University of New Mexico

MAXWELL MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Annual Report 2024-2025

Mission of the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at UNM

Working toward greater understandings of the fullness of human experiences in the Southwest and the world.

Vision

The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at UNM contributes to

- Reconciling injustices
- Restoring voices
- Realizing community

Values

The staff at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at UNM embrace these values in all they do

- Uphold integrity through honesty and transparency
- Act with courage and take informed risks
- Lead with humility and own our mistakes
- Embrace inclusivity with openness and sincerity
- Embody dynamism and manifest meaningful change
- Excite curiosity and a passion for learning

Land Acknowledgment

The University of New Mexico and the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology sit on and among the traditional homelands of multiple sovereign nations. We acknowledge the deep connections of the Pueblo, Diné, and Apache peoples to the land and the significant contributions of past, present, and future Indigenous peoples and communities to life and culture in the greater Southwest, the United States, and the world at large. In acknowledging these connections, we express our gratitude for the opportunity to live, work, and learn on this land. We honor our relationships with Indigenous peoples and commit to working towards reconciling injustices, restoring voices, and realizing community going forward.

Front Cover: Jar by Judy Tafoya (Santa Clara). MMA 2024.18.1. Photo by Emma Stewart

2024-2025 in Brief

August 6, 2025

On behalf of the University of New Mexico Maxwell Museum of Anthropology I am pleased to share this report of our work from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. As I hope you will agree, It has been a busy year at the Maxwell—and a productive (if challenging) one.

We welcomed more than 33,000 visitors into the Museum and Hibben Center and served thousands more with educational checkout kits and offsite programs. The galleries in the Maxwell and Hibben Center buildings have been the site three temporary exhibitions coordinated (and in one case, curated) by Curator of Exhibits Toni Gentilli (pp. 9-12). Planning for new temporary exhibitions continued, as well as work to rethink and update our two permanent exhibitions (though drastic cuts to federal grant programs are requiring us to rethink our timetables for these projects).

Thanks in large part to the efforts of Curator of Public Programs Julián Carrillo and Curator of Education Erica Davis, the Maxwell hosted 28 public programs that served more than 2,000 visitors (p. 13-14). We also hosted 14 community groups and professional organizations.

The Maxwell continued to be a vibrant site for University teaching and learning. Eighty-five UNM students worked, studied, or volunteered in our galleries, collections, labs, administrative offices, and field projects. More than 950 students from 30 classes and nine academic departments engaged the Museum in various ways: from conducting independent research in the collections, to curator led visits to exhibitions, to performing music and participating in workshops and in-depth conversations (p. 3-5).

The Maxwell remains committed to supporting K-12 student achievement. In 2024-25 we served more than 2400 K-12 students through museum visits, family days, checkout kits, and offsite events. Support from the Frank C. Hibben Trust to the Adopt-A-Bus program fully subsidized visits from APS classes from Title 1 Schools (pp. 7-8). We will be expanding the program in 2025-2026 beyond Albuquerque, so stay tuned for more news of that next year.

Research, care, and improved documentation of the collections and archives continued, supported by dedicated staff, student workers, and volunteers (p. 15-20) The museum's collection staff grew with the addition of a new Collection Manager for Osteology and of two new Provost-funded Collections Associates to support our commitment to repatriation (p. 21). We had, fortunately, nearly completed the work of installing new compact shelving in our largest collection room before the federal grant that funded the work was cancelled.

This is without a doubt a challenging and troubling time in universities, museums, and the world more broadly. Here at the Maxwell, we remain committed to honoring and celebrating New Mexico's and UNM's rich cultural diversity, to sharing fact-based knowledge, and to creating an inviting and hospitable environment to all who enter our spaces, attend our events, and who we teach, learn, partner, and share with.

Carla M. Sinopoli
Director

UNM Students at the Maxwell

The Maxwell Museum provides unique educational opportunities to UNM students and to students and researchers from around the state, country, and world. Students engage with the Museum in a variety of ways: through class visits to exhibitions and collections, by gaining archaeological field experience and training through the Office of Contract Archeology, as independent researchers, and as employees and interns—welcoming visitors, designing graphics for exhibitions, and working in the collections. Visits to collections were off limits for a significant part of the 2024-25 academic year, due to construction projects and other access restrictions. Despite this, the Maxwell hosted more than 950 students in collections and exhibits. Visits to exhibits were supported by specially designed Education Guides for UNM Faculty and Staff. Students came from 30 separate courses in a variety of disciplines, including Anthropology, American Studies, Studio Art, Art History, Biology, Chicana & Chicano Studies, Honors, Museum Studies, and Political Science. Many classes came for repeat visits. Some students participated in semester-long research projects; others wrote papers, blogs, or web posts about museum objects or their museum experiences. Classes and student groups also performed in the galleries and courtyard of the Maxwell. All gained educational experiences that enriched their learning and understanding of anthropology and of the remarkable educational resources of the Maxwell Museum and UNM.

UNM Classes in the Maxwell Museum 2024-25

American Studies 1120/Gender 2996 Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, and US Empire (D. Alterbury), Fall 2024
American Studies 530 Feminist Theories and Methodologies (D. Alterbury), Fall 2024
American Studies 560, Politics of Water (Prof. J. Denetdale), Spring 2025
Anthropology 1211L Archaeology in Practice Lab (Monica Warner, Larkin Chapman), Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Anthropology 2175 World Archaeology (Visiting Prof. J. Osborn), Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Anthropology 2190C Forensic Anthropology (A. Medendorp), Fall 2024
Anthropology 324 South American Archaeology (Visiting Prof. J. Osborn), Fall 2024
Anthropology 321/351 Southwestern Archaeology (Prof. H. Mattson), Spring 2025
Anthropology 330 Principles of Cultural Anthropology (Prof. L. Field), Fall 2024
Anthropology 340/530 Shamanism and the Politics of Cosmology (Prof. S. Oakdale), Fall 2024
Anthropology 351 Anthropology of the Skeleton (J. Meyer), Fall 2024
Anthropology 375 Archaeological Field Session (H. Mattson), Summer 2025
Anthropology 450, Introduction to Flintknapping (I. Wallace), Spring 2025
Anthropology 454 Human Paleopathology (E. Moes), Fall 2024
Anthropology 473/573 Analyzing Archaeological Collections (Prof. K. Schleher), Fall 2024
Anthropology 480/580 Ceramic Analysis (Prof. K. Schleher), Spring 2025
Arts 1441 Introduction to Art and Ecology (Prof. A. Canalos)
Arts 487 Advanced Photography (Jim Stone), Fall 2024
Art History 120 Introduction to Art (D. Fry), Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Art History 429 Ancient American Art and Curatorial Vision (Prof. M. Jackson), Spring 2025
Art History 529 Visual Sovereignty and the Archives (M. Ernst), Fall 2024
Chicana and Chicano Studies 2110 Introduction to Chicana, Chicano, and Chicanx Studies (B. Aydin), Spring 2024
Chicana and Chicano Studies 336/536 Chicana Feminisms (E. González Cárdenas), Fall 2024
Honors 1120 Seminar: Legacies of Early Technology (Jacob Greenberg), Fall 2024
Museum Studies 407/507 Museum Practices (R. Snow), Fall 2024
Museum Studies 407/507 Museum Practices (R. Cassidy), Summer 2025
Museum Studies 485/585 Reimagining the Anthropology Museum (C. Sinopoli), Spring 2025
Museum Studies 485/585 Museum Community Collaborations (R. Cassidy), Spring 2025
Museum Studies 576 Collections Management (Prof. L. Traxler), Fall 2024
Political Science 324 The Politics of Poverty and Inequality (Prof. J. Nunez), Fall 2024

UNM Students at the Maxwell

Other UNM Groups

Anthropology Graduate Students (K.Schleher, L. McChesney), Fall 2023
Undergraduate Anthropology Society (T. Gentilli), Spring 2025
SCCORE Program (T. Gentilli), Spring 2025

Other Institutions

CNM, Southwest Archaeology (Jessica Craig), Spring 2024 (led by Curator Kari Schleher)

UNM Student employees, interns, volunteers, and research

85 UNM students (61 undergraduates and 24 graduate students) plus 9 students from other universities worked or conducted research in the Maxwell Museum and Office of Contract Archeology in 2024-2025.

