographers, and the provoking works of artists represented in *Trouble in Paradise* were popular and intriguing. They not only brought in new audiences, but brought in some new acquisitions to our permanent collection. Drs. Mark and Kathleen Sublette donated a Maynard Dixon painting, *Home of Tucson*, to complement our Western art collection. Four works from the *Trouble in Paradise* exhibition were donated by the Contemporary Art Society, Jim Conley, and two from the artists themselves for our contemporary collection. In total we accessioned 45 objects this year into our permanent collection.

In the same vein of these generous donations, was the presentation and long term loan of Asian antiquities from former board member, Jim Conley. *Han and Beyond: The Renaissance of China* is magnificent and adds another element to our outstanding offerings. It will be on view for the next five years. Our heartfelt thanks to these donors and everyone who helps us achieve our mission of "Connecting Art to Life."

Finally, our fundraisers continue to be profitable and fun. Led by the Tucson Museum of Art League's annual events of Treasure House and Dinners a L'Art, it was also a Designer Showhouse year. Getting Merle Norman's former home for the setting of Designer Showhouse was

a coup and the crowds who attended proved how popular and interested the public was in the property and creativity showcased by invited designers. Special thanks to the League for their organization skills and passion, and especially to Bobbie O'Connor for her devotion and hard work on Showhouse.

The second year of our CRUSH Wine Festival was also successful despite Mother Nature's introduction of wind. This event would not be possible without the dedication and work of all support organizations, Tucson Young Professionals, the CRUSH committee, sponsors, and of course, the cooperation of Alliance Beverage. We are grateful to everyone who provided auction items, volunteer time, money, product, and those who attended. It is your support that makes this a must-attend event.

Overall, this year had its highlights and some not-so-highlights. We added a few new members to the Board; dealt with a devastating crime; and presented programs and exhibitions that got the city talking. In the process we became stronger, more focused, and more energetic in recruiting members that will bring new and greater resources to the Museum.

The coming year looks promising. We've been trimming our budget, bringing in spectacular exhibitions with well-known artists, and offering more incredible programs and events to the community. With this year's new Board members and the continuing dedication of our current members, we are progressing toward our goals. No one knows what this year will hold, but the Board of Trustees is ready to face the future and continue to elevate this Museum to be the best it can be. I hope to count you among our supporters for this year and years ahead. Thank you for all you do for the Tucson Museum of Art. I'll see you in the galleries.

Robert Clark
President, Board of Trustees



photo by Jerry Peek



photo by Jerry Peek

TOP: Guests discovering why "Size Matters" in a stemware demonstration of Riedel Crystal, pre-CRUSH seminar held at La Encantada

BELOW: Guests at the opening reception of *Trouble in Paradise: Examining Discord between Nature and Society*



photo by Amanda Rockafellow



photo by Jerry Peek

TOP: Visitors at *A Place of Refuge: Maynard Dixons Arizona* opening

BELOW: Young lion dancers perform at the opening reception of *Han and Beyond – The Renaissance of China: The James Conley Collection*

Dear Museum Members:

This Annual Report marks the close of the Tucson Museum of Art's 2009 fiscal year.

I wish to acknowledge and sincerely thank all of you for sticking with us during some very trying times, and for caring so deeply about the on-going health and welfare of our institution.

While we've had our financial challenges, the Tucson Museum of Art is blessed with many things. We have an unusually dedicated Board of Trustees; an outstanding Docent corps; legions of volunteers that participate in a host of activities; a large and dedicated membership; hundreds of deeply engaged artists; an audience with wonderfully diverse interests and aesthetic passions; and a sophisticated and spirited professional staff. These good people devote countless hours and personal resources to the advancement of our institutional mission of "Connecting Art to Life" – and they are truly the ones that deserve credit for the Museum's success.

The Tucson Museum of Art accomplishes its mission by serving an increasingly diverse audience, while at the same time aspiring to the highest standards in its ambitious exhibitions, scholarly publications, extensive educational programming, and much-heralded outreach activities. As a dynamic and ever-evolving organization, the Tucson Museum of Art seeks to promote intellectual inquiry and scholarship, inspire creative excellence, be open and welcoming to the broadest possible audience, and deepen an understanding of the visual environment of our region and the broader world in which we live. As an educational institution and a unique cultural resource, the Tucson Museum of Art will continue to enrich our community through engaging exhibitions and programs for generations to come.

