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 2030

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 the passion for learning

(to learn more about the Maxwell Museum’s new Strategic Plan go to page 19)
From the Director

This has certainly not been the year any of us imagined. And it has most definitely been challenging. This report summarizes activities of the Maxwell Museum over the 2019-2020 fiscal year. As you will see, we were going gangbusters with in-person lectures, public programs, exhibitions, educational activities, fieldwork, and collections research until March 14, 2020. That was the last day we were open to the public when the rapidly spreading COVID-19 pandemic led us to close our doors. A few days later, the University began limited operations and staff began working from home, with occasional forays into the Museum to ensure that all was safe in collection and exhibition spaces.

Almost immediately, the Museum shifted gears. Curator of Exhibitions Devorah Romanek created a new online exhibition that takes an anthropological look at COVID-19 and situates pandemics historically and culturally (see p. 11). Curator of Education Amy Grochowski worked to develop new online educational resources for K-12 students as schools closed and online learning began. The Museum went virtual via a series of daily web and social media posts. Archives and collection staff spent their time physically away from the collections working on data records and policy updates—essential tasks that often take second priority in the usual rush of daily activities. And Office of Contract Archeology staff continued conducting analyses and writing reports and were eventually allowed to launch socially-distanced COVID-safe fieldwork. We all got used to meeting on Zoom as we strove to keep working together while we were physically apart. I am extremely proud of the work our staff has accomplished during this extraordinarily challenging time.

The Museum began the year formally launching our strategic planning process (see pp. 19-20). Facilitated by Gail Anderson (Gail Anderson & Associates), staff spent nine months examining the Museum’s strengths and areas for improvement and clarifying our mission and priorities. It was an exciting, and challenging, experience as we worked closely together to chart the next three years. We are excited about the resulting plan, its four initiatives, and the new statements of (and commitments to) the Maxwell Museum’s mission, vision, and values. (p.2)

The Museum and Department of Anthropology completed a successful search for our new joint faculty-curator position in the archaeology of the US Southwest/northern Mexico. I wish to acknowledge the many impressive scholars who applied for the position and thank the search committee (from the Museum: Carla Sinopoli (search chair), Curator Lea McChesney, Interim Curator Chip Wills; from the Department: Professors Heather Edgar, Frances Hayashida, Emily Jones) for making this such a positive and successful search. As a result, on August 1 we were delighted to welcome our new colleague Dr. Kari Schleher as Curator of Archaeology and Assistant Professor of Anthropology. Dr. Schleher, who earned her PhD at UNM in 2010, comes to us from Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and brings impressive expertise in New Mexico archaeology, ceramic analysis, and collections-based research and teaching. We are excited to have her.

Welcoming Kari meant saying good-bye to our Interim Curator of Archaeology, Professor W.H. (Chip) Wills. Chip generously stepped up after the retirement of Curator Dave Phillips in 2018. I am grateful for his many contributions to the Museum. We look forward to continuing to work with him and draw on his deep knowledge of Southwest archaeology and the history of the Maxwell Museum collections and UNM Anthropology.

We also said another good-bye this year: to Mary Beth Hermans, the Museum’s dedicated and overall amazing Public Programs Manager (see p. 13). She is greatly missed. As, of course, are our visitors and volunteers. We hope to see you all back in the Museum before long.
UNM Students at the Maxwell 2019-2020

Each year, hundreds of students from UNM and from colleges and universities across New Mexico and the country visit, conduct research, and work in all the divisions of the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology. In 2019-2020, classes in Anthropology, History of Art, Creative Writing, Law, Fine Arts, Museum Studies, and other UNM undergraduate and graduate programs came to the Museum to engage with objects and learn from museum curators and staff. Maxwell collections are studied in the classroom, as students gain hands-on experience in analyzing and interpreting material evidence. In addition, dozens of students work behind the scenes in the Museum. From assisting in exhibit design and installation, to cataloging and documenting new collections, to helping to develop and lead public and educational programs, students participate in all aspects of the work of the Maxwell Museum. When in-person classes ended in mid-March, the Maxwell continued to serve classes virtually connecting to students via zoom, email, and the web.

UNM Classes in the Maxwell Museum 2019-2020

In 2019-2020 more than 300 students from the following UNM classes had the opportunity to engage with Maxwell Museum exhibits, activities, and collections:

- Anthropology 101: Introduction to Anthropology
- Anthropology 122: Archaeology Lab (multiple sections)
- Anthropology 178: Career Planning
- Anthropology 2190: Forensic Anthropology
- Anthropology 220: World Archaeology (multiple sections)
- Anthropology 321: Southwest Archaeology
- Anthropology 456: Theory of Ethnology
- Anthropology 473L: Laboratory Methods in Archaeology
- Architecture 472: Topics in Design Visualization
- Art History 101: Introduction to Art History
- Arts 1610: Drawing 1
- Arts 429: Textile Technology
- English 224: Creative Writing
- Law 629: Law of Indigenous People
- Museum Studies 407/507: Museum Practices
- Museum Studies 486: Practicum: Museum Methods
- Museum Studies 475: Museum Interpretation
- Museum Studies 485/585: Reimagining the Anthropology Museum
- University Honors 121
UNM Student Employees, Interns, and Student research

62 UNM students (23 undergraduates and 39 graduate students) worked or conducted research in the Maxwell Museum and Office of Contract Archeology in 2019-2020.

