



# THE MAXWELL

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

VOLUME 46 NO.1  
SUMMER 2016

## Maxwell receives National Endowment for the Arts award

### INSIDE:

#### Director's Column

#### Student Practicum

#### Welcome New Staff

#### Staff Achievements

#### Curators Circle

The Maxwell Museum has been awarded a \$40,000 grant under the National Endowment for the Arts-National Park Service (NPS/NEA) collaborative initiative "Imagine Your Parks" to support Native artists' residencies and access the renowned Chaco archeological collections housed at the NPS Chaco Museum repository on the UNM campus and in the Maxwell Museum.

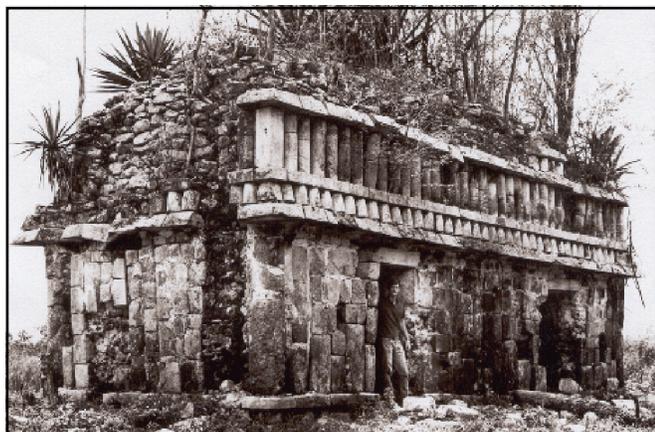


*Puerco black-on-white ceramic bowl, Cibola (Chaco)  
MM 37.32.37*

Ceramics, stone, shell, wood, and other materials dated AD 1-1250 and excavated from 1907 to the present comprise the NPS Chaco Culture Museum collection. The Maxwell Museum collections in similar media were excavated in the prewar years by University of New Mexico Anthropology field schools, and date from AD 700-1300. Access to both collections, coupled with the context of Chaco Culture National Historical Park (CCNHP) on a grant funded field trip to the site, offers an unprecedented opportunity to inspire new work by contemporary artists in various media. Open to established and rising Native artists selected by a jury of recognized Native artists, Maxwell and Chaco Culture National Historic Park staff, the project will invite ten artists to create new work based in ancient traditions through their residency. Artists selected to interpret these collections in residency will represent Pueblo Nations and the Navajo Nation claiming Chaco for their cultural heritage. The residencies will provide for dialogue among the artists, museum staff, and UNM faculty and students. Led by Lea McChesney, Maxwell Curator of Ethnology, the project fosters continuity and innovation in Native art from the Southwest.

Residency in Albuquerque will be followed by a tour of CCNHP, hosted by NPS interpretive staff, providing access to the larger cultural context of ancient Southwest artistic traditions. Chaco Culture National Historical Park, a World Heritage Site in northwest New Mexico, is the ancestral home of all contemporary Puebloan peoples and the Navajo Nation. Noted especially for monumental architecture and art from 850-1250 AD, the park still serves as a site of inspiration and sacred identity. At the end of the residency, the Maxwell Museum, NPS Chaco Museum, Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies and Indian Pueblo Cultural Center will host a public reception introducing the artists to museum members, the UNM community, the Albuquerque public, and members of the artists' home communities.

continued on page 3



Dave Phillips, Yucatan, 1979

## DIRECTOR'S COLUMN DAVID ATLEE PHILLIPS

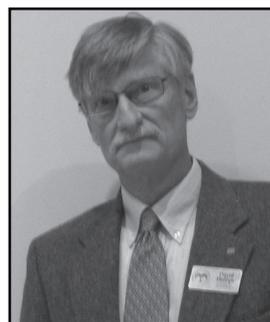
### *Promoting Student Success at the Maxwell Museum*

Many newsletter readers know me as a curator of archaeology — my job at the Maxwell Museum since 2003. Last December I began serving as the interim director of the museum, after James Dixon's retirement. (We all wish Jim, his wife Mim, and their new boat many happy adventures on the Great Lakes.)

I'll use my new bully pulpit to discuss an aspect of the museum that's not apparent to visitors, and that may not be obvious to our long-time friends. As part of the University of New Mexico, the Maxwell Museum supports three UNM goals: student success, scholarly research, and public outreach. Because we're part of a public university, student success is arguably the most important of those goals. Even though the Maxwell Museum is not a teaching department, the museum staff can teach through other departments. Also, the museum can enrich student learning in ways that regular classwork cannot. A student who has worked on collections in addition to taking classes will become a better-prepared and more competitive professional than one who has not.