In closing this eventful year, it is my duty to report that while our Museum's policies and procedures continue to meet the strictest accreditation standards as set forth by the American Association of Museums, we unfortunately fell victim to an embezzlement and fraud scheme perpetrated against us by a former employee.



Perhaps I'm stating the obvious, but it's been tough dealing with a major embezzlement from a trusted employee – an employee that has been a member of the Museum family for 18 years. To be the victim of a crime at the hands of someone so close, with such important financial oversight duties, brings with it a host of feelings and emotions.

The Tucson Museum of Art routinely reviews, analyzes, and improves its internal procedures, and annually conducts full, independent financial audits through an accounting firm specializing in non-profit organizations. And it was precisely as a result of this long-standing procedure that an unexplained loss and evidence of criminal activity was uncovered.

Once the Museum verified that a theft had occurred, we immediately notified the proper law enforcement authorities. After that, our staff work with the State Attorney General's Office, the Tucson Police Department's Fraud Unit, and our new auditors to bring swift resolution to the ongoing investigation. On August 3, 2009, the Museum's former chief accountant pled guilty to felony charges and was immediately incarcerated. She is currently in prison serving a five year sentence.

Although the theft was substantial, the Tucson Museum of Art carried insurance that covered a percentage of the loss. But the real story is – in what can only be characterized as an extraordinary and unprecedented show of support and dedication – close friends of the Museum pledged and/or donated enough money to offset much of the remaining loss not covered by our risk management policy.

During this past year, the Museum's Board of Trustees, support organizations, as well as ardent supporters and every member of the Museum's staff participated in this recovery effort.

Despite an extremely challenging economic climate, these good people opened their hearts and checkbooks to ensure that this crime will have the least impact possible on Museum services. As a result, the Museum's programs, exhibitions, collections, and alternative education high school, Museum School for the Visual Arts, will continue to play an integral role in the cultural fabric of our community. Reflected in these acts of selflessness, our organization rises to a new level.

Going forward, the Museum has made significant changes in its financial management. We hired Katie Hiedeman as our new Director of Finance and Administration, changed our independent auditing contract to the firm of Beach Fleischman PC, and immediately charged them with conducting a thorough examination of, and issuing a detailed report on, all aspects of the Museum's internal controls.

While no organization can completely guard against theft and fraud, please know the Tucson Museum of Art is doing everything within its power to ensure the safety and protection of its assets.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff, we want you to know how much we truly appreciate your continued support and understanding. We invite you to come and visit. The more you explore and participate at the Tucson Museum of Art, the more it can offer you in return. In addition to the many art exhibitions and educational opportunities, the Museum Store provides unique gift ideas; Café a' la C'Art offers a quiet and restful spot for a delicious lunch or snack; and the Research Library offers a plethora of information.

I sincerely thank you, our valuable members, for all that you do in support of the Tucson Museum of Art – we couldn't do it without you!

Robert E. Knight
Executive Director

Exhibition Highlights

The 2008/2009 season was highlighted by four powerful exhibitions organized by the Museum's curators. These exhibits focused on our respective collecting areas as well as introducing a new area. These exhibitions anchored the year's lineup, broke attendance records, and attracted new audiences.

Mexican Photographers Today: Facing a World in Transition

June 7, 2008 - February 1, 2009

Curated by Art of Latin America curator Fatima Bercht, *Mexican Photographers Today: Facing a World in Transition* opened at the end of last fiscal year and ran through September. This exhibition included more than 200 photographs selected from the Margolis Foundation Collection of Tucson. Featuring works by such influential photographers such as Manuel Alvarez Bravo, Rodrigo Moya, and Nacho Lopez, the exhibition explored a range of subjects from rites of passage and religious performances to issues of urban existence. It was accompanied by a catalogue with informative essays, including one by noted Mexican photography scholar, Elizabeth Ferrer.