Undergraduates
Melanie Anderson, archaeology collections
Alexandria Aragon, visitor services
Alisha Basnet, OCA, administration
April Brown, OCA, lab tech
Jaden Chavez, administration
Lea Duran, archaeology collections
Aide Jovana Esquivel, visitor services
Devan Eaton, osteology lab assistant
Alexandria J. Frey, osteology lab assistant
Michael Gonzalez, visitor services
Ashley Harris, archaeology collections and education
Tyanne Hawthorne, administration
Angela Hristopolous, visitor services
McKenna Johnson, visitor service
Sophie LaBorwit, education
Deborah Mayberry, archives
Elizabeth Medina, administration
Avrey Montoya, archaeology collections
Jacinto Montoya, museum store
Roy Pitrucha, OCA, Lab tech
Ember Richards, museum store
Mandy Woods, OCA, Lab tech
Tim VanZeben, archaeology collections

Graduate Students
Caitlin Ainsworth (Anthropology), Hibben Fellow, archaeology collections
Lea Barnett (Anthropology alumna), exhibition development
Alicia Becenti (Anthropology), Hibben Fellow, archaeology and ethnology collections, OCA
Joe Birkman (Anthropology), Graduate Assistant, archaeology database and collections research for dissertation
Katherine Brewer, Chaco Center collections, education
Hope Casereno (Anthropology), Hibben Fellow, ethnology collections
Roma Castellanos (Anthropology), Hibben Fellow, archaeology collections
Aurelia Dixon, osteology collections
Lillie Dollins (Anthropology), OCA, lab tech
Jon Dombrosky (Anthropology), archaeology collections research for dissertation
Jo Lynne Fenger (Museum Studies), archaeology collections
Sara Foster (Anthropology), Chaco Center collections
Adam Fuchs (Museum Studies), ethnology collections
UNM Students at the Maxwell 2019-2020 (continued)

Moira Garcia (Latin American and Iberian Studies), exhibits, ethnology collections
Zonnie Gorman (Museum Studies and History), Hibben Fellow, public programs and outreach
Aria Holmes (Anthropology) OCA, Lab tech
Cassandra Jenkins (Anthropology), OCA Lab tech
Abigail Judkins (Anthropology), OCA
Meagan Kauffin (Education), exhibits
Cassandra Keyes (Anthropology), archaeology collections, OCA
Jackson Larsons (Museum Studies), exhibits
Sara Leiter (Anthropology), Ortiz Fellow, ethnology exhibition development
Christina Lorenzatto (Anthropology), collections management
Paloma Lopez (Museum Studies), education
Kacey Luna (Museum Studies), archaeology collections
Dylan McLaughlin (Art History), exhibit development
Emily Moes (Anthropology), osteology collections
Jenica Morgan-Smith (Museum Studies), education
Alexis O’Donnell (Anthropology), osteology collections
Janvi Patel, Public Programs assistant
Gabriel Raab Faber (Landscape Architecture), exhibitions
Anna L. Rautman-Medendorp (Anthropology), osteology
Will Riding-In (Museum Studies), Hibben Fellow, education and ethnology collections
Thatcher Rogers (Anthropology), Hibben Fellow, archaeology, archives, and doctoral research, OCA
Bret Salter (Anthropology), Hibben fellow, ethnology
Mariana Lujan Sanders (Anthropology), Hibben Fellow, archaeology collections
Harold Spector (Museum Studies), ethnology collections
Genevieve Woodhead (Anthropology), archaeology collections
Joshua Vallejos (Anthropology), Hibben Fellow, OCA

Non-UNM students
Jessica Potter, Central New Mexico Community College

Did you know
that the Maxwell Museum is one of the largest employers of students on the UNM campus?
New Acquisitions


Under the leadership of Curator of Education Amy Grochowski, the education department kicked off the school year at the Rail Yards Market Old School Days on August 18, 2019. Docents Phyllis Herbertson, Carolyn Minette and Linda Stiles assisted participants in learning about the ancient art of making cordage and in creating their own necklaces and bracelets to take home. In October, the department participated in Teachers Nights in both Albuquerque (Educator’s Night at the Open Space Visitor’s Center 10/2/2020) and Santa Fe (Teachers Night Out, hosted by the Santa Fe Museum Educator’s Network at the Center for Contemporary Arts 10/4/2020). The Museum is grateful for these opportunities to connect with teachers and promote our education programs.

