



THE MAXWELL

A Publication of the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology & University of New Mexico

VOLUME 47 NO.2
FALL 2017

Maxwell Succeeds with Students

Every year, throughout the year, the Maxwell is kept running with the help of students both graduate and undergraduate, from disciplines all around the University. You'll find students working at the front desk of the Museum and in the Museum store, in the back administrative offices, in exhibits and education, in the basements of collections and out in the field with contract archeology. Most students are enrolled at the University of New Mexico, however work at the Museum is not limited to Lobos. The Maxwell accepts and encourages students from outside UNM at the collegiate and secondary level. The tasks are varied and the knowledge acquisition is vast, but the one commonality is that they all participate in experiential learning that can help boost their burgeoning careers.

This issue celebrates students with profiles of just a few of the individuals that work hard at University and the Museum. They are introduced alphabetically. Staff members describe their roles and what they mean to the Maxwell and students describe what working at the Maxwell means to them.

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*Blaire Topash-Caldwell
Egg Harbor Township, NJ
Employed at the Maxwell for 5 years
Graduate Assistant, PhD student,
Anthropology (Ethnology)
Hibben Fellow*

5 years working with content management systems, organize historical documents, research materials, input Museum accession information and conduct analyses including archaeological Museum archives and ethnology collections. Outreach to Indigenous communities for various Museum programs.



In addition to being an invaluable contributor to the activities of the Ethnology Department, Blaire used her collections management responsibilities to focus her research interests, integrating her museum experience within her course of study. An adept and dependable assistant in the Department, she facilitated several important projects as a liaison with Indigenous scholars, artists, and community members.

*“Working as a Hibben Fellow at the Maxwell Museum not only gave me a lot of practical experience in archiving and collections management, but also provided engaging research
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Director's Column

Student Success at the Maxwell Museum



Everyone knows about teaching hospitals, but have you ever thought about teaching museums? Museum training needs to include hands-on work. Within anthropology, archaeology and human osteology students also depend heavily on direct exposure to collections. Students in other disciplines can also pick up valuable experience at the museum—for example, the architecture students who, until they graduated, helped design and create exhibits.

The Maxwell Museum goes out of its way to give students chances to add practical experience to their resumes. Students can work at the museum through unpaid or paid internships, scholarships with work obligations, and part-time jobs organized around class schedules. One Museum unit, the Office of Contract Archeology, provides students with “real world” field and lab jobs as they complete their degrees.

In 2015 the Museum started keeping statistics on the number of students involved in Museum activities. Based on four semesters of data, each semester the Maxwell provides about 64 students with the chance to work with the museum’s staff and collections. Seven in ten of those students get paid for what they are doing. I’m proud of the fact that roughly half of the students who get these opportunities are undergraduates. As a college sophomore I landed a paid job in an archaeology lab, and it helped launch my professional career.

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Support Adopt-A-Bus!

The Garth and Elaine Bawden Adopt-A-Bus Fund seeks to promote awareness in younger children of the richness and diversity of human culture through the agency of the Maxwell Museum’s child education program.

The Maxwell’s program of public school elementary education represents an essential component of its service to the community. The program primarily serves younger public school students with docents teaching in the classrooms and children being brought by bus to the museum to experience the collections and their cultural meaning first-hand. It is this latter program that the Adopt-A-Bus Fund seeks to support.

The Adopt-A-Bus program serves 3rd – 5th grade students attending Title One Albuquerque Public Schools. Given continued cuts in the APS budget, many of these schools lack the resources to support enrichment programs that fall beyond their core curricula. The majority of the Albuquerque area’s younger students do not have regular exposure to the brilliant and diverse cultures that developed and flourished around the world and most especially in their own vicinity. By bringing students to the Museum to see the creativity of material culture, especially in our region, and to learn its cultural and historic

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9th Annual Navajo Rug Auction Saturday, November 18, 2016

11 a.m. Viewing - 1 p.m. Auction

Prairie Star Restaurant

Bernalillo, New Mexico

More than two hundred traditional and contemporary handmade rugs by weavers from New Mexico and Arizona will be on display and available for purchase.