A Place of Refuge: Maynard Dixon's Arizona

October 11, 2008 - February 15, 2009

One of the most popular exhibitions opened in October – *A Place of Refuge: Maynard Dixon's Arizona*. Curated by Thomas Smith, past curator of Art of the American West, this exhibition featured more than 140 paintings and works on paper concentrating on Dixon's depictions of Arizona subjects. Well-known to Tucsonans and art enthusiasts from the world over, Dixon embodies the spirit of the pioneer artist and the majestic desert Southwest. The beautiful full color catalogue, published by the University of Oklahoma Press, includes essays by Thomas Smith and noted Dixon scholar Don Hagerty, and topped all catalogue sales at the Museum. As a result of the success of this exhibition and in support of the growth of western art at the Museum, Drs. Kathleen and Mark Sublette donated Dixon's *Home of Tucson* to the permanent collection.



Painted earthenware Lokapalas (Guardian Figures), Chinese, Tang Dynasty (AD 618-907)

Han and Beyond – The Renaissance of China: The James Conley Collection

Opened January 24, 2009
Collaboratively organized by Director Robert Knight and James Conley, this exhibition features more than 100 works of art from the Neolithic period (ca. 3,000 B.C.) to Qing Dynasty (1644 – 1912), and offers a rare opportunity to view remarkable objects drawn from nearly five thousand years of China's creative inspiration. Particularly impressive in its scope and quality, the exhibition is comprised of a diverse selection of objects from terracotta figures and vessels, swords and crossbows, to wooden furniture and paintings – all of which convey the beauty and mystery that are inherent in the Chinese aesthetic. This long term exhibition will be on view for the next five years.

Trouble in Paradise: Examining Discord between Nature and Society

February 28 - June 28, 2009

Addressing the sublime forces of nature and the pressing environmental issues facing the world today, the exhibition *Trouble in Paradise: Examining Discord between Nature and Society* opened in late February and continued through the end of June. The exhibition presented a range of art depicting such extreme forces of nature as tornadoes, volcanoes, flooding, and forest fires, as well as interpretations of a world facing environmental discord. Curated by Chief Curator and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Julie Sasse, this exhibition sparked discussion about

humankind's role in the health of the environment and the sheer wonder and beauty of nature's fury. *Trouble in Paradise* was accompanied by a full color catalogue with essays and biographical information about the artists that was written and compiled with the support of a Clark Art Institute Fellowship at Williamstown, Massachusetts.

Some smaller exhibitions drawn from the permanent collection were mounted to complement and celebrate the uniqueness of our region.

Windows to the West: Landscapes by Howard Russell Butler complemented the Maynard Dixon exhibition by showing 31 pastels of the western landscape.

After its popular inauguration last year, the *Dia de los muertos* festivities captivated the community again in early November. Lively music, delicious food, entertainers, and art projects for children enlivened the public spaces of the museum while a grand *Dia de los muertos* altar filled the Van Galen Gallery.

While another important tradition at the Museum, Maria Luisa Tena's *El Nacimiento*, was suspended last season due to renovation at La Casa Cordova, Curator of Art of Latin America, Fatima Bercht mounted *Follow the Star: Celebrating the Nativity/La estrella de nacimiento*, a holiday display of beautiful crèches from the permanent collection created by traditional artists from Mexico and Peru.

Celebrating the centennial of artist Ted DeGrazia, the Museum opened *DeGrazia: A Modernist Perspective* in June. Organized by Julie Sasse in collaboration with DeGrazia Gallery of the Sun, this exhibition offers a selection of his lesser-known works to highlight his knowledge of and interest in Modernist styles and philosophies. *DeGrazia: A Modernist Perspective* will be on view until October 25.

All in all, the 2008/2009 was power-packed with quality exhibitions from private collection and the permanent collection that revealed the strengths of the collection and the talents of the Museum's curators.



TOP: Kim Keever, *Summer: Blue, Yellow, and Gray*
C-print, Courtesy of Kinz & Tilou Fine Art, New York

BOTTOM: Maynard Dixon, *Toward Kaibito*, 1922
Oil on canvas, 25 x 30 in. Collection of Steve Martin.