In January 2020, the Maxwell hosted a live remote broadcast of KUNM’s The Children’s Hour and a Passport to People Family Day program. The theme of both events was human evolution. Director Carla Sinopoli, Anthropology Professor Sherry Nelson, and Osteology Laboratory Manager Dr. Carmen Mosley answered questions from Katie Stone and the Kid’s Crew, sharing our work with the live audience as well as listeners on 55 stations across the US and Canada. The broadcast is available at https://www.childrenshour.org/anthropology/. Family day activities included demonstration tables hosted by Drs. Nelson and Mosely, Ancestors exhibit exploration, cave painting, clay animal figure sculpting, fishing for termites using tools like a chimp, dress up, story time, and much more! More than 100 children and adults were in attendance.
The museum kicked off its Maxwell in Motion School Bus program in September, serving seven groups and nearly 300 students before programs were suspended in mid-March due to COVID-19. Prior to closing, the Museum hosted a total of 33 school groups and more than 950 students. After we closed to the public, the education department rapidly shifted gears to developing new online learning materials for at-home instruction, posting new content weekly. Visit our Educational Resources page for more information. In addition, Curator Grochowski and student assistant Sophie LaBorwit developed and participated in a Facebook Live educational program on New Mexico’s acequias in partnership with the Bacechi Open Space

![Docent Diane Shea at the Open Space Visitor’s Center](image)

**K-12 By the Numbers**

- 33 class visits
- 953 K-12 students served
- 7 classes served by the Adopt-A-Bus Program

![Twining cordage at the Rail Yards Mart Old School Days](image)
Exhibitions

Curator of Exhibits Devorah Romanek, Preparator Michael Rendina, and student assistants mounted one temporary exhibition in 2019-2020 and were hard at work on a second when the Museum closed in March. Not to be deterred, Dr. Romanek and student assistant Gabriel Raab-Faber turned their focus to virtual exhibitions, launching a timely and innovative exhibition on Covid-19 in April. Others followed over the summer and still more are in development.

The museum has been trying to take advantage of our closure by doing some much needed repair work in the galleries and ‘back of the house’ areas and has begun planning upgrades of the north temporary exhibition gallery.

VERNACULAR RESPONSE: PHOTOGRAPHY OF RAPHEAL BEGAY (September 2019-Fall 2020)

“With the sky above and the earth below, I find myself connected to the land and to my surroundings. I believe the recollection of self through connection to memory creates a bridge between life and art. Through practicing the art of photography I am able to create my own path and, create community. At the end of the day, I strive to acknowledge and embrace each singular moment; A Vernacular Response.” Rapheal Begay

The work of Diné photographer Rapheal Begay presents an account of the Navajo Nation—without ever directly portraying any people—by focusing on the land and the material and visual culture of the people. By bringing these photographs into our museum and combining them with a small selection of related material culture from our collection, the Navajo Nation, and New Mexico, the Maxwell Museum offers an opportunity to engage with a contemporary portrait of Diné people, picturing the land and culture viewed through the camera lens and words of Raphael Begay.

A Vernacular Response is the documentation of land and environment and the symbolism, perspective, and imagination reflective of the Diné way of life. An ongoing theme in the series is the acknowledgement and celebration of Indigenous innovation and future forward imaging. One can discern the role of creativity within Navajo art and life as a strategy for survival. The Navajo cultural teaching of hozho expresses the intellectual concept of order, the emotional state of happiness, the biological condition of health and well-being, and the aesthetic dimensions of balance, harmony, and beauty. Thus, concept and content become synonymous with one another as both elements become interchangeable within the frame of the image.
Online Exhibition: COVID-19: CONCEPTS OF SICKNESS AND WELLNESS

Museums are places where visitors encounter, explore, and engage with objects, ideas, and topics that are new, familiar, or challenging. And they are (normally) places where people can gather safely. In the face of the global Covid-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology continues and extends our mission with an online exhibition about the current pandemic and different ways to know about it. We are offering this information in partnership with many scholars, institutions, and individuals with the goal to educate and add new perspectives.

To address the larger issues of “sickness” and “wellness”, the exhibition offer sections that approach these topics both in the current moment in New Mexico as well as throughout time and geographic location. “Sickness” includes sections on the history of epidemics, colonialism and the spread of disease in the Americas, and scientific modeling. “Wellness” sections introduce visitors to such topics as dancing for healing, curanderismo, Hopi pottery, and food, among others in the time of Covid-19. Additionally, we have a section for “your story”, presenting stories of people living through this pandemic in real time. We invite you to offer your own story. This exhibition is a living entity that continues to grow and change. Help us to keep it vital by sharing your stories and helpful resources and by checking back for new content! 

https://maxwellmuseum.unm.edu/exhibits/online/covid-19-concepts-sickness-and-wellness

Traveling Exhibitions

Two Maxwell Museum exhibitions traveled to other institutions in 2019-2020.