UNM Undergraduates

Genesis Abeyta, Registrar
Jordan Ballard, Osteology collections
Maria Batdorf, Archaeology collections
Natasha Birkmayer, Registrar
Sanai Braxton, Ethnology Collections
Dina Butcher, Osteology collections
Madison Butler, Osteology collections
Talisa Canales, Osteology collections
Brandie Card, Archaeology collections
Erin Cassidy, Archaeology collections
Sierra Chapa, Maxwell store
Lorelai Ciccarello, Registrar
Bee Cragun, Archaeology collections
Ruthann Davis, Archives
Cali Deprest, Archaeology collections
Leslie Esparza, Exhibits
Jo Lynne Fenger, Archaeology collections
Mariatzin Flores, Visitor services
Jacob Franco, Visitor services, Maxwell store
Ellen Franke, Archaeology collections
Manuel Gomez, Archaeology collections
Brenna Hamilton, Archaeology collections
Edith Harding, Archaeology collections
Genevieve Harris, Registrar
Hadley Heng, Registrar
Brenna Henning, Visitor services, Maxwell store
William Holmes, Archaeology collections
Rachel Johnston, Registrar
Riley Jones, Registrar
Benno Lee, Archaeology collections
Marissa Leyva, Visitor services, Maxwell store
Piper Lincoln, Archaeology collections
Garrett Lloyd, Office of Contract Archeology
Lizbet Lozano, Archaeology collections
Abigail Mahoney-Cloutier, Archaeology collections
Eva Marques, Archaeology collections
Robert Martinez, Visitor services, Maxwell store

UNM Students at the Maxwell

Ellen Franke and Bee Cragun, Ground stone inventory, Summer 2024

Graduate Students

Caitlin Ainsworth (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Joe Birkmann (Anthropology), Archives
Hope Casareno (Anthropology), Ethnology collections
James Chavez (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Christina Cook (Museum Studies), Education
Leticia De Leon (Museum Studies), Archaeology collections
Madison Drew (Anthropology), Archaeology collectionse
Edber (Edy) Dzdidz Yam (Anthropology), Education
Adesbah Foguth (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Mark Harvey (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Jasmine Hernandez (Anthropology), Osteology collection
Jessie Johnson (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Andew Kennedy (Anthropology), Education
Cheyenne Laux, (Museum Studies/Anthropology), Archaeology
Nabil Mejia (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Jana Meyer (Anthropology), Osteology collections
Sonny Olguin (Museum Studies), Archaeology collections
Donna Padilla (Museum Studies), Ethnology collections
Esteban Rangel (Anthropology), Osteology collections
Charlotte Robinson (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Todd Scissons (Anthropology), Archaeology collections
Cassie Velarde-Neher (Anthropology), Education
Monica Warner (Anthropology), Osteology collections
Genevieve Woodhead (Anthropology), Archaeology collection
Moby Woods (Anthropology), Archaeology collections

UNM Undergraduates (cont'd)

John Matthews, Registrar
Rachel McCarthy, Archaeology collections
Liam McGuinness, Visitor Services, Maxwell Store
KJ McPherson, Registrar
Trevor Morrell, Registrar
Autumn Myerscough, Archaeology collections
Hallee Ocaña, Osteology collections
Abigail Parker, Osteology collections
Yahir Perez-Chavez, Registrar
Ryan Pritchard, Archaeology collections
Kiaralynn Ray, Osteology collections
Anthony Rice, Archives
Chelsea Richards, Maxwell store
Ericka Roman, Registrar
Vanessa Salazar, Registrar
Jerry Sloan, Archaeology collections
Brandon Stanger-Hall, Osteology collections
Ayla Taylor, Osteology collections
Ella Thomas, Archaeology collections
Citlali Alexandra Tierney, Osteology collections
Eligio Valazquez, Visitor services, Maxwell store
Sebastian Ward, Registrar
Jacob Westenberger, Archaeology collections
Andrew Witty, Registrar, Archaeology Collections

Edy Dzdidz Yam. transcribing ALL REZ interviews

Researchers

Research by Non-UNM Students

Ellie Canning, University of Florida, Ethnology collections
Kelsey Fox, University of Kentucky, Osteology collections
Jacqueline Galimany, University of Nevada-Reno, Osteology collections
Katherine Leddy, Northern Arizona University, Archaeology collections
Teddy O'Hea, Northern Arizona University, Archaeology collections
Oliva Johnson, Fort Lewis College, Osteology Collections
Makayla Smith, Fort Lewis College, Osteology Collections
Corynna Stookey, Northern Arizona University, Archaeology collections

Other researchers

Professor Jessica Craig, CNM, Archaeology collections
Professor Jennifer Denetdale, University of New Mexico, Archives
Professor Heather Edgar, University of New Mexico, Osteology collections
Dr. Morgan Ferrell, University of Kentucky, Osteology collections
Dr. Hayward Franklin, University of New Mexico, Archaeology collections
Professor Emerita Patricia Gilman, University of Oklahoma, Archaeology collections
Dr. Kelly Kamnikar, University of New Mexico, Osteology collections
Lillia McEnaney, Independent Curator, Santa Fe, Archives
Professor Emily Jones, University of New Mexico, Archaeology collections
Dr. Bradley Vierra, New Mexico State University, Archaeology collections

Doctoral student and Hibben Fellow Adesbah Foguth in the archaeological collections

K-12 Programs

In the 2024-2025 school year, education staff served more than 2400 K-12 students through gallery tours, classroom and public presentations, and checkout materials. The education team also facilitated visits and tours of the exhibits for UNM classes and groups. These programs were overseen by Curator of Education Erica Davis, assisted by Hibben Fellows Cassie Velarde-Neher and Christina Cook, and volunteers Phyllis Herbertson, Andrew Kennedy, George Lausier, Cathy Lydon, Carolyn Minette, Diana Shea, and Katie Yellowhair.

Students encountering Lucy in the Ancestors Exhibition during a class trip

The Maxwell-in-Motion Adopt-A-Bus program provides free buses to classes from Title I Albuquerque Public Schools (schools where 50% or more of the student body are economically disadvantaged) for docent-led visits to the Museum. This program is funded by a generous award from the Frank C. Hibben Trust and by gifts from individual donors. While this program has been limited to 3rd-5th grade classes, in the coming year we will begin expanding the program to provide free transportation to the Museum for K-12 classes from Title I schools in the Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, and Bernalillo. In the 2024-2025 school year, the Adopt-A-Bus program brought 1222 students from 58 classes to the Museum. Docents also provided tours to 416 students from 19 self-funded class visits.

Beginning in January 2025, the education team began shifting from docent-presented traveling trunk programs to loaning the trunks as checkout materials. As a result of this change, the traveling trunks have been accessed by a wider audience of classes and groups, with more flexibility in scheduling, and more time for meaningful engagement with the materials. Traveling trunks served 775 K-12 students in 33 classes/groups. Trunks were also presented at the Look Across the Mountain IX educational conference, the 25th anniversary celebration of Bernalillo County Open Space at the Gutiérrez Hubbell Open Space, Indigenous Families Week at Petroglyph National Monument, and the Museum of Natural History's Family Science Day.

Thanks to funding from the Frank C. Hibben Trust, the education team will be creating new trunks and creating duplicate versions of existing materials, so that they may be checked out by even more classes and community groups in the coming year.

Maxwell Museum Family Days are free open-house events held once a semester with themes based on one of the current exhibitions. Family days are supported by donations from Garth Bawden and the late Elaine Bawden to the Passport to People Program Fund. The theme for the Fall Family Day was "Exploring Ancient Writing." More than 60 visitors learned about the development of writing in ancient Sumerian, Egyptian, and Mayan cultures; learned to write their names in Egyptian hieroglyphics; and created clay tablets with messages in cuneiform. For the Spring Family Day, 75 participants visited the,

K-12 Programs

Oaxaca Ingobernable exhibition. They learned about printmaking traditions around the world, and made their own prints using foam and gel plates.

Making cuneiform tablets, Fall 2024 Family Day

Printmaking Family Day, Spring 2025

The education team would like to offer a special thanks to Carolyn Minette, who retired from the docent program at the end of 2024 after almost 20 years of volunteer work with the Maxwell Museum. Carolyn is a world traveler and a former elementary education teacher. Her skills and experience have added valuable perspectives to the docent program. In her time as a volunteer, Carolyn specialized in presenting the Traveling Trunks, visiting dozens of schools every year, developing resource kits, researching education standards, and making and donating objects for trunks. The Maxwell Museum,and the education team are tremendously grateful for everything that Carolyn has done, for her incredible hard work and for her unfailing generosity.