New Acquisitions

Art of the American West

Gift of Mrs. William A. Small, Jr.

Ross Stefan, *Sixteen Miles to Shonto*, 1969, oil on canvas

Gift from the Collection of Drs. Mark and Kathleen Sublette

Maria Poveka Martinez, *San Ildefonso Pueblo*, Black-on-Black Bowl with Avanyu Design, c. 1925

Maria Poveka Martinez, *San Ildefonso Pueblo*, Buff-on-Red Bowl with Geometric and Curvilinear Designs, c. 1925

Teresita Naranjo, *Santa Clara Pueblo*, Black Carved Wedding Vase with Avanyu Design, c. 1970

Maynard Dixon, *Home of Tucson*, 1945, oil on canvas board

Gift of Nadine and Eddie Basha; Monica and Jody Beeler; and Tracy Beeler

Joe Beeler, *Geronimo*, bronze sculpture, edition of 45

Modern and Contemporary Art

Gift of Eleanor Caldwell

Jaune Quick-to-See Smith (Flathead Salish), *Untitled*, from the "KalisPELL Series," pastel

Jaune Quick-to-See Smith (Flathead Salish), *Ghost Dance Dress*, 2001, seven color lithograph

Gift of Mrs. William A. Small, Jr.

Will Saunders, *Inductive Leap*, 1993, oil on canvas

Raleigh Ferguson, *Untitled*, 1976, marble, mahogany wood sculpture

Gift of the Photographer

Jody Forster, *Sumner Butte*, Grand Canyon, Arizona, 1980, gelatin silver print

Bequest of Lotte Reyersbach

Emil Hansen Nolde, *Berliner Madchen*, 1911, etching

Franze Radziwill, *Hauser Am Wiesenrand*, 1922, etching and drypoint

Erich Heckel, *Brusen*, 1922, watercolor

Gift of Neil and Jeannette Matthew

Friedrich Meckseper, *Sonnenuhr (Sundial)*, 1968, etching and aquatint, 40/85

Neil E. Matthew, *Interior Courtyard*, Glenn Terrace Apartments, 1981, gelatin silver print

Neil E. Matthew, *Looking North from the Bismark Hotel*, Chicago, 1984, gelatin silver print



Kuna Culture, Panama, mola panel, Gift of Joan Teer Jacobson

Neil E. Matthew, *Blue Mesa*, Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona, 1981, gelatin silver print

Neil E. Matthew, *Junk Yard*, Sault Saint Marie, Ontario, Canada, 1980, gelatin silver print

Gift of Ed and Ruth Krause

David Bradley, *Surrounded by Indians*, lithograph, 70/75

James H. Lewis, *Killer Whale Rattle*, carved wood, stain

Gift of the Artist

Peter HappelChristian, *Souvenirs*, 2006, cyanotype on paper

Johann Ryno de Wet, *Thirst*, from the series "No Man's Land," 2006, digital Ink Jet Print, edition of 32

Roderik Henderson, *Badlands #14*, 2001, gelatin silver print

Gift of Goya Contemporary

Timothy App, *Beacon*, 1999, acrylic on canvas

Gift from the Children of Ted Steele

Fritz Scholder, *Race Stream*, c. 1960, oil on canvas

Gift of Edward H. Chester M.D. and M. Anne Sires

Mark Spencer, *Red Baroque*, 1997, oil on panel

Gift of Marilyn and Maurice Grossman

John Maul, *Memoranda*, pen and ink drawing

Eugene MacKaben, *Untitled*, 1961, woodblock print

Gift of Lucrecia A. Bernal-Schneider

José Bernal, *After Rembrandt's Young Woman at an Open Half - Door*, 1986, metal, wood, print assemblage

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. José Bernal

José Bernal, *Paradise Lost*, 1968, paper collage

José Bernal, *Without Words (Sin Palabras)*, 1985, paper collage

José Bernal, *Don Quixote Calling for His Dulcinea*, 1978, wood and metal assemblage

Anonymous Gift

Roberto Márquez, *La balada de los tres Pablos*, 1988, oil on canvas

Museum Purchase, Funds Provided by Robert Greenberg

Mark Klett and Byron Wolfe, *Details from the view at Point Sublime on the north rim of the Grand Canyon, based on the panoramic drawing by William Holmes (1882)*, 2007, lithograph and archival pigmented inkjet print, 2/5

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Peterson Jr.