Archaeology on Ice was on view at the Marquette History Center (Michigan) through December 2019 before travelling to the Yellowstone National Park Heritage Center in Montana where it will be on view through September 2021. An expanded version of Entering Standing Rock: the Protest against the Dakota Access Pipeline was on view at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe from February 23 to December 1, 2019.
Prior to closing to the public on March 14, 2019-2020 featured a busy schedule of in-person public programs. In October 2019, we launched a new series of annual lectures to celebrate International Archaeology Day with two talks on archaeological research at Chaco Canyon. Professor Patricia Crown’s lecture “Chocolate at Chaco and Beyond” drew more than 300 people and was followed by a wine and chocolate fundraising reception and raffle of a beautiful Chaco style cylinder jar made and donated by Laguna, Taos and Hopi potter Lorraine Lewis. A few weeks later, Professor and Interim Curator W.H. (Chip) Wills recounted the remarkable story of UNM archaeological research in Chaco Canyon from the 1930s until today to an audience of more than 150.

Other fall events included the 11th Annual Navajo Rug Auction conducted in collaboration with the R.B. Burnham Trading Company, visits to the Museum by two delegations of heritage professionals and young leaders from Tunisia and Morocco, and a book signing of her 2019 Hardship, Greed and Sorrow: An Officer’s Photo Album of 1866 New Mexico Territory by Curator of Exhibitions Devorah Romanek.
In addition to hosting the Kid’s Hour radio show and Family Day events (see page 8), spring programs included the annual Ancestors Lecture by Professor James Boone on “A Natural History of Houses”, an ambitious talk that spanned the human story from early prehistory to the recent past. In March, Professor Suzanne Oakdale delivered a lecture on Anthropology Day: “Objects of Attraction: Understanding Material Goods in Indigenous Amazonian Cosmologies.” Her fascinating talk was meant to be a lead-in to our forthcoming exhibition *Heartbreak: A Love Story to the National Museum of Brazil*. The opening was unfortunately, delayed by COVID-19; but Professor Oakdale’s fascinating talk provided an excellent introduction to what visitors can look forward to when we reopen.

2019-20 ended with the retirement of long-time Maxwell Museum Public Programs Manager Mary Beth Hermans. Mary Beth has been a valued member of the Maxwell Museum community since 2005 and her grace, creativity, efficiency and extraordinary skills at multi-tasking and building enduring relationships with our volunteers and donors are greatly missed. Rather than organizing public programs, we hope to see her back soon having a good time attending them.
In the Archives and Collections

The Maxwell Museum’s collections are organized into four major divisions: Archaeology, Archives (including paper records and photographs, and, increasingly, born digital records), Ethnology, and Osteology. Together these comprise some three million objects, human remains, images, and records. Most derive from 90+ years of UNM anthropological research; others from donations. The Museum also serves as a repository for Federal, State, Municipal, and Tribal collections. These collections constitute an extraordinary resource for teaching, research, and community engagement. They also pose challenges to care for and document.

As summarized below, through the efforts of our curators, collection managers, student employees, and volunteers and support from several external grants, in 2019-2020 the Museum continued to make substantial progress on several fronts in collection management and documentation. With the closing of the UNM campus and shift to limited operations in mid-March, many aspects of our work came to a halt. In some respects though, being closed allowed staff and some student employees to turn their attention to administrative and record-keeping tasks that tend to take the back burner to the daily demands of pulling collections for classes, supervising students and volunteers, and supporting visiting researchers. Work on collection records and accession files, policy reviews, and developing a standardized vocabulary for documenting and tracking collections are definitely not the glamorous side of museum work. But having accurate records and intellectual control over collections is essential to all else that we do. In addition, recent changes to the design and capabilities of the collection management software we had recently adopted (but not yet fully migrated to) led us to research other databases that could better serve the needs of our large and diverse collections. We are determined to have a fully functional database soon, with online access to allow more researchers, community members, and the public learn about the breadth of the Maxwell collections.

Throughout this period, collections staff and students also contributed to our new daily online posts and staff regularly visited collection storage areas to greet old friends and make sure that no pipes had leaked, insects had invaded, or other harms had occurred to the collections and archives entrusted to our care.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Professor of Anthropology W.H. “Chip” Wills continued in his role as Interim Curator, working alongside Senior Collection Manager Karen E. Price. During FY2019-2020, the Archaeology Collections Division, consisting of Wills and Price, 28 non-student volunteers(!), and 13 UNM graduate and undergraduate students, continued their multi-year inventory project with the goal of inventorying every box and individually catalogued artifact at the Maxwell and in our off-site collection facility. The box-level inventory was completed in June, with a final count of 11,772 boxes of archaeological artifacts housed at the Hibben Center and off-site. This inventory, in concert with reviews of spreadsheets, collections records, and reports from prior inventories is allowing the Division to establish priorities for future rehousing and cataloging projects.