Carolyn Minette

The Maxwell Museum's educational programs rely on our wonderful volunteer docents. We are grateful to them for sharing their time, knowledge, and interest in anthropology with our youngest visitors. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a docent, email us at maxeducation@unm.edu or call 505-277-2924.

Exhibitions

The exhibitions that visitors see at the Maxwell Museum are the result of months or years of dedicated planning, collaboration, and work that stretches across and beyond the Museum's walls. Under the leadershop of Curator of Exhibits Toni Gentilli and Museum Preparator Chris Albert, the Maxwell developed two new temporary exhibitions in 2024-25 and worked to plan and design the coming year's displays. Museum staff also continued the slow work of planning new permanent exhibitions to replace our 35-year old Peoples of the Southwest and Ancestors exhibitions. Work on the former is led by Curator of Archaeology Dr. Kari Schleher and Curator of Ethnology Dr. Lea McChesney, working with a 15-member Native Advisory Committee. Director Carla Sinopoli leads the ongoing development and planning for a new exhibition (called *Becoming Us)* to replace the dated, but still popular, Ancestors exhibition. As we enter this uncertain funding climate, we don't know for sure when the new exhibitions will become a reality. Meanwhile look for updates in our current displays during future visits to the museum. To learn more about how you can help make these new exhibits a reality, visit our website or reach out to us at maxwell@unm.edu.

Temporary Exhibitions

Oaxaca Ingobernable! Aesthetics, Politics, and Art from Below
¡Oaxaca Ingobernable! Estética, Política y Arte desde Abajo

September 7, 2024 — March 29, 2025

Maxwell Museum installation of Oaxaca Ingobernable

Co-curated by doctoral students Gustavo García and Natalia M. Toscana (Dept. of Chicana and Chicano Studies), ***Oaxaca Ingobernable: Aesthetics, Politics, and Art from Below*** explored subversive representations of embodied resistance by Indigenous and Black Oaxacan communities in Mexico and the United States through collaborative artmaking practices and largescale relief prints. The exhibition, located in the Maxwell Museum and Hibben Center, featured the artwork of Colectivo Subterráneos and California-based artist Pavel Acevedo.

Exhibitions

Colectivo Subterráneos (Underground Collective) is a multi-generational group of Oaxacan artists, primarily composed of young people, who create relief prints and murals to illuminate social issues. The collective started in 2021 with just six members and has since grown to over 30 members. They maintain a multipurpose space in the center of Oaxaca where they make, show, and sell art and run a free arts school called *Escuela de Arte para el Pueblo* (Art School for the People). Their artistic and political traditions have been shaped by social movements in Oaxaca and beyond. Inspired by internationalist leftist artists, their name purposefully aligns them with working class, exploited, and oppressed communities who occupy spaces below the upper-class and outside of top-down politics and social hierarchies. The collective's main goal is to create art that is politically representative of and accessible to local communities. By creating unsanctioned public art and activating the streets as their primary canvas, Subterráneos reclaim spaces slowly being seized by external global capital and return these spaces to the community. Through their workshops, they create more spaces for community members where they can learn artistic practices that not only allow them to share their stories but also make a living from producing art.

Print workshop with Pavel Acevedo and exhibit co-curators in the Hibben Center

Artist Pavel Acevedo was born in Oaxaca, Mexico and currently resides in Riverside, California. His experiences in Oaxacan protests, including the 2006 popular uprising in Oaxaca City and movements in California, shape the focus of his creative work. He uses linoleum printing and muralism to engage with the deep and often overwhelming tensions he and countless other Oaxacans experience around migration, borders, and nation states. His practice of collaborative printmaking encourages collective meaning making. Acevedo draws on Zapotec storytelling and contemporary Oaxacan migrant experiences to blend the (super)natural world with rebellious and life-affirming visions of Oaxacan being.

Together, these artists offer visually compelling stories of Indigenous and Black Oaxacan communities and their struggles across time and place to remember tradition, culture, collective practices and resistance to systemic oppression and erasure. Their works critically interrogate historic and contemporary impacts of colonialism and capitalism on marginalized Oaxacan communities. The striking, often larger than life works depict how these communities—of which they are part—struggle to retain Indigenous knowledges, lands, languages, and collective practices in the face of indigenismo, antiblackness, xenophobia, and dehumanization. Through a shared history of rebellious politics, communal solidarity, and visually bold tactics, *Oaxaca Ingobernable* embodies the spirit of ungovernability and strives to incite positive social change in Oaxaca and beyond.

Exhibitions

The exhibition took place in both the Hibben Center and the Museum. The Maxwell portion featured a site-specific installation by Colectivo Subterráneos and Pavel Acevedo. Large prints on cloth by Colectivo Subterráneos and text and photo panels were on display in the Hibben center. Visitors were able to pick up a zine describing the project in either Spanish or English and attend multiple events including a print making workshop with Acevedo himself! The exhibition was generously supported by the Department of Chicana/o Studies, El Centro de la Raza, Center for Regional Studies, the Alfonso Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies, and the Latin American & Iberian Institute.

Entangled Cultures: How Humans and Microbes Co-create through Fermentation

March 8, 2025 — March 14, 2026

Entangled Cultures

***Entangled Cultures*,** curated by the Maxwell's Curator of Exhibits Toni Gentilli, opened on March 8, 2025 with a reception that featured a variety of foods and beverages made by local fermenters. More than 300 visitors sampled locally-made cheeses, sourdough breads, kimchi, and kombucha and explored an exhibition featuring collections objects spanning thousands of years and from around the world. The exhibition examines the deep and longstanding relations between humans and microbes through the lens of fermentation. Although microbes are the most abundant and diverse organisms on our planet, anthropology has paid little attention to the complex web of interactions between humans and these largely inconspicuous yet influential living beings. Growing interest in the evolutionary dynamics of humans and microbes, advancements in research methodologies, and the emerging field of ethnomicrobiology are shedding new light on the symbiotic creativity of human and microbial cultures.

Perhaps the most visible and enduring manifestation of human-microbe relations is fermentation. A universally adopted technique, fermentation has been employed for millennia in the creation, enhancement, and preservation of all manner of foods and beverages. People across the world and throughout time have developed specialized tools, containers, facilities, and processes to make fermented products from local varieties of fruits, vegetables, tubers, legumes, grains, meats, seafood, and dairy. Countless human cultures have embraced traditional fermented foods and beverages as integral expressions of identity and kinship, and employ them in communal rituals, as social lubricants, healing elixirs, and conduits to the divine.

Exhibitions

Drawing from the Maxwell Museum's collections, Entangled Cultures presents diverse global examples of traditional vessels used in the creation and consumption of fermented foods and beverages. The exhibit begins with an overview of how fermentation likely served as a catalyst for human ancestors to develop smaller digestive systems, larger brains, and ultimately expand into new environments. It also retraces the origins of many now ubiquitous ferments, such as wine, beer, bread, and cheese. Reflections on the ever-changing nature of human-microbe relations are woven throughout the exhibit, which concludes with a peek into our fermented futures, including novel adaptations to climate change and possibilities for interspecies flourishing in the post-Anthropocene world.

Lissa Knudsen of the New Mexico Cheese Guild serving guests at the opening of Entangled Cultures

Share your fermentation recipes with us to create a community cookbook!

- Download a blank recipe card from our web site or using this link
  Either print it and drop it off the next time you visit the museum
  Or email it to maxwell@unm.edu with "Recipe Card" in the subject
- We will print it out and add it to the binder in the gallery. and post a downloadable PDF on the exhibit web site.

"Nothing Left for Me": Federal Policy and the Photography of Milton Snow in Diné Bikéyah

Open through December 6, 2025

Curated by UNM Professor Jennifer Denetdale (Diné) and Independent Curator Lillia McEnaney, ***Nothing Left for Me*** examines the impact of U.S. Indian Commissioner John Collier's brutal Navajo Lifestock Reduction program on Diné communities through the photography of Milton Snow. Snow (1905-1986), a non-Native photographer, was hired by the Navajo Service in 1937 to document the federal government's program, an extreme response to reports of overgrazing on Diné Bikéyah land. The program ignored Diné land management practices and community needs, resulting in widespread, long-term, sociocultural, environmental, economic and political harm throughout Diné Bikéyah. Over twenty years, Snow produced thousands of images of Diné people, homes, and landscapes that documented the changes wrought by the U.S. government policies. A product of more than a decade of research by Dr. Denetdale, *Nothing Left for Me* integrates historic and contemporary photographs, archival records, and objects from the Maxwell's collection to foreground Diné perspectives on the intersecting legacies of photography and U.S. colonialism.