Eriks Rudans, *Wild Goose in Flight*, 1985, wood, copper, steel, acrylic

Gift of Dr. Ronald and Mrs. Katherine Margolis

Antonio Turok, *Ecoturismo from the series "Oaxaca: Aquí No Pasa Nada,"* 2006 – 2007, carbon pigment digital print

Gift of the Contemporary Art Society

Tom Uttech, *Nin Maminawendam*, 2006, oil on linen

Gift of James Conley

Matthew Moore, *Rotations: Single Family Residence*, 2006, c-print, 1/7

Gift of Dr. Robert M. and Mrs. Alice Chew

Alexander Calder, *Butterflies & Swirl*, 1969, lithograph, 79/125

Käthe Schmidt Kollwitz, *Beratung / Conspiracy Weberaufstand (Weaver's Revolt)*, original etching 1895, 1945 von der Becke edition

Art of Latin America

Gift of Burt Lazar

Anonymous, Huichol / Wixáritari Culture, Nayarit, Mexico

Woman's Costume: Manta Skirt and Quechquemil (cape), c. 1990, unbleached heavy cotton cloth, wool thread embroidery

Gift of Marilyn and Maurice Grossman

Anonymous, *Jaguar (Tigre) Head Mask*, c. 1958, wood, paint

Gift of Michael Weber

Anonymous, *Miniature Nativity*, walnut shell, clay, paint

Gift of Joan Teer Jacobson

Kuna Culture, Panama, 1 mola blouse, 59 mola panels



Museum School for the Visual Arts

The Museum School for the Visual Arts celebrated the first year partnership with the Museum and Tucson Unified School District with a kickoff event in September. Approximately 30 students, their parents, Board Members, staff, art instructors and guests celebrated with live music, food, and a “marriage” between both organizations.

Throughout the school year Museum School students participated in Museum events such as the *Día de los muertos*, Guillermo Gómez Peña’s *El Mexorcist 4* performance, the presentation *Go Ask the Little Horned Toad* with Chamber Music Plus,

guest lectures by artists included in *Trouble in Paradise: Examining Discord between Nature and Society* exhibition, and the Spring Artisans’ Market.

Students also visited with many Tucson-based artists including Jim Waid, Chris Rush, Daniel Martin Diaz, and Shannon Smith to learn more about what it takes to be a professional artist. Looking for inspiration, students and instructors traveled to a number of downtown art galleries, Reid Park Zoo, Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, and Invisible Theatre.

The statewide Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) occurred this spring and the Museum School students exceeded beyond the state and national average with reading and writing and increased the average in the math and science portion from the previous year. Academic subjects such as English and World History have begun to be more integrated with art curriculum as instructors became more comfortable utilizing the Museum’s collections and special exhibitions as a resource.



Events and Programs

July 6

329 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 26 children and 12 adults learned about photography during *Picture This! Art for Families: Take a Picture - Take a Look*.

July 12

120 children, families and friends participated in a special screening of video shorts created by talented teenage summer participants at The Loft Cinema.

August 3

470 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 20 adults and 19 children explored modern and contemporary art during *Picture This! Art for Families: Color Counts*.

August 12

32 visitors enjoyed *A Walk with the Curator* examining New Perspectives in Art of the American West with former Art of the American West Curator Thomas Smith.

September 7

343 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 17 adults and 9 children experienced the work of Mexican Contemporary photographers during *Picture This! Art for Families: Photography Explorations*.

September 19

250 participants took part in the official celebration of the partnership between the Museum and Tucson Unified School District creating the Museum School for the Visual Arts.

September 25

180 visitors enjoyed the panel discussion, *Conversations with Mexican Photographers*, which included a discussion with artists Pablo Ortiz Monasterio and Antonio Turok and Professor Bill Beezlex, moderated by Curator of Latin American Art, Fatima Bercht.