Students and volunteers in the Archaeology Division contributed to these efforts by continuing to process the Museum’s legacy excavated collections (earlier generations of archaeologists clearly preferred excavation to museum cataloging). 144 boxes from New Mexico sites were relocated from the off-site collection facility to the Hibben Center, and were sorted, bagged, tagged, and reboxed.

Ceramic mugs 88.71.9 and 88.71.10 in an archival blueboard and Ethafoam mount made by a student employee
The Division continued work on several grant-funded projects. A collections stewardship grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences supports the rehousing work. A NAGPRA documentation grant for the site of Pottery Mound (LA 416) has supported a re-inventory of NAGPRA-relevant collections from that site as well as consultations with Tribal representatives. Additional grants from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and Army Corps of Engineers are helping us to ensure that collections on repository from those organizations are well cared for and fully documented. While our on-site work largely ceased the last three and a half months of the fiscal year, students and staff continued to work remotely, proofing inventories and reviewing digital records.

ETHNOLOGY

The Museum's new Senior Collection Manager for Ethnology and Registrar Lauren Fuka joined Curator Lea McChesney in the ethnology division in September 2019. Together with six graduate students from Anthropology and Museum Studies, they worked to tackle a backlog of tasks that had accumulated since Lauren’s predecessor left the Museum eight months earlier as well as to begin some exciting new initiatives. Curator McChesney wrapped up activities on the NEH Planning Grant to develop a collections preservation master plan, including submitting a Maxwell Museum White Paper to the Endowment. These efforts provide a foundation for short- and long-term collections preservation planning.

In 2017, the Museum accepted a collection of 110 objects from Guna (Kuna) communities in Panama that had been collected by former Professor and Museum Curator Mari Lyn Salvador (1943-2017). The collection contains objects featured in Salvador’s book *The Art of Being Kuna* and includes many related to healing techniques and music. Over the course of 2019-20, the collection was documented through detailed condition reports, photography, cataloging, labeling, and the construction of archival storage supports and containers.

The Ethnology Division accepted an addition to the Virginia Guess Collection of ethnographic objects from Chiapas, Mexico, and Guatemala. While the prior donation consisted largely of iron house crosses, in this gift Virginia and Robert Guess donated more than 60 textiles, greatly strengthening the Museum’s textile collections from southern Mexico and Guatemala. Work began to condition report, label, and vacuum them until we were forced to close in March. That work will continue in FY21. Division staff also processed several smaller donations of baskets, textiles, ceramics, and other objects.

Museum Studies student Adam Fuchs began compiling information on the Museum’s black ash baskets. This work will be part of Adam’s MA project and will benefit from Curator Lea McChesney’s participation in the *Smithsonian Institution’s Recovering Voices Program* and new and ongoing partnerships with Anishinaabek basket makers.
Ethnographic objects will be featured in (at least) two of the Museum’s forthcoming exhibitions. Latin American and Iberian Studies (LAII) graduate student Moira Garcia worked on condition reports and catalog records of objects that will be in the Brazil exhibit and objects were selected for a forthcoming exhibition celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the opening of the Alfonso Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies.

**OSTEOLOGY**

This past year, Laboratory staff continued to devote much of their time to documenting skeletal remains from the site of records and build its digital database to allow easier access for researchers and staff and to streamline the process of affiliating remains with archaeological material for NAGPRA consultations and repatriations in the future. With COVID-19 affecting all aspects of on-campus learning and research, the Laboratory has been working closely with faculty and students in order to provide access to research collections and equipment.

The Laboratory is grateful to the individuals who have committed to donating their remains to the Documented Skeletal Collection this year. Sadly, a number of donors passed away in 2019-20. We hope that their loved ones take comfort in knowing that their generous gift will teach anthropologists for generations to come.

**ARCHIVES**

During FY 2019-2020, Maxwell Museum Archivist Diane Tyink spent approximately four months rehousing, organizing, and cleaning up donor and accession records. These are the essential legal documents for the Maxwell’s collections that allow us to track all of the collections and the research projects and individual donors that brought them to the museum.

Archivist Tyink continues to work on arranging and rehousing the Museum’s extensive archival records. The Maxwell General Archives records have been arranged and a Finding Aid is almost ready. Office of Contract Archeology (OCA) papers and photographs are about 50% arranged and re-housed, but only the general papers for OCA and some of the smaller collections are close to having a Finding Aid. Records associated with several large OCA projects are in the queue to be prepared for researchers.