Preview night at the Maxwell Museum

Friday, November 17, 5 -7pm

Purchase Native American jewelry, check out the auction inventory and find the value of your Native American art at a special appraisal clinic. Appraisals are \$10 per item. To schedule an appointment, call 505-277-1400 or email mhermans@unm.edu.

The preview and auction are conducted by the R. B. Burnham Trading Post.

The Director's Column *continued from page 2*

Over the summer the number of students who are working at the Museum understandably drops by half, but nine in ten of them are paid. Again, those are experiences students can list on their resumes, when it's time to move up to the next level.

The rewards include more than practical experience and pay. At large state universities, especially, it can be difficult to find established professionals who are willing to mentor students and help them open doors that seem hopelessly closed. Since I arrived at the Maxwell in 2003, I've written dozens of letters of recommendation for students who did museum work for me. If you're reading this newsletter, you're probably already a supporter of the Museum's efforts to conserve and present New Mexico's heritage and that of the rest of the world. If you are, you're also helping dozens of UNM students get intensive hands-on experiences that will help propel their future careers.

Dave Phillips, Interim Director

*Angela Hart
Albuquerque, NM
Education Assistant
Undergraduate, International
Studies/Women's Studies
1 year, work-study*

Assists the Curator of Education with booking school programs and docents, writing curriculum for the Museum's educational trunks and helping out with summer camp.



Angela's prior experience as a Tour Coordinator at Las Golondrinas has been very valuable in scheduling programs, working with docents and teachers, and providing logistical support for the k – 12 education program. Her knowledge of Spanish colonial history has made a great contribution to program and resource development. Angela's knowledge of world cultures and her experiences traveling around the world has enriched and enhanced our programming on world culture. Her positive attitude and pleasant demeanor has been a pleasure for all who work with her.

"Working at the Maxwell Museum has given me a wonderful opportunity to make a positive impact on the many students who visit the Museum. I am also given the chance to observe the workings of a museum education department, which is valuable since I hope to continue to work in the museum field."

Student profiles continued on page 4

Blaire Topash-Caldwell Student Profile *continued from page 1*

opportunities. These included the Chaco Heritage Project and the Smith Family Totem Pole Project. I felt valued as a young Indigenous scholar, especially in my community outreach work with Dr. McChesney. As a result of my time working at the Maxwell Museum, and because of the guidance I received from Museum faculty and staff, I will soon begin a new position as my tribe's very first Archivist in the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Department of Language and Culture."

Joe L. Ragland III
Albuquerque, NM

Undergraduate, Psychology with Japanese minor
Work study student employee for 4 years

Gallery Attendant

Duties include greeting and directing visitors to the Museum, managing visitor data including counts, demographics and data entry; managing visitor studies evaluations, training gallery attendants.

Joe interacts with his co-workers, visitors and Maxwell staff with patience and respect. His ability to get along with every type of personality is quite impressive and will be greatly missed. He graduates in December. He has compiled extensive evaluative data on programs and exhibits and led a visitor studies evaluation. Joe is consistent and dependable, always willing to pitch in to make Museum programs a success.



“Working at the Maxwell has been rewarding in the sense that I’ve had the opportunity to meet many different people from various parts of the world. It’s given me the opportunity to focus on my studies while being able to maintain a solid job for the majority of my college career with a supportive work team that I soon will not forget. The encouragement I’ve received from Mary Beth Hermans, Henry Garcia and other staff members are a driving force in my work to finish my Bachelor’s degree.”



Dayna Rajha

Pasadena, CA

Research and Curatorial Assistant

PhD student, Anthropology (Ethnology)

Employed at the Maxwell for 2 1/2 years

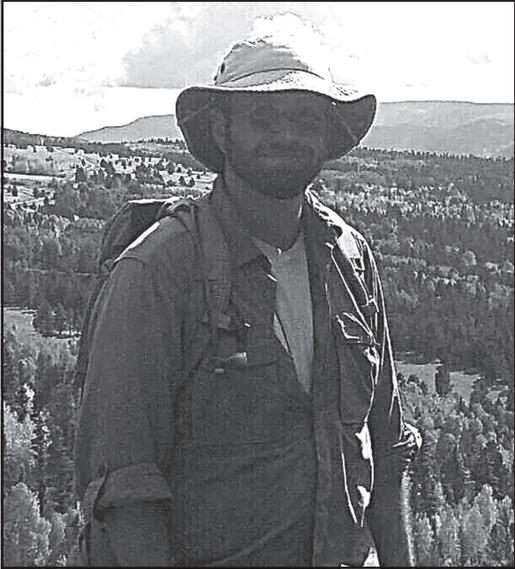
Hibben Fellow

Collections management related to the ethnology collections, including documentation, condition reporting and photography, inventory, and research on collections as needed