October 5

350 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 36 children and 21 adults looked at contemporary art during *Picture This! Art for Families: Contemporary Connections*.

October 11

559 members and guests celebrated the opening of *A Place of Refuge: Maynard Dixon's Arizona*.

October 14

67 adults joined Thomas Smith, former Curator of Art of the American West for a gallery tour of the exhibition, *A Place of Refuge: Maynard Dixon's Arizona*.

October 24 - 25

430 adults enjoyed the theatrical performance *Go Ask the Little Horned Toad* developed and presented by Chamber Music Plus about the life and times of Maynard Dixon.

November 1

604 children and adults participated in *Día de los muertos* activities at the Museum.



LAAP President Jean Schroeter talks with artist Guillermo Gómez Peña after *El Mexorcist 4: America's Most Wanted Inner Demon*

November 2

814 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 40 children and 24 adults looked at Western art during *Picture This! Art for Families: Desertscape*s.

November 12

56 visitors participated in docent Beverly (Penny) David's *Art Talk, Maynard Dixon, Tucson's Own*.

December 2

25 participants visited the Center for Creative Photography to view photographs of Maynard Dixon by Ansel Adams and the University of Arizona Library Special Collections to read letters written between Dixon and Lorenzo Hubbell.

January 4

110 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 60 children and 40 adults learned about Asian art during *Picture This! Art for Families: Adventures in China*.

January 10

More than 300 people gathered in the Main Lobby for *El Mexorcist 4: America's Most Wanted Inner Demon*, a performance by artist Guillermo Gomez Peña. In collaboration with Tucson Pima Arts Council and MOCA-Tucson, the standing room only crowd enjoyed the internationally acclaimed "brujo-poeta" and theorist and stayed for a book signing after the performance.

January 20

36 participants enjoyed a lecture by Tempe photographer Dick George about the life and times of one of Maynard Dixon's closest friends, Charles Fletcher Lummis.

January 24

1,200 people came to the Museum for a morning kickoff of Family Friendly Weekends and an evening celebration for the official opening of *Han and Beyond - The Renaissance of China: The James Conley Collection* in conjunction with Chinese New Year and the Tucson Chinese Cultural Center.



photo by Jerry Peek

Visitors to the *Han and Beyond – The Renaissance of China: The James Conley Collection*



photo by Jerry Peek

Guests at the opening of *DeGrazia: A Modernist Perspective*

January 28

47 visitors enjoyed the Art Talk by docent Carol Lehrman about a selection of public art/outdoor sculpture found in Tucson.

February 1

704 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 18 children and 12 adults learned about portraiture during *Picture This! Art for Families: Sensational Portraits*.

February 3

68 participants enjoyed a poetry reading by Richard Tavenner at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum.

February 20

250 guests donned western attire and enjoyed BBQ for the opening night party of the *2009 Designer Showhouse* in the historic ranch home of cosmetics legend Merle Norman.

February 21 – March 29

Cosmetics legend Merle Norman's historic ranch home was the site of this year's *Designer Showhouse* which raised \$85,000 for the Museum.

February 26

67 people came out for *Trouble in Paradise* media artist Michael Najjar's presentation on his work and influences.

February 27

548 members and guests celebrated the opening of *Trouble in Paradise: Examining Discord between Nature and Society*.

March 3

45 participants enjoyed *Beauty and Disaster in Trouble in Paradise*, a gallery tour led by Julie Sasse, Chief Curator and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art.

March 6

75 people learned why *Size Matters* with CEO of Riedel Crystal Georg Riedel at La Encantada as part of the three pre-CRUSH seminars.

March 12

43 visitors enjoyed the panel discussion *Art, Advocacy and the Arid Land* moderated by Julie Sasse, Chief Curator and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art.

April 3 – 4

More than 700 people enjoyed the fine art of wine at the second annual *CRUSH Wine Festival*.

April 5

300 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 158 children and 92 adults participated in *Picture This! Art for Families: Earth Day Festival*.

April 16

Nearly 200 people watched and waited patiently to see if they were winners of the *2009 Estate of the Art Raffle*. D. Hermeling's name was drawn as the grand prize winner and took the cash.