Public Programs

The Maxwell Museum serves multiple publics. These include our core community of UNM students, faculty, and staff. They also include the many Indigenous communities whose heritage we steward and who we partner with in exhibitions, curation, and repatriation efforts. K-12 students in central New Mexico and beyond are another key community that we serve through our bus program, check-out kits, virtual presence, and on- and off-site programs. Visitors to the Maxwell also include the general public from our region as well as tourists. Among the latter are out-of-state and international tourists, for whom our P*eoples of the Southwest* exhibition provides an invaluable introduction to the deep archaeological history of our region.

The Maxwell serves these many audiences with a wide-ranging schedule of public programs coordinated by Curator of Public Programs Dr. Julián Carrillo. 2024-25 featured a busy schedule of exhibition openings and closings, hands-on workshops, lectures, collection tours, receptions, and concerts. In addition, collection staff regularly host public and community organizations through tours and lectures. Below are some highlights.

In September 2024, the exhibition of cuneiform tablets from Iraq plus a 3500-year old board game discovered in the Royal Cemetery of Ur inspired our first game night at the Maxwell. This event attracted about 80 people from the local gaming community (not our usual audience!), who we look forward to inviting back for future gaming events.

First game night @ the Maxwell

Two public lectures by archaeologists discussed past foodways. In a lecture in honor of International Archaeology Day in October, Dr. Wade Campbell (Diné, Boston University) discussed how the analysis of archaeological ceramics informs on ancestral foodways in Dinétah. And in the spring, Visiting Professor of Anthropology Dr. Jo Osborn took us to coastal Peru in our annual "ancestors" lecture to explore how early fishing communities responded to El Niño events.

Red dresses honoring Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women hanging in the Maxwell Courtyard, May 5, 2025

On May 5, Ashley Burch (Osteology Collection Manager) and Ash Boydston-Schmidt (NAGPRA Coordinator) organized and hosted an event in the Maxwell Courtyard to bring our community together on the MMIW National Day of Awareness to honor and acknowledgei the crisis of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2-Spirit Individuals. We thank Wil Gover (Pawnee) for leading our gathering in a prayer and generously sharing his personal experiences of the MMIW crisis.

The first stage of renovations in the Alfonso Ortiz Gathering Space in the Maxwell's North Gallery has removed exhibit cases to create an actual gathering space for conversations and small group events. The Museum hosted two small Spanish-language workshops featuring faculty and students in this space in the spring. We look forward to developing this area further in the coming academic year, to create a welcoming space to gather, share ideas, and strengthen community.

Public Programs

We thank the many co-sponsors and supporters of our events, incluiding the UNM Department of Anthropology, Alfonso Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies, American Studies Department, Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies, and the Latin American and Iberian Institute.

Public Programs Offered by the Maxwell Museum in 2024-25
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DATE	EVENT	Appx #
7/27/2024	ALL REZ exhibition closing reception	20
8/23/2024	Members meet and greet and tour of Nothing Left for Me with Professor Jennifer Denetdale	30
8/30/2024	Student member reception and dance party	20
9/7/2024	Oaxaca Ingobernable opening reception and presentation	240
9/23/2024	Far Horizons: archaeology collections and exhibit tour	15
9/26/2024	Game night at the Maxwell	80
10/3/2024	Oaxaca Ingobernale print making workshop	30
10/17/2024	Archaeology Day Lecture, Professor Wade Campbell	141
10/26/2024	Family Day - The Origins of Writing	62
11/2/2024	ABQ Archaeological Society workshop	10
11/15/2024	Rug Auction Preview	40
11/16/2024	Navajo Rug Auction	125
11/16/2024	Indigenous Family Day, Petroglyph National Monument (Docent table)	100
11/17/2024	Indigenous Family Day, Petroglyph National Monument (Docent table)	100
12/6/2024	Holiday open house	200
2/6/2025	Totem pole visit and tour for UNM community partners	30
2/13/2025	“Ancestors” lecture “Fishing Through Flux,” Dr. Jo Osborn	60
2/22/2025	Print making Family Day	75
2/24/2025	Workshop in Spanish. “Caminos hacia la educación” [Paths Towards Education] by Lizbeth Sánchez and Dr. Julián Carrillo	18
2/27/2025	JAR Lecture “Marketing Race” by Dr. Jada Benn Torres	90
3/8/2025	Entangled Cultures exhibition opening	300
3/27/2025	Oaxaca Ingobernable closing lecture by Dr. Alan Shane Dillingham	90
4/2/2025	Lecture Professor Andrew Curley -- American Indian Studies	80
4/28/2025	Workshop in Spanish. “Intersecciones entre el cine documental y la ficción” [Intersections between Documentary Film and Fiction] by Balam Toscano	16
4/29/2025	UNM Lobo Horn Choir Concert	20
5/4/2025	Archaeological Society of New Mexico Annual Meeting Field trip	8
5/5/2025	Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirit Awareness Day	45
5/5/2025	Workshop in Spanish. “Música e identidad mexicana en EUA.” [Mexican Music and Identity in the USA] by Carlos Arellano	20

In the Collections and Archives

The Maxwell Museum's collections are organized into four divisions: Archaeology, Archives, Ethnology, and Osteology. Together these comprise some three million objects, human remains, images, and records. Many derive from 90+ years of UNM anthropological research; others from donations. The Museum also holds collections for federal, state, municipal, and Tribal governments and organizations. Together, the collections constitute an extraordinary resource for teaching, research, and community engagement.

The collections are overseen by Curator of Ethnology Dr. Lea McChesney and Curator of Archaeology Dr. Kari Schleher (the human osteology division currently lacks a curator), and are supported by a talented team of collection professionals: Ashley Burch (Collection Manager, Osteology), Lauren Fuka (Registrar and Senior Collection Manager, Ethnology), Karen Price (Senior Collection Manager, Archaeology), and Diane Tyink (Archivist). Repatriation efforts are coordinated by NAGPRA Coordinator Ash Boydston-Schmidt. And with support from the Office of the Provost, we were able to add two new Collection Associates this year to support our NAGPRA work: Emma Stewart (Ethnology) and Nick Poister (Archaeology).

In early 2024, the Archaeology and Ethnology divisions placed a moratorium on accepting new collections. This was for two reasons. Kari Schleher, Karen Price, and Lauren Fuka received a major grant from the National Endowment for Humanities to install compact shelving in our largest collection room. The construction work required shutting down that space and relocating collections so the work could be completed. In addition, new requirements of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) led us to close access to many of our ethnographic collections pending tribal consultations. We therefore made the decision not to grow our object collections while this important work was ongoing, the exception being the acquisition of seven contemporary pots from Pueblo artists/co-curators on an upcoming exhibition. The Maxwell Archives accepted four new collections. The Laboratory of Human Osteology received the remains of ten donors and of several unidentified individuals that we hold in trust for the Office of the Medical Investigator until they can be identified and returned to their loved ones.

Efforts continued across the Museum to improve the care and documentation of collections and archives. Museum staff, UNM students, community members, and visiting scholars conducted new research on the collections. Staff hosted collection visits for Tribal delegations, community and UNM organizations, and UNM classes. Collection objects were featured in current and planned exhibitions, requiring extensive research, documentation, and consultation with cultural knowledge holders. Collection staff responded to hundreds of queries from collectors, potential collection donors, and interested members of the public.

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

At the Maxwell Museum, the Museum Registrar is responsible for maintaining and updating documentation of our collections and tracking information on loans, research requests, use of collections in exhibitions and teaching, and the like. Registrar Lauren Fuka divides her time between work in the Museum's records room and her role as Sr. Collection Manager of the Ethnology collections. In 2024-25 she worked on adding legacy files and records into the Museum's CollectiveAccess database (which she also oversees). Information on 1,200 outgoing loans going back to the 1970s were added, as well as almost 400 research requests. This helps the Museum gain a better understanding of how collections have been used and studied in the past and be better prepared to respond to researchers' and community requests. They also add to our understandings of the Maxwell's history and impact. The furthest-flung loan that Lauren discovered was a 1992 loan to the Netherlands.