With the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Museum’s Archivist began working from home inventorying the Museum’s large photographic collection. As part of this work, all data was double checked in preparation to being loaded into the collection database.
Office of Contract Archeology

Fiscal Year 2020 was a busy and productive year for the Office of Contract Archeology (OCA), a research division of the Maxwell Museum. OCA secured sixteen (16) project contracts from a range of clients, including: 5 for the U.S. National Park Service; 5 for private sector clients; 1 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / U.S. Department of Defense (White Sands Missile Range); 1 for the City of Albuquerque; 1 (grant) for the USDI Bureau of Land Management; 1 for the N.M. Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Division; and 2 for the N.M. State Land Office. These contracts total $1,286,289. OCA secured fewer projects this year than last, but the average value per project was significantly higher this year than last ($80,393 vs. $52,423 last year).

OCA staff produced eight major technical reports and published one journal article. Staff made six presentations to amateur archaeological societies and other regional avocational archaeological group.

OCA also had booths at the 2019 Isleta Pueblo Environmental Fair and the 2020 UNM Anthropology Job Fair. Under the guidance of staff, participants in the 2019 Maxwell Museum’s annual summer camp conducted excavations at a simulated archaeological site created by OCA.

Robin Cordero, OCA Project Director, giving a site tour at Albuquerque's Singing Arrow Park, site of an early Spanish settlement.
Publications by Maxwell Museum and OCA Staff

Books

Devorah Romanek
2019 *Hardship, Greed and Sorrow: An Officer’s Photo Album of 1866 New Mexico Territory.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press.

Articles and editorials

Vance T. Holliday, Robert D. Dello-Russo, and Susan M. Mentzer

Lea McChesney

Keith Hunley, Heather Edgar, M. Healy, and Carmen Mosley

Reports

Robin Cordero
2019 A 556-acre Cultural Resources Inventory of Sierra Grande, Union County, New Mexico. OCA/UNM Report No. 185-1288.

Erin Hegberg
2019 South Rim Trail: An 89 Acre Cultural Resource Inventory within Petroglyph National Monument, Bernalillo County, New Mexico. OCA Report No. 185-1253, Office of Contract Archeology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque NM. NMCRIS No. 141599
Maxwell Museum Strategic Plan: 2020-2023

In Fall 2019, the Maxwell Museum launched what would become a ten-month effort to develop a new strategic plan. The last plan was created 15 years earlier. We wanted our new plan to capture changes in staff and priorities within the Maxwell, as well as new directions in anthropology and the larger museum world. More than a list of to-dos (though it is that), the planning process allowed us to reimagine the Museum: its relations with source and descendent communities and the Maxwell’s place within the University and the larger museum ecosystem of New Mexico. The result was an exciting new plan, with an updated mission statement, new values and vision statements (see p. 1), and clearly articulated priorities with specific steps to achieve them (look for the full plan on our website soon).

The Museum hired consultant Gail Anderson (Gail Anderson & Associates) to guide us through the planning process. Anderson is the editor of the 2019 book *Mission Matters: Relevance and Museums in the 21st Century* and of *Reinventing the Museum* (second edition, 2012). She has worked with more than 65 museums and cultural institutions and brought clarity, commonsense, wisdom, and good humor to our efforts to shape a plan that is both aspirational and achievable. From the start, we engaged diverse stakeholders across and beyond UNM. To launch the planning process, Gail met with Museum staff and with more than 40 other individuals including UNM leaders and administrators, anthropology faculty and students, Native faculty and colleagues from other UNM museums, programs and departments, K-12 educators, staff from other Albuquerque museums, and volunteers and docents—asking them to share their experiences of, and hopes for, the Maxwell Museum. Building from this information, Museum staff (including the Office of Contract Archeology) met two days each month from September through May to define our vision and clarify priorities—meeting as a whole and in smaller groups to develop and refine the plan’s four major initiatives and the specific outcomes we seek to achieve over each of the three years encompassed in the plan.
All of our work to address the initiatives described below will be conducted and evaluated by how well they meet the Maxwell’s mission of “working toward greater understandings of the fullness of human experiences in the Southwest and the world” (plurals intentional) and the Museum’s decolonizing vision (our ‘3Rs’) of: Reconciling injustices, Restoring voices, and Realizing community. The plan’s four initiatives are:

**Grow Public Engagement:** this initiative prioritizes efforts to better understand our diverse audiences in order to better serve and partner with them. It includes efforts to: increase public and community accessibility to all areas of the museum; refine our communications strategies and methods; continue to offer timely, exciting, and informative exhibitions, programs, and events as we work to reimagine and reinstall our permanent exhibitions; and to regularly evaluate and make informed decisions concerning all of our activities.

**Expand Knowledge, Content, and Accessibility:** this initiative addresses issues of scholarly research by museum staff, students, and visiting researchers, as well as access to and management of the remarkable collections entrusted to the Museum’s care. It affirms the Museum’s ongoing commitment to both academic research and to our work with Tribal and source community representatives on issues of repatriation, research protocols, and the respectful care of, and access to, collections. It also lays out steps for improved collection documentation and digitization and strategies to ensure that museum policies and standards remain current with best practices and the highest ethical standards.