April 23

185 visitors enjoyed the panel discussion *What do Curators of Contemporary Art Look For?* moderated by Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Julie Sasse.

April 30

92 visitors enjoyed a lecture with UA Journalism Professor and world renowned author, Alan Weisman.

May 20

48 participants enjoyed the lecture *Climate Change and Water Challenges for the 21st Century* with Jonathan Overpeck, Director of the UA's Institute for the Study of Planet Earth and Professor of Geosciences and Atmospheric Sciences.

May 28

165 people watched the documentary film *Manufactured Landscapes* by award winning director Jennifer Baichwal about photographer Edward Burtynsky.

June 7

206 visitors enjoyed the free admission day while 59 children and 45 adults participated in *Picture This! Art for Families: Hawk and Talk*.

June 12

544 guests enjoyed a beautiful summer evening opening of *DeGrazia: A Modernist Perspective*.

Support Organizations



Docents Cassandra and William Ridlingher



Photo courtesy of Fausto Fernandez

LAAP members visit the studio of painter Fausto Fernandez in Phoenix, January 2009

Docent Council

The past year was an especially busy one for the more than 140 members of the Museum's Docent Council. Docents volunteered more than 9,200 service hours which included bringing in-school art programs to 3,000 students in area schools and nearly 300 hospitalized children; giving art talks in the community and at the Museum for approximately 6,500 people; leading more than 3,700 Museum visitors on public tours; and helping to staff the spring Designer Showhouse and CRUSH Wine Festival.

A number of docents were recognized for exceptional service to the Museum, including Kay Jensen, Docent of the Year; and Jan Willkom, the Docent Council's Volunteer of the Year. Outstanding Service awards went to Barbara Brody and Charlotte Gates, while outgoing President Linda Friedman received an award for 3,000 hours and Ellen Lewis received an award for 4,000 service hours. A special award was presented to Mae Criley for 30 years of continuous service as a docent.



CAS Members at last year's *You Call That Art?* event

Contemporary Art Society

The Contemporary Art Society had a busy year with hands-on art making experiences, lectures, parties, and trips. CAS began the season with art making at the popular program "You Call That Art?" and the annual meeting held at Conrad Wilde Gallery. Owner Miles Conrad gave a demonstration on encaustic painting, the specialty of the gallery, and let several members try their hand at creating their own work.

CAS always throws great parties! This season's offerings included a colorful holiday party at Philabaum Glass Gallery; a party to thank our generous supporting members at the Patron and Benefactor levels; and a fundraiser luncheon at Davis Dominguez Gallery that helped us to fulfill our mission to support contemporary exhibitions at the Museum by raising money for the stunning *Trouble in Paradise* exhibition.

In our quest to see contemporary art, we visited the studios of James Cook and DeeAnn Melton; the beautiful home and collection of Ann and Ed Lyman; took a guided bus tour of Tucson's public art with board member and public art expert Jane Hallett; journeyed up to Phoenix to see the Dale Chihuly glass installation at the Desert Botanical Gardens; and took a three day trip to San Francisco to see museums, galleries, private collections and studios.

CAS offers those with an interest in contemporary a variety of fun and informative events. Please consider joining us! Contact CAS at 520-624-2333 ext.108 or email CAS at CAS@TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Latin American Art Patrons

The Latin American Art Patrons offers its members entertaining and educational activities, while fulfilling its mission to raise funds and provide support for Latin American art and its curator at the Museum. This past year LAAP brought Dr. Emily Umberger of Arizona State University to share recent archeological findings of Aztec antiquities in Mexico City. In a joint program with the University of Arizona, we sponsored the presentation by Dr. Clara Bargellini, a renowned specialist of Spanish Vice-Regal art and architecture. Award winning conservator Andrea Morse, founder of the Sculpture Conservation Studio in Los Angeles, presented an entertaining, informative lecture this spring, and offered advice on how to care and protect artwork.