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Two Grey Hills Rug, by Bessie Manygoats. 1992 Loan to "Centuries of Weaving" exhibition, Textielmuseum, Tilburg, The Netherlands. MMA 73.8.1

The Registrar's work was made easier by the scanning project and two amazing scanning students who digitized hundreds of thousands of pages of museum records, files, condition reports, catalog sheets, and catalog cards to make them more accessible for staff. We added over 10,000 images to the database, many from the slide scanning project but also new photography. Our goal for the future is to make the database and as many images as we can appropriately share accessible to the public.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Curator Dr. Kari Schleher and Senior Collections Manager Karen Price continued to care for the archaeology collections. They were joined in June 2025 by Collections Associate Nicholas Poister, who will assist with archaeology collections care for the next five years. In addition to staff, 17 student employees and volunteers and 21 community volunteers worked on projects including collections inventory, cataloguing, photography, box-making, and rehousing. More than 170 boxes from previously excavated collections were processed. Archaeology staff processed nine loans and fielded 38 research requests and welcomed researchers, UNM classes, and tribal community members to the collections.

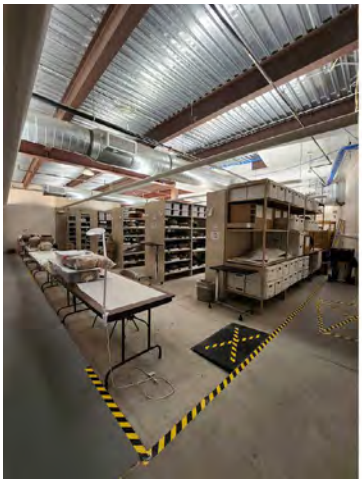
Curator Kari Schleher and Collections Associate Nick Poister viewing Mesoamerican archaeology collections

Work continued on multi-year projects. These included object-level inventories, the addition of more than 13,700 entries into the Museum's database, and grants. Staff continued to document archaeological collections from Chaco Canyon supported by a NAGPRA grant.

This year also began the construction work for the Sustaining Cultural Heritage grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), awarded in the spring of 2024. Between October and July, staff and students relocated over 5,000 boxes and objects to prepare for the installation of compact shelving. Rails for the new rolling shelves were secured to the

In the Collections and Archives

concrete subfloor and a new Gypcrete floor was poured. After curing, nine rows of compact shelving, one row of stationary oversize shelving, and six stationary cabinets were installed, creating an additional 1,800 linear feet of shelving and storage. While this grant was terminated early in April 2025 by NEH due to "a new direction in the furtherance of the President's agenda," the construction work had been largely completed by that time. Staff will reorganize collections onto the new shelving in the coming year.



Before renovation

Pouring the Gypcrete Floor

Partial view of the finished shelving

Compact Shelving Installation in the Hibben Center basement

In addition to collections owned by UNM, the Museum cares for archaeological collections from federal and state entities, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB), City of Albuquerque Open Space, and the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE), as well as several Tribal communities. Financial support from the BIA (see p. 18), BLM, COE, KAFB, and the City of Albuquerque allowed us to continue to improve the documentation and care of these repository collections.

ARCHIVES

During FY 2024-25, work has continued to inventory and improve the care of the archival collections continued. Archivist Diane Tyink and student workers worked on several backlogged collections in the archives. The massive O.T. Snodgrass Mimbres Collection was inventoried and arranged. It contains 12,065 slides, 10,049 negatives and 12,351 photographs, for a total of 34,465 objects in the collection. A draft finding aid was created. In addition to the Snodgrass Mimbres Collection, the Mimbres Foundation donated excavation documentation for multiple sites. Approximately 21 linear feet of documentation and 500 slides and photographs were catalogued. A draft finding aid is in production. Work on the Mimbres Foundation archives was expedited to locate documentation that supports the Museum's NAGPRA reporting.

A draft finding aid was also created for the Dorothy L. Luhrs Collection. Luhrs (1910-1972) obtained her Masters in 1937 from the University of New Mexico ("The Identification and Distribution of the Ceramic Types in the Rio Puerco Area, Central, New Mexico") and her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in 1944 ("An Anthropological Study of the Sources of Maladjustment Among Eastern Pueblo Adolescents"). The Luhrs Collection contains ca. 9 linear feet of documents and 600 photographs.

In the Collections and Archives

This year saw an additional 2176 negatives (Vicos project, 1952) and fourteen 16 mm films from the John Collier Jr. Collection cataloged, bringing the total catalogued objects in the photographic collection to 27,194. With approximately 32 linear feet in Collier's document collection, a draft of a finding aid has been created with the hope of completing it in the coming year.

The archives also hosted numerous researchers throughout the year. Work continues in the Maxwell Archives to inventory, rehouse, catalog, and make archival materials available to researchers.

The Plaza at Vicos, Peru. John Collier Jr. MMA 2006.117.913.

ETHNOLOGY

The ethnology collections are overseen by Curator Dr. Lea McChesney and Sr. Collection Manager (and Museum Registrar) Lauren Fuka. In December 2024, they were joined by NAGPRA Ethnology Collections Associate Emma Stewart. Student employees and volunteers also supported work on collection projects.

In 2024-25, Dr. McChesney continued to work to develop the upcoming co-curated exhibition on Pueblo pottery scheduled to open in June 2026. The exhibit will feature pots from the Maxwell's permanent collection and loaned objects selected by 24 co-curators representing 14 Pueblos. With funding from the Luce Foundation and UNM's Center for Regional Studies, the exhibit team, including graduate students Hope Casereno and Donna Padilla, worked to finalize object selection, interview and film artists at work, and refine the exhibit's main themes. In addition to work with the co-curators, Dr. McChesney

In the Collections and Archives

consulted with representatives from all 14 Pueblos to ensure that all pots selected for the exhibition are approriate to share with larger publics.

Ethnology Collections Manager Lauren Fuka supervised students and volunteers, processed incoming donations and loans, and managed collections database projects. Fuka assisted with preparing and photographing objects for the *Entangled Cultures* exhibition. Ten ethnology objects are featured in the exhibition, currently on display.

New staff member Emma Stewart has made substantial progress in reviewing Ethnology collections from Pueblo communities in order to prepare for future tribal consultations. She has made significant contributions to the overall care of our Ethnology collections and has been a wonderful addition to the Museum. Emma's addition has been particularly timely, as in June, staff discovered an infestation of clothes moths in a collection area of the Museum containing textiles, clothing, and other items. Museum staff and volunteers spent the summer reviewing and assessing collections to ensure there is no future threat to the textile collection.

New accession: 3D Printed ceramic vessel by Cochiti artist Jeff Suina (MMA 2024.22.1)

The Ethnology division added 6 new accessions in 2024-25, consisting of contemporary and historic pottery pieces from Pueblo artists. Several of the pieces will be featured in Dr. Lea McChesney's upcoming co-curated exhibition.

Last but not least, we acknowledge the contributions of 13 student and community volunteers who continued work to scan 35 mm slides of images of items in the museum's collection. Their efforts help improve the overall documentation of the items that we care for.

OSTEOLOGY

With the departure of previous Collection Manager of Human Osteology Alex Denning in May 2024, and after a vigorous recruiting search, the Maxwell Museum and the Laboratory of Human Osteology welcomed a new Collection Manager, Ashley Burch in November 2024. Ms. Burch brings with her over 15 years of experience in forensic anthropology, human identification, and collections care and management. Since January 2025, the addition of Laboratory Assistant, Jasmine Hernandez,

In the Collections and Archives

doctoral student in Evolutionary Anthropology, has provided tremendous help with organizing the lab, inventorying the collections, skeletal processing, and much more.

The Laboratory's Documented Skeletal Collection (those individuals who donated their skeletal remains to the Museum for education and research purposes) and Teaching Collection (comprised primarily of casts of human remains) were used by seven UNM courses throughout the academic year. University students, faculty, and researchers spent nearly 1500 hours (1482.75 to be exact!) in the Laboratory working on class assignments, gathering data from the Documented Skeletal Collection and the Economides Dental Collection, and supporting Department of Anthropology research projects. Additionally, non-UNM researchers spent 228 hours in the Laboratory studying and gathering data from the Documented Skeletal Collection. Project topics included improving classification accuracies for osteological sex estimation using decision trees and random forest modeling, testing the validity of sex estimation methods utilizing sternum and rib morphology, and promoting the use of multivariable age-at-death estimation methods in order to produce more accurate age estimations.