**Integrate Organizational Structure:** this initiative focuses on the internal workings of the Museum and addresses staffing needs, priorities, and organization as well as larger infrastructure and space needs.

**Build Financial Sustainability:** emphasizes improving internal and external budgeting and multi-pronged revenue generation and fundraising to create more robust and sustainable financial support for the Museum.

COVID-19 and the UNM’s transition to limited operations arrived as we were completing the plan and our last two months of meetings were held virtually. Some of our priorities may well move up or down our to-do list over the next several months as we adapt to the new normal. Whatever the future brings, we are excited to work with our UNM and New Mexico communities to make the plan a reality.
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. We thank all 57 volunteers who worked in and with the Museum in 2019-20. From guiding K-12 students through the exhibits, to presenting our Traveling Trunks in schools, to participating in community events, education docents share the excitement of anthropology with thousands of members of the greater Albuquerque community each year. The Wednesday morning archaeology team has (until Covid-19) been gathering weekly for 16 years to help rehouse and reorganize legacy archaeology collections. Volunteers also assist with graphic design for newsletters and promotional materials, collection photography, organizing and displaying textiles at the annual rug auction, and editing and publishing our on-line technical reports, among other essential museum tasks.

We temporarily halted our volunteer program in March and have greatly missed seeing and interacting with our volunteer friends and partners. We look forward to welcoming everyone back when it is safe to return to full operations.

2019-2020 Maxwell Museum Volunteers

Karen Armstrong  Heather Edgar  Maggie Knight  Sorayah Romero
Parker Barne  Jo Lynne Fenger  Kitry Krause  Lawrence Sanchez
Margery Barol  Ginger Foerster  Emily Kvamme  Lou Schuyler
Richard Berg  Barbara Frames  George Lausier  Diana Shea
Patricia Bolton  Lee Frames  Kathryn Linn  Jason Shelton
Marcy Brandenberg  Hayward Franklin  Kendall Lovely  Jon S. Steen
Carol Brown  Sandra Greigo  Joanne Magalis  Joan Stigliani
Tim Brown  Mike Hauter  Carolyn Minette  Linda Stiles
Waynette Burnett  Ashley Harris  Judy Muller  David Vaughn
Kym Campbell  Phyllis Herbertson  Audrey Murray  Richard Ward
John Cooper  Bob Hildenbrand  Julia Myers  Carry Wilcox
Helen Crotty  Catherine Hobbs  Tom Ocken  Robert Wilcox
Barbara Douglas  Mike Hymel  David Phillips  Diann Zentner
Phil Downs  Lisa Jackson  Eric Reinhart
Bruce Edgar  Timothy James

Normally, we celebrate our volunteers at an annual spring luncheon at which we thank all the volunteers and especially recognize the extraordinary commitment of long-term volunteers. This year, we do that here with especial appreciation to the following for:

15 years of volunteer commitment: Karen Armstrong, Tim Brown, Lou Schuyler, Diane Zentner
10 years: of volunteer commitment: Kym Campbell, Kath Linn
5 years of volunteer commitment: Phyllis Herbertson, Tom Ocken, Diana Shea, Linda Stiles

Thanks to all the volunteers for all you do to support the Maxwell!
The Maxwell Museum budget derives from multiple sources, most importantly the UNM College of Arts and Sciences. Additional support for various aspects of our operations comes from other UNM programs, external grants, endowments, and donations. In 2019-20, College support funded Maxwell Museum staff salaries (excluding OCA) and provided $15,000/year for operating expenses, $10,000 for exhibitions, and $8000 to support the hiring of work-study student employees. In 2019-20, as in previous years, the Museum received support from the Alfonso Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies for our exhibition program and from the Museum Studies program for activities involving their students.

Grants

Office of Contract Archeology

*National Park Service (Guadalupe Mountains).* Geoarchaeological Study at Guadalupe Mountains National Park, $36,622

*National Park Service (Bandelier).* Bandelier Tsankawi Cavates Survey, $49,999; Dunes Survey, $43,919.