Now in her third year as a Hibben Fellow in ethnology, Dayna has become the curatorial and research assistant in the department and can be relied on for assisting in all functions of the department. Additionally, she has pursued academic research as a result of her department responsibilities and research interests through participation in the Smithsonian’s summer internship

in museum anthropology (SIMA). Dayna’s experience provides an excellent example of how museum and academic pursuits can be integrated into a course of study at UNM.

“The dream is to become a curator. The enduring goals are to collaborate with communities, engage with the public, and foster human understanding. My role here has allowed for great opportunities to work directly with material culture of a global character, and has fittingly complemented my doctoral studies in cultural anthropology. I am on a promising path, as my time here has, thus far, served as a platform for the cultivation of a professional network, and further training at the Smithsonian.”



Micah Smith

Columbus, OH

Undergraduate, Anthropology (Archaeology)

4 1/2 years at the Maxwell/OCA

Archaeologist/Ceramic Analyst at OCA

His duties include archaeological surveys and excavations, in-field recording artifacts using sub-meter GPS units, operating a Total Station. At the OCA Laboratory: recording attributes on ceramics collected from excavations, co-authoring ceramic analyses chapters and articles on archaeological research.

Micah Smith is a very bright young man who has developed excellent skills and experience of a professional field archaeologist and Southwestern ceramics analyst. He has become an invaluable resource to the Office of Contract Archeology where he participated on many archaeological CRM/research projects. Micah participated in numerous significant archaeological discoveries both in the field and at OCA laboratory. He has also co-authored various research papers with OCA lead archaeologists. He graduates in the spring of 2018.

“This is the first place I have worked that gave me the opportunity to learn ceramic analysis from scratch; I have also had the opportunity here to improve my GIS skills and to begin co-authoring reports and papers, giving me invaluable insight into how research projects come together for the future of my career.”



Randolph Trujillo

Española, NM

Undergraduate, Marketing

**3 1/2 years as work study student employee, Gallery Attendant
Public Programs Assistant**

**Duties include greeting and directing visitors to the Museum,
analyzing visitor data, creating digital outreach materials.**

Randolph is very flexible with work duties and is enthusiastic about advancing his knowledge of marketing with on the job experience. He began working in the galleries and has advanced to the public programs office managing email and social media, designing promotional content and most recently, establishing an online profile of the Museum in the app E-Museums by SnapInfo.

“Working at the Maxwell Museum has made a huge impact on my college life. It has given me a chance to grow and acquire many skills over the last 3 years. It has taught me how to interact with people, and allowed me to develop friendship with some of my co-workers. The Maxwell Museum also allowed me to support myself. I graduate in May 2018 and the Maxwell Museum will always be a place I can look back on, knowing that it created opportunities to meet my future goals and dreams.”

Student profiles continued on page 6



Katharine (Katie) Williams

Albuquerque, NM

PhD candidate, Anthropology (Archaeology)

Hibben Scholar, volunteer

Tasks change day-to-day, so Katie's assignments are fairly dynamic. Typical projects are: writing condition reports; pulling objects for researchers; making artifact boxes/mounts; organizing storage spaces; cataloguing and researching, assisting volunteers/students; and making trips to the off-site warehouse.

Katie displays a wonderful balance between taking initiative and working independently and asking for guidance, which can be a tough skill to learn. She will take a project and run with it, yet she can be trusted to stop and ask for support or advice when necessary. Sometimes there is no easy or affordable way to solve collections problems, so Katie often does background research in her free time and brings creative ideas to the collections spaces. She is also extremely patient, which has proven invaluable when she is asked to teach or assist with volunteers and other students.