In her initial months, Ms. Burch has focused on developing policies and procedures for laboratory activities, updating laboratory equipment and the "Lab-rary" (or laboratory library), and organizing laboratory space for more efficient use. The Laboratory is now able to process remains in-house to better address collections care and management concerns and is also approved for on-site DNA sampling to aid the Office of the Medical Investigator (OMI) with identification efforts of unknown remains. The Laboratory expresses thanks to Museum Preparator, Chris Albert, who has assisted with a great number of projects to improve the space.

With the help of volunteers Mike Haueter and Glenda Urquidi and Hibben Fellow Cecilia Sena, work continued on reboxing the Donated Skeletal Collection under a NEH Preservation Assistance Grant. In addition, an inventory of the Laboratory's Teaching Collection was completed, as was a thorough review and standardization of the Documented Skeletal Collection database of biological information, which will be useful to staff and researchers for a long time to come.

Work in the Lab includes engagement with the public. In addition to daily activities, this year the Laboratory sponsored two events. The first was a community event in recognition of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2-Spirit Individuals Day (MMIWG2S) on May 5th (see p. 13). The event included information tables regarding the MMIWG2S crisis, the Laboratory's joint efforts with OMI to identify unknown persons recovered in New Mexico, and resources for those experiencing domestic violence or a missing loved one. A community art project, in the form of a (paper) Star Quilt, was created from the words, feelings, memories, and names of the missing (or identified) that the event evoked. Also, in May, the Laboratory welcomed 26 students (and 3 chaperones) from East Mountain High School for an immersive day learning about anthropology, forensic anthropology, and human identification. Students moved through learning stations in the Laboratory, where they gained knowledge and practiced skills necessary to be a forensic anthropologist.

The Laboratory maintains its moratorium on teaching and research of all archaeological human remains while NAGPRA compliance is achieved. The Museum and the Laboratory are extremely grateful to the individuals who have donated their remains to the Documented Skeletal Collection this year. We hope their loved ones take solace in knowing that their priceless gift will contribute to anthropological and scientific research and education for generations to come.

NAGPRA

The Maxwell is committed to the letter and spirit of the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). NAGPRA requires that institutions document all Native American and Native Hawai'ian ancestral remains, funerary belongings, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony in their collections, and report them to the Department of Interior and all potentially related federally recognized Tribes with the goal of returning the remains to the communities from which they were removed. The Maxwell's NAGPRA efforts are overseen by NAGPRA Coordinator Ash Boydston-Schmidt, and involve the dedicated efforts of all of the collection staff.

In 2024-25, NAGPRA Coordinator Ash Boydston-Schmidt and Director Sinopoli worked to develop and formalize NAGPRA policies and procedures, including for non-NAGPRA ethical returns. In January, after extensive research, the Museum submitted required notifications to federal agencies whose collections we hold, providing information on the collections to support them to fulfill their NAGPRA consultation and repatriation obligations. A grant from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to Curator of Archaeology Kari Schleher, enabled the Museum to hire Collections Associate Caitlin Ainsworth for a three-year position to research and serve as the liaison for BIA collections held at the Museum.

Work continued on the documentation of the Museum's NAGPRA collections from multiple sites in Chaco Canyon, where UNM conducted archaeology fieldschools from 1929 to 1949 (collections from subsequent UNM work at Chaco are controlled by the National Park Service). Supported by a documentation and consultation grant from the National NAGPRA program, staff have worked to locate and identify funerary belongings and ancestral remains and hold consultations with tribes toward eventual repatriation. Other consultations addressed the repatriation of ancestors and belongings from the Ancestral Pueblo site of Pottery Mound and Diné cultural belongings. In addition, Curator of Ethnology Lea McChesney consulted with 14 Pueblos about objects to be shown in her 2026 Pueblo pottery exhibition. Museum staff also met with representatives from the Inuvialiut First Nation and the Indigenous Repatriation Program of the Australian Office of the Arts.

In January 2024, the Department of Interior released new regulations to update the law and its implementation. In addition to imposing new timelines on NAGPRA compliance, an important change in the updated regulations is the addition of a "Duty of Care" section that requires "free, prior, and informed consent from lineal descendants, Indian Tribes, or Native Hawaiian organizations prior to allowing any exhibition of, access to, or research on human remains or [NAGPRA relevant] cultural items." Reviewing requests for approvals for Duty of Care access has placed considerable burdens on Tribes, as they field hundreds of requests from institutions around the US. In May 2026, the Maxwell partnered with the Center for Southwest Research at Fort Lewis College to hold a workshop on Duty of Care on the UNM campus. The workshop brought tribal representatives and cultural institutions and agencies together to share perspectives and best practices. It was attended by Museum staff and representatives from 14 Tribes and fromseveral state and federal agencies. Our discussion addressed the importance of ongoing consultations and communication and diverse perspectives on collections and repatriation. The workshop was supported by contributions from the Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies, the UNM Office of the Vice President for Research, and Fort Lewis College.

Finally, Ash continues to play an important role in public education about NAGPRA. Through conference presentations, public lectures, class visits, and one-on-one engagements, she assists the UNM community, community organizations, and the general public in understanding the importance and processes of NAGPRA and the work we are doing at the Maxwell Museum.

Office of Contract Archeology

By Russell Greaves, OCA Director

The Office of Contract Archeology has spent the year wrapping up old projects and beginning new ones, overseeing more than three million dollars of grants and contracst in 2024-25. Staff are currently completing two field projects. Fieldwork began in January on the long-delayed mitigation of work areas for The New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) in Madrid, NM and is nearing completion of all the active excavations. A pedestrian survey in the Four Corners area of Utah also is now nearly completed. OCA has other smaller summer projects and several that will take place in the fall of the coming fiscal year.

The Madrid Project has been ongoing since the late winter/ early spring. Crews braved the very cold winter weather and the blazing summer heat to expose and record a number of historic features associated with the mining history of Madrid. OCA has performed excavations of several building foundations in different areas of Madrid where EMNRD will focus its efforts on improving stormwater surface runoff control and modifications of the Madrid Arroyo running through town.

Exposing a drainage feature in Madrid, New Mexico

Noteworthy discoveries include a set of past water-control features in the middle of Madrid, a residential complex at the north end of town, and several structures along one of the banks of the arroyo. Associated artifacts indicate that much of these remains date to the early-mid 20th century features of Madrid's final phases of active coal mining. Some areas indicate potentially earlier components straddling the late Colonial economic mining period as well as use during later periods. The archaeology has documented commercial, civic, and residential architecture and land use from the late 19th to mid 20th century.

Glen Canyon Crew Recording rock imagery

The survey project in Utah provided opportunities for OCA crews to experience the diverse archaeological record of this rich region and revel in the beautiful vistas of the Goosenecks of the San Juan River, Monument Valley, and the other natural wonders of this geologically riotous red rock country. OCA has completed a pedestrian survey along the John's Canyon Road in the Glen Canyon Natural Recreation Area. Crews encountered numerous lithic scatter sites, Navajo (Diné) sheepherder temporary camps among natural shelters formed by boulders at the base of the cliffs of Cedar Mesa, and many rock imagery sites. The remoteness of this location has protected these rock imagery panels from the unfortunately common graffiti and firearms

Office of Contract Archeology

damage that many rock imagery records have suffered. OCA will return for a final phase of detailed follow-up recording of several of the more significant locations and employ Lidar mapping of the rock imagery. This corridor adjacent to the San Juan River was an important seasonal travel route for pre-contact inhabitants, and for more recent Diné sheepherders.

OCA Glen Canyon Field Crew, Summer 2025

OCA Project Director Alex Kurota continued work on multiple field and laboratory projects across New Mexico, including his long-term work assess and protect archaeological sites at White Sands Missile Range. And staff are working to wrap up the preparation of site management plans for Pecos Historic Park and Petroglyph National Monument for the National Park Service (we especially acknowledge former staff member Mary Ownby for her work on those plans, and wish her the best in her new endeavors). OCA benefits from the drone and LIDAR skills of Tim Wester (OCA Contracts and Grants Specialist), the administrative and HR work of Julie Torres, and a talented field and lab crew.

Our New Look

In Fall 2024, Maxwell Museum staff had the great pleasure of working with the wonderful team at MediaDesk here in Albuquerque to design a new logo and align the visual identity of the Museum with our mission to "work towards greater understandings of the fullness of human diversity in the Southwest and the world," and our aspirations to be a welcoming place for our diverse communities that is alive with culture.