Travel was also an important element this past year. In November we traveled to Nogales for a visit to Holler & Saunders, purveyors of fine



Terry DeWald discusses baskets and textiles from his collection at a brunch for AAWP members in February



Dinners a L'Art guests enjoy Art & Margaritas at the Canyon

Photo by Robert Knight

Colonial Revival Latin American decorative arts. This fun activity was followed a month later by an evening gathering at the Tangerine Gallery to learn about the history of the use of copper in the arts and crafts of Santa Maria del Cobre in Mexico. A trip to Phoenix in January was a fun and engaging Discover Tour organized by Fatima Bercht, Curator of Latin American Art. It took us to the studio of two upcoming and talented Latino artists and then to the Bentley Gallery in Scottsdale to view the works of internationally renowned Latin American artists, José Bermudez, José Bedia and Ricardo Mazal. The trip culminated with a visit to the home of a private collector of young, cutting-edge Arizona artists.

In May LAAP inaugurated the *Festival de Rebozos: The Beautiful Shawls of Mexico*, which was headed by board member Michael Weber. The festival included a Gala Celebration dinner where guests enjoyed an evening of music and dance, and a fashion show featuring beautifully hand-woven rebozos. On the Día de las Madres or Mothers Day, the festival provided a fun-filled day for families with music, dance, weaving demonstrations, and the recital of spirited poems. The master-weavers and the "poem singer" were flown from Guadalajara especially for the Festival. Leaders of the Hispanic community in Tucson worked side by side with LAAP to make the Festival a special, educational event to a broad audience.

LAAP offers those with an interest in Latin American art a variety of fun and informative events. Please consider joining us! Contact LAAP at LAAP@TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Art of the American West Patrons

This was a great year for the Art of the American West Patrons. We increased our membership base from 40 to 125 members and were able to more than double our financial resources. During the year AAWP donated \$11,000 to the Museum and purchased a painting by Walt Kuhn for the Museum's western art collection.

In addition to supporting Art of the American West at the Museum, AAWP presented many interesting, informative and fun events during the year for its members. As a sponsor for the exhibition *A Place of Refuge: Maynard Dixon's Arizona*, we held a successful pre-opening fundraiser followed by a symposium about the life and works of Maynard Dixon. At the end of the exhibition, AAWP held a closing brunch and presentation by Terry DeWald on Navajo blankets and baskets. The group also hosted a western

art group from the Booth Museum in Georgia; sponsored a lecture by noted historian, Dr. Thomas Sheridan, on Arizona history; and journeyed to Phoenix for a private tour of the Ernest Blumenschein exhibit and a private tour of the Heard Museum.

This past year was also spent organizing ourselves, getting additional Board members and Committee chairs. The only regret of the group was the loss of Thomas Smith, our Art of the American West Curator, to the Denver Art Museum. Thomas made an invaluable contribution to the development of our organization and to western art at the Museum.

We already have plans for many events in the coming year and hope as many members as possible will attend the events and invite their friends to join AAWP.

AAWP offers those with an interest in western art a variety of fun and informative events. Please consider joining us! Contact AAWP at AAWP@TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Tucson Museum of Art League

In spite of the gloomy economic conditions and forecasts, the Tucson Museum of Art League exceeded its budget of \$119,000 and was able to present the Museum with checks amounting to \$134,100 as its total contribution for the year.

Major fundraising projects were held in October with the *Treasure House Estate Sale* chaired by Joy Abbott, Faith Anderson, Debbie Fleischman and Donna Monthan; in February and March with *Dinners a L'Art* chaired by Barbara Calder and Karen Thompson; in late February through March with *Designer Showhouse* chaired by Bobbi O'Connor; and in April with the *CRUSH Classic Saturday night party* chaired by Mary Jo Brown and Carolyn DeLuca. Furthermore, League members contributed an additional \$1,100 of their own personal funds to the Museum's Recovery Fund.

These successes could not have been accomplished without the League's dedicated members, our most important resource! The Art League continues to be poised to play an important role in the ongoing success of the Museum's future with a generous, bright and hard working leadership team in the wings.

Gifts to the Museum

Our thanks and gratitude to all donors and supporters.

It's with your help that we can continue to "Connect Art to Life" for Tucson and Southern Arizona.

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Chef Janos Wilder giving a demonstration in the kitchen of *Designer Showhouse*

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