“Working at the Maxwell has been an amazing experience and a reminder of why I decided to pursue a graduate degree in archaeology. One of the best things about getting to work with collections is that I've been exposed to a wide variety of material types and have learned how to care for them. I have also had the

opportunity to work with volunteers and researchers in collections. Along with the hands-on experience of collections care, my time at the Maxwell has built my confidence and helped me figure out what my ultimate career goals are. “

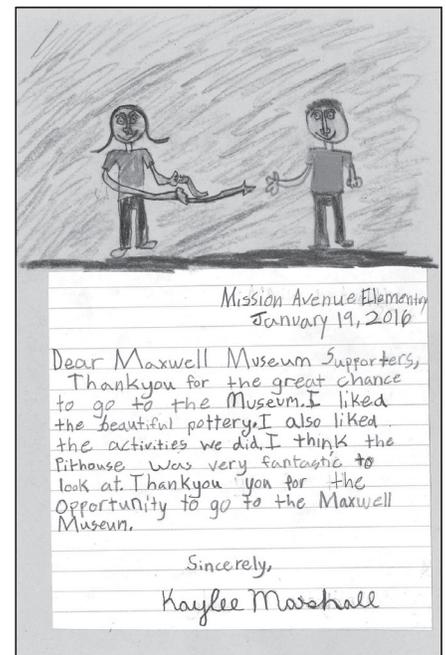
Support Adopt-A-Bus!

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context from experienced teachers, the Maxwell's bus program broadens awareness of the wider human world in our children, encourages tolerance of other people through knowledge, and helps strengthen their sense of identity.

The Maxwell's bus program is chiefly financed through private contributions. Because of the important role that it plays in facilitating the public educational mission of the museum and university, my wife and I decided to establish a fund that will help sustain the program, thereby ensuring and expanding access by community children to the Maxwell's exceptional resources. In this way we hope to play a small role in exposing our youngest community members to exciting educational resources, thereby enriching their lives. We invite others to share with us in this endeavor by contacting the Maxwell's Education Division for more information at 505 277-2924, or visiting the UNM Foundation webpage at <https://www.unmfund.org/fund/garth-and-elaine-bawden/> to make a contribution.

Garth Bawden



Smith Family Totem Pole Blessing

Saturday, September 16, 2017, the collaborative relationship between the Tlowitsis Nation and the University of New Mexico toward the restoration of the Smith Family Totem Pole was celebrated. Chief John Smith opened the ceremony with a



Chief John Smith opens the Totem Pole Blessing Ceremony.

welcome in Kwak wakla, his Native language. Chief Danial Smith, and a delegation from the Tlowitsis Nation including members of the Smith family blessed the totem pole with traditional songs and dances. The Smith family and the Tlowitsis Nation are the true owners of the pole. The Maxwell Museum claims only to serve as a repository. The descendants have asked the Museum to acknowledge the pole's origins and its continuing relationship to the community.

All photos by Colleen Lohse



The delegation from the Tlowitsis Nation performs traditional songs for the blessing of the Totem Pole in the Hibben Center.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please check all that apply:

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- Student \$5 UNM \$10 non-UNM
- Individual/Family \$40
- Sponsor \$100
- Contributor \$250
- Curators Circle \$500 or 50 hrs service
- Patron \$1,000
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(Gifts are Tax Deductable)

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Maxwell Museum of Anthropology
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Albuquerque, NM 87131

MUSEUM HOURS:

Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL!

Info call: 505 277-4405

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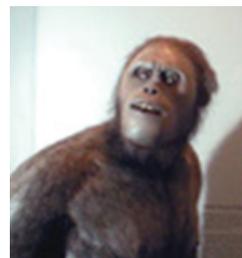
CURRENT EXHIBITS



Cross Currents
*China Exports and the
World Responds*



**People of the
Southwest**



Ancestors

If you are passionate about the Maxwell Museum and wish to financially support one or more of our programs, please contact Yolanda Dominguez, Development Director, at 505-277-3194, Yolanda.Dominguez@unmfund.org. By utilizing our free gift planning services, you may be able to provide a more generous gift than you believe possible!

The Maxwell is produced by the staff at the Maxwell Museum. Edited and designed by Mary Beth Hermans and Kym Campbell.

Increasing knowledge and understanding of the human cultural experience.