Maxwell Museum of Anthropology

Inspired by the doors to our building and UNM's palette, our logo symbol represents a doorway or portal, referencing the transformative experiences possible in and through culture. We hope people enter the museum and leave changed. Additionally, when shifting perspective to above—a birds-eye view—the symbol represents the museum as a container; a stable structure that is in conversation with the dynamic human, cultural, interpretive, and creative aspects of our work.

We will be rolling out our new look in the coming months (including new merchandise in the Maxwell Museum store!). Come by and let us know what you think!

Publications and Presentations

Maxwell Museum staff conduct research in the United States, Latin America, North Africa, and Asia. While many of the publications presented here are directly related to UNM research and Maxwell Museum collections, they also show the breadth of scholarship by Maxwell and Office of Contract Archeology curators, staff, and affiliated students.

Publications

Jade Bajeot, **Mary Ownby**, and Maria Carmela Gatto, 2024, The social implication of a "mixed" ceramic assemblage: Understanding the Predynastic community of Nag el Qarmila (First Nile Cataract, Egypt) through pottery technology. *African Archaeological Review* 41(3): 443-475. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10437-024-09602-8

Benjamin A. Bellorado, Jamie Merewether, Lori Stephens Reed, **Kari L. Schleher**, Michelle I. Turner and Jonathan Dombrosky, 2025, Reconnecting the Ancestral Pueblo world through pottery design. *Archaeology Southwest Magazine* 37(1).

Shanna Diederichs and **Kari L. Schleher**, 2025, Founding a Mesa Verde homeland: Basketmaker III period migration and community creation. *Archaeology Southwest Magazine* 37(1).

Amanda Dobrov and **Kari Schleher,** 2025, A clean break: A departure from standard typologies through an investigation of pottery paste and temper at Joshua Tree National Park. *California Archaeology,* 1-25. https://doi.org/10.1080/1947461X.2025.2481351

Alexander Kurota, Thatcher Seltzer-Rogers, Patrick Hogan, David A. Rachal, F. Scott Worman, and Jeffrey A. Thomas, 2025, A discussion of horizontal stratigraphy models at two case studies from southern New Mexico and west Texas. In, *Cochiti Reservoir and Beyond: Papers in Honor of Jan V. Biella and Richard C. Chapman*, edited by Emily J. Brown, et al., pp. 123-139. Papers of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico, Vol 51.

Gwyneira Isaac, Klinton Burgio-Ericson, **Lea McChesney,** Karen Kahe Charley, Kelly Church, Renee Dillard, Adrian Greci-Green, 2024, Making kin is more than metaphor: Implications of responsibilities towards Indigenous knowledge and artistic traditions for museums. *Museum Anthropology* 48(1). https://doi.org/10.1111/muan.12283

Kari L. Schleher and Michelle I. Turner, 2025, Local or Distant?: Items of Personal Adornment and Great House Identity in the Central Mesa Verde Region. Kiva https://doi.org/10.1080/00231940.2025.2514950

Michelle I. Turner and **Kari L. Schleher**, 2025, Investigating Pueblo Jewelry in the Mesa Verde Region. *Archaeology Southwest Magazine* 37(1).

OCA Reports

NcKayla Duran, Mary Ownby, and **Evan Sachse**, 2024, Historic Context Statement: Sandia National Laboratories Tonopah Test Range. OCA/UNM Report No. 185-1372.

Brian Battaglino, Robin Kibler, Mary Ownby, and **Douglas Rodriguez**, 2024, Assessment of Roads within the Sandia National Laboratories Tonopah Test Range OCA/UNM Report No. 185-1373.

Alexander Kurota, Carson Campbell, Alondra Neunsinger and **Garrett Lloyd**, 2025, Archaeology of White Sands Missile Range: Investigations of Cultural Resources at West Dry Lake Pueblo (LA 104864) with a Subsequent Division of the Site, Dona Ana County, New Mexico OCA/UNM Report No. 185-1349.and 185-1355.

Conference Sessions Organized

Elizabeth Stone, Gary Roybal, Frank, **Ash Boydston- Schmidt**, Relationships and Repatriations: A Conversation About Engaging Indigenous Communities and Authorities with Museum Collections, New Mexico Association of Museums Annual Conference, Santa Fe, NM. October 2024.

Publications and Presentations

Amanda Thompson, Melodie McAddams, Kate Compton-Gore, Dave Williams, Macie Orrand, Aimee Carbaugh, **Ash Boydston-Schmidt**, Angela Neller, Eve Hargrave, NAGPRA Communities of Practice, Society for American Archaeology, 90th Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, April 2025.

Julián Antonio Carrillo, Mobilizing Heritage in Museums to Promote Inclusion and Engagement. Colloquium, American Folklore Society Annual Conference, Albuquerque, November 2024.

Carla M. Sinopoli, Reconciling Injustices, Restoring Voices, and Realizing Community: Implementing the 3Rs at UNM's Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, Session at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries, Albuquerque, NM, May 2025. With presentations by Maxwell staff: **Ash Boydston-Schmidt, Ashley Burch, Julián Carrillo, Erica Davis, Lea McChesney, Anna Part, Kari Schleher, Carla Sinopoli**, and **Cassie Velarde Neher**.

Conference posters and presentations

Ash Boydston-Schmidt, NAGPRA crash course—The law in context. Presented at the Annual Conference of the New Mexico Association of Museums, Santa Fe (October 2024), and the Annual Conference of the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries, Albuquerque (May 2025). Also presented to the ABQ Archaeological Society, and Taos Historic Society, and classes at UNM and IAIA.

Samantha Fladd, Sarah Oas, Emily Van Alst, **Kari Schleher**, Danielle Lucero, Creating histories through collections: Native American women and museum spaces. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Denver, CO, April 2025.

Russell D. Greaves, Ethnoarchaeology beyond the ethnographic details: observations of technologies relevant to the longer time-scale of archaeological site formation. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Denver, CO, April 2025.

Alexander Kurota and **Garrett Lloyd**, An update on report preparation for the Chamisal Site Project. Paper presented at the ASNM Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, 2025.

Lillia McEnaney, Rapheal Begay, **and Toni Gentilli,** ALL REZ: Fostering community-based museology through creative placemaking. Panel discussion at the Annual Conference of the New Mexico Association of Museums, Santa Fe (October 2024),

Lea McChesney, "Collecting the Melville Way:" Maud Melville and Hopi potters. Moencopi Community Center, Third Mesa, June 2025.

Mary Ownby and Philip De Barros, Cultural identity and ceramic practice in Northern Togo, West Africa, Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Denver, CO, April 2025.

Kari Schleher, Hannah Mattson, Madison Drew, Christopher Chavez, Contemporary Pueblo perspectives on Ancestral jewelry production: Views from Santo Domingo/Kewa and Zuni/A:shiwi Pueblos. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Denver, CO, April 2025.

Loa Traxler and A**sh Boydston-Schmidt**, "NAGPRA is a living relationship:" Addressing our responsibilities and growing in our relationships with NAGPRA, Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Denver, CO, April 2025

Budget and finances

The Maxwell Museum's budget derives from multiple sources, most importantly the UNM College of Arts and Sciences. Additional support for various aspects of our operations comes from the UNM Provost's office, other UNM departments and programs, external grants, and endowments. In 2024-25, College support funded Maxwell Museum staff salaries (excluding OCA) and provided $15,000 for operating expenses, $10,000 for exhibitions, and $12,000 to support the hiring of work-study student employees. The Museum also received support from the Alfonso Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies and from the UNM Museum Studies Program for activities involving their students.

Grants, earnings from endowments, donations, and memberships also play a critical role in supporting essential museum operations, including care of the collections and archives, K-12 educational programs, exhibitions and public programs, museum security, professional opportunities for our staff, and other essential operational costs. The Office of Contract Archeology is a self-supporting unit of the Maxwell Museum. Through grants and contracts OCA provides archaeological research and training opportunities to numerous UNM students. In 2024-2025, OCA and the Maxwell together generated $4,011,603 in external grants and contracts.

2024-2025 Grants and contracts*

Office of Contract Archeology ($3,220,239)

Navarro Research & Engineering Inc. Department of Defense, 808 Acre Survey at Coyote Canyon And Historic Buildings Documentation, Rusty Greaves, 01/17/2024–08/31/2024, $227,653.

New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Dept, U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Lone Eagle Copper Mine 35 Acre Cultural Resource Survey_185-1359, Rusty Greaves, 11/01/2023–08/31/2024, $33,235.