*National Park Service (Valles Caldera).* Valles Caldera 2019 CESU, $399,999; Valles Caldera Rim Trail Field Techs $24,743; Section 110 $65,000; MOD 7 Developing Skills Survey, $400,000

*National Park Service (Petroglyph National Monument).* Piedras Marcadas Trails Survey, $9024, $5178

*National Park Service (Petroglyph National Monument).* Developing an Archaeological Monitoring Plan, $206,000

*Ski Santa Fe.* Ski Santa Fe Gayway Line Survey, $8194; Archaeological Survey $10,060

*City of Albuquerque.* Archaeological Investigations at Singing Arrow Park, $61,330, $13,000

*White Sands Missile Range.* Davies Tank Site Identification and Protection, $186,489; Damage Assessment & Protection Testing, $206,500

*Parametrix.* 3D Printing Floyd Biface, $1096

*Environmental Corp of America,* Rabbit Mountain AT&T site survey, $3,305

*National Trust for Historic Preservation.* Rancho Jacona Survey and Register Eligibility, $18,868

*SLO.* Sierra Grande Survey, $36,098

*Bureau of Land Management.* Perishable artifacts from caves and rock shelters in the Guadalupe Mountains, $200,000

*Bungalow Media & Entertainment.* Roswell UFO Site Testing, $41,309

*New Mexico State Land Office.* Mystery Stone Survey, $40,519; Bearcat Archaeological Survey, $23,360

*Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc.* CDOT MOD 2 Osteological Services, $28,342

*New Mexico Army National Guard.* Tribal Consultations, $20,000

Museum Projects

*Bureau of Indian Affairs.* Documentation and curation of BIA collections, $61,364

*Bureau of Land Management.* Documentation and curation of artifacts from the site of Feather Cave, $10,000

*National Park Service.* Cataloguing of Chaco Canyon collections held by the NPS, $30,898

*National Park Service NAGPRA Collection Documentation Grant.* Documentation and Tribal Consultations of collections from the Pottery Mound Site, $89,901

*Army Corps of Engineers.* Documentation and cataloguing of CoE collections, $33,237

*Institute of Museum and Library Sciences.* Rehousing legacy archaeology collections, $131,604

*National Endowment for the Humanities Preservation and Assistance.* To purchase archival storage cabinets for museum records, $9,961
Memberships, Endowments and Gift Funds

Membership in the Maxwell Museum, donations, and earnings from endowments support essential museum operations including collection care, K-12 educational programs, exhibitions and public programs, museum security, and professional training for our staff. In 2019-20, the Museum received endowment earnings of approximately $34,750 from:

- 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

The Museum received donations of approximately $56,340 to the following funds:

- Maxwell Museum General Fund
- Maxwell Museum Education, Curation and Research Fund
- Sargeant Fund for Historic Preservation
- Maxwell Exhibits Fund
- Maxwell Archives and Library Fund
- Garth and Elaine Bawden Adopt-A-Bus Fund

We particularly thank the following:

- The Frank C. Hibben Trust, for a generous award to the Maxwell Adopt-A-Bus program to support field trips to the Museum by K-12 students from Title 1 schools (now being used to create “virtual field trips” until physical field trips are again possible).

- The Albuquerque Archaeological Society and an anonymous donor for support to provide full scholarships to participants in the Maxwell Museum Summer Camp. (The camp was cancelled in 2020; the funds will be used to support campers in 2021).

- The Estate of Alan and Joyce Shalette for a generous gift to support public programs and planning for renovations in the Maxwell archives and galleries.

- Lorraine Gala Lewis, Chocolate Cartel, and Kelly Atkin (Caldwell Banker Legacy) for their generous donations to the Chocolate at Chaco fundraising reception and auction.

To support the Maxwell Museum visit  https://maxwellmuseum.unm.edu/get-involved/give
The Maxwell Museum extends our deepest gratitude and appreciation to Professor of Anthropology Wirt H. (Chip) Wills who served as Interim Curator of Archaeology at the Maxwell from 2018 through July 2020.
Maxwell Museum Staff

Carla M. Sinopoli, Director
Robin Cordero, Archaeology Project Administrator, Office of Contract Archeology
Robert Dello-Russo, Director, Office of Contract Archeology
Alex Denning, Senior Collection Manager, Osteology
Lauren Fuka, Registrar and Senior Collection Manager, Ethnology
Amy Grochowski, Curator of Education
Scott Gunn, Programmer Analyst, Office of Contract Archeology
Erin Hegberg, Archaeology Field Director, Office of Contract Archeology (through December 2020)
Mary Beth Hermans, Public Programs Manager (through July 31, 2020)
Lisa Marie Johnson, Accountant
Kimberly Kachirisky, Administrative Assistant, Office of Contract Archeology
Alex Kurota, Archaeologist, Office of Contract Archeology
Sandy Lujan, Unit Administrator
Donna Lasusky, Unit Administrator, Office of Contract Archeology (through April 2020)
Banks Leonard, Archaeologist, Office of Contract Archeology
Lea McChesney, Curator of Ethnology
Carmen Mosley, Supervisor, Laboratory of Osteology
Karen Price, Senior Collection Manager, Archaeology
Michael Rendina, Exhibits Preparator
Devorah Romanek, Curator of Exhibits
Julie Torres, Unit Administrator, Office of Contract Archeology (from March 2020)
Diane Tyink, Archivist
W.H. “Chip” Wills, Interim Curator of Archaeology

(We couldn’t do all we do without our many student employees, interns, and volunteers. See them listed on pages 4-6 and 21)