New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Dept, U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Task Order 4_Cooper Property Subsidence within the Chloride Flats Mining District 185-1365, Alexander Kurota, 03/01/2024–08/31/2024, $13,971.

National Park Service, Archaeological Site Management Plan for Pecos NHP, Rusty Greaves, 06/01/2021–09/30/2024, $123,999.

National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, Department of Energy, Phase 1 cultural resources inventory of Tonopah Test Range Nevada_185-1372, Alexander Kurota, 06/17/2024–09/30/2024, $100,000.

New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Dept, U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Task Order 6 Cultural Resources Inventory of Los Cerrillos Dolores Gulch Mine Safeguard, Alexander Kurota, 08/01/2024– 12/31/2024, $23,474.

New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Dept, U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, La Ventana 4 Acre Survey-Task Order 5_185-1384, Alexander Kurota, 10/22/2024, 04/21/2025, $12,766.

New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Dept, U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Statement of Work: Proposal to Prepare a Historic Properties Treatment Plan., Rusty Greaves, 04/11/2023–04/30/2025, $87,831.

National Park Service, Develop an Archaeological Management Plan for Petroglyph National Monument New Mexico., Rusty Greaves, 09/01/2020–06/30/2025, $205,999.

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Proposal to Conduct Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis to Reconstruct Prehistoric Ceramic Exchange Networks within the Jornado Mogollon Culture Region, Rusty Greaves, 09/01/2022–08/30/2025, $99,643.

Budget and finances

Vernadero Group Incorporated, Bureau of Reclamation, Class III Cultural Resources Survey of 23 Acres for Corrales River Mile 1999 Project 185-1375, Alexander Kurota, 09/09/2024–11/03/2025, $24,475.

New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Dept, U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, SHARE No 23-521-0600-0034 Task Order 7 Historic Properties Treatment Plan to Mitigate Potential Adverse Effects to Historic Properties from the Madrid Stormwater Erosion Control, Alexander Kurota, 12/16/2024–12/15/2025, $1,094,490.

National Park Service, Archaeological Survey of Cultural Resources on Johns Canyon Road at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area 185-1364, Rusty Greaves, 08/09/2024–12/31/2025, $130,000.

US Army Garrison White Sands, Army Corps of Engineers, Phase 3 of Archaeological Identification, Damage Assessment and Protection of Cultural Resources at LA 104864 White Sands Missile Range, Rusty Greaves, 09/06/2022–03/25/2026, $644,000.

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Sample Survey of Cornudas Mountains, Otero County, New Mexico and Refinement of Chronometric Study of Perishable Artifacts, Rusty Greaves, 09/30/2024–12/30/2026, $398,703.

Museum Grants ($791,364)

National Endowment for the Humanities, Rehousing the Documented Skeletal Collection, Alexandra Denning, 9/1/2023–8/31/2024, $9,915.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Rehousing Ethnographic Baskets at the Maxwell Museum, Lauren Fuka. 9/11/2024–02/28/2026, $9,999. Terminated by NEH, April 2025.

Army Corps of Engineers, Corps of Engineers Curation, Beginning 2015, Kari Schleher, 11/10/2020–12/31/2024, $36,106.

Kirtland Air Force Base, Memorandum of Agreement, Carla Sinopoli, 11/24/2021–1/31/2025, $15,345.00

National Endowment for the Arts, ALL REZ: A Vernacular Response, Carla Sinopoli, 6/1/2024–5/31/2025, $36,000. Terminated by NEA, April 2025.

National Park Service, Documentation and Consultation of Chaco Canyon collections from the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, Kari Schleher, 10/1/2022–9/30/2025, $ 99,346.00

Henry Luce Foundation, Maxwell Museum Co-curated Pueblo Pottery Exhibit, Lea McChesney, 7/1/2024–12/31/2025, $149,999.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, Improving Preservation with Enhanced Storage, Kari Schleher, 10/1/2023-9/30/2026, $349,999. Terminated by NEH, April 2025.

City of Albuquerque, Singing Arrow Archaeological Collections and Exhibition, Carla Sinopoli, 3/2/2022-3/1/2027, $100,000.

* includes continuing and new awards

Museum Research Traineeship Award ($3,000,000)

The Maxwell Museum is one of four UNM units (the others are the Museum of Southwest Biology, Paleontology Collections of Earth and Planetary Sciences, and Geography and Environmental Studies) collaborating in the Museums Research Traineeship Program funded by the National Science Foundation. This 5-year grant supports graduate student training in innovative, interdisciplinary, object-based research.

Endowment earnings

In 2023-2024, the Museum received endowment earnings of $56,543 from the following endowments:

Maxwell Museum Association Endowment for public programs at the Maxwell Museum

Maxwell Museum Endowment for any expenses related to the Museum

Bunting Endowment for collection acquisition, travel expenses, exhibits, and other expenses

Frank C. Hibben Quasi Endowment for research on archaeology collections, educational and public programs, and repairs to the Hibben Center.

Catherine Buchanan Endowment for K-12 outreach

Holzapfel Endowment for curation and research on ethnographic collections

Thanks to our supporters!

Gifts

The Museum received gifts of approximately $45,000 from the following individuals and organizations. We are grateful to all of our donors for their generous support:

ABQ Community Foundation, Sally Davis-Richard Kozoll Fund
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Jeffrey West
Judith Yandoh

and... the annual Navajo rug auction and visitor donations to the Maxwell donation box!

To support the Maxwell Museum visit https://maxwellmuseum.unm.edu/support/donate

Membership

Join the Maxwell Museum community! As a member you will contribute to the unique educational opportunities the Museum offers to UNM and New Mexico communities and support the museum's diverse activities in collections, exhibitions, K-12 education, and public programs.

Members receive special benefits, including invitations to special member-only events and field trips and discounts in our gift store. Members at the Sponsor level or above receive free admission to more than 1300 museum across the country through the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) network. To learn more about membership and download a membership form, visit https://maxwellmuseum.unm.edu/support/membership.

Members reception and tour of "Nothing Left for Me" with Curator Dr. Jennifer Denetdale

Volunteers

Volunteers play a critical role in the workings of the Museum and the Maxwell is fortunate to have a committed and hardworking group of volunteers who give of their time and talents in all of our divisions. Forty-six volunteers generously contributed more than 1400 hours to the Museum in 2024-25. We thank them for sharing their knowledge, energies, commitment, and dedication to anthropology and the Maxwell Museum.

Karen L. Armstrong, Archaeology
Kelly Atkin, Rug Auction
Margy Barol, Archaeology
Deb Beeson, Archaeology
Tim Brown, Archaeology
Suzanna Cole, Education
Helen Crotty, Archives
Phil Downs, Ethnology
Adrian Ennis, Rug auction
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Gustavo Garcia, Rug auction
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Kristina Wolfe, Archaeology
Katie Yellowhair, Exhibits
Diann Zentner, Archaeology

Archaeology collection volunteers at work

To learn about volunteer opportunities at the Maxwell Museum visit our website or email maxwell@unm.edu

Maxwell Museum of Anthropology Staff

Caitlin Ainsworth, BIA Collections Associate
Chris Albert, Preparator
Ashlee Boydston-Schmidt, NAGPRA Coordinator
Ashley Burch, Collection Manager, Osteology
Julián Antonio Carrillo, Curator of Public Programs
Erica Davis, Curator of Education
Lauren Fuka, Registrar and Senior Collection Manager, Ethnology
Toni Gentilli, Curator of Exhibits
Russell ("Rusty") Greaves, Director, Office of Contract Archeology
Alexander Kurota, Archaeology Project Administrator, Office of Contract Archeology
Sandy Lujan, Unit Administrator
Lea McChesney, Curator of Ethnology
Anna Part, Store Manager/Administrative Assistant
Nick Poister, NAGPRA Collections Associate, Archaeology
Karen Price, Senior Collection Manager, Archaeology
Kari Schleher, Curator of Archaeology
Carla M. Sinopoli, Director
Emma Stewart, NAGPRA Collections Associate, Ethnology
Julie Torres, Unit Administrator, Office of Contract Archeology
Diane Tyink, Archivist
Tim Wester, Contracts and Grants Specialist, Office of Contract Archeology
Ricardo Wheat, Sr. Financial Services Technician

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Rear cover: *Luminarias and the Maxwell Museum Courtyard, Holiday Open House, Dec. 2024*