A few numbers will help me make my case. During Spring Semester 2016, the museum provided direct learning enrichment opportunities for 36 UNM graduate students, 35 UNM undergraduates, and nine students from other schools. Of these students, 49 received financial support as part of their involvement in the museum. The museum's staff also taught multiple classes through UNM's Anthropology Department and Museum Studies Program, reaching 38 students. Finally, the staff also served on graduate committees for 11 doctoral students and four master's students. Most of these contacts between staff and students were on an individual basis or through small classes, meaning that the students received the sort of personal encouragement or mentoring that's so hard to find at a large public university.

The readers of this newsletter are also part of our formula for student success. Many of you support the museum because of positive museum experiences that helped shape your life. In turn, your support helps us transmit that spark of excitement and curiosity to a new generation. During the current fiscal year (July 2016–June 2017), 100 percent of revenue from memberships (including yours) will support work-study positions. If you'd like to support a UNM student working at the museum, consider upping your membership contribution, and if you aren't a member please join the Friends!



*Dave was born and raised in Latin America. He earned a Bachelor of Arts with Honors from Prescott College and Master of Arts and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. His dissertation subject was Postclassic Maya artifacts from the island of Cozumel, Mexico. Dave taught archaeology at the University of California, Santa Cruz, served as an archaeological and historic preservation consultant, worked at the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies, and in 2003 joined the Maxwell as Curator of Archaeology. He is also a Research Associate Professor in UNM's Department of Anthropology. Dave has been active in Southwest archaeology since 1970 and has participated in the writing or production of more than 100 publications. His research interests include the archaeology of the U.S. Southwest and northwest Mexico and quantitative modeling of archaeological problems.*

## Green Fund Grant Supports Data Collection

The Maxwell Museum received a University of New Mexico Green Fund grant in the amount of \$12,573 from the Office of Sustainability, for environmental monitoring and data collection. The grant provided funds to begin implementation of recommendations from the Museum's 2014 Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) of the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. Funds were used to purchase equipment to monitor the diverse environments of 21 collections storage areas distributed over three facilities (Hibben Center, Maxwell Museum, and Warehouse storage for bulk archaeology materials). Data on the microclimates of individual storage areas and their impact on collections will be used to determine measures for energy conservation, enhancing a project already underway through UNM's Physical Plant Department (PPD) to upgrade the Maxwell Museum's HVAC system and orienting the Museum towards energy efficiency in collections stewardship. The data will also be used for a planning grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections Program (SCHC) in December 2016 to develop a collections preservation master plan.

Students of the Collections Management class taught by Dorothy Larson, Maxwell Data Manager, received first-hand instruction in environmentally sustainable collections preservation and responsible collections stewardship. Under Senior Collections Manager Meghan Truckey's supervision, students downloaded data from data loggers, took light measurements and monitored blue scale textile fading cards, and monitored water bugs for flooding and sticky traps for pest activity in all storage areas. Their recorded findings will help the museum formulate its long-term preservation plans. Students learned of the direct connection between environmental, social, and cultural sustainability as these concern the preservation and management of cultural heritage resources.

On April 15, the class took a field trip to the Center for New Mexico Archaeology in Santa Fe to tour the new state of the art facility for archaeology collections led by Collections Manager Crystal Kieffer, who is also a graduate student in the UNM Department of Anthropology and Museum Studies Program.



*Maxwell staff and students of Collections Management at the New Mexico Center for Archaeology in Santa Fe*

The University of New Mexico Green Fund is a collection of resources meant to be used in pursuance of sustainability at UNM. This fund's establishment is to promote all types of sustainability: environmental, social, and economic. The Green Fund as an operable tool that should function to assist UNM and subsidiaries in accomplishing long term viability via providing opportunities and initiatives that would otherwise go unfunded. Museum staff acknowledged the support of the Green Fund Committee through this grant to the students who used and benefited from this funded proposal

## Maxwell receives NEA funding From page 1

Artists will return to their communities to reflect upon their experiences, share them with community members, and produce new works of art. A proposal to mount an exhibition of new work and associated public programming stemming from the residencies will be submitted to the NEA in the spring of 2017.

"Imagine Your Parks" is a grant initiative from the National Endowment for the Arts created in partnership with the National Park Service to support projects that use the arts to engage people within memorable places and landscapes of the National Park System. 2016 is the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service, while the NEA celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2015.

## Earth, Life and Fire: Six Thousand Years of Chinese Ceramics

On Friday, April 8th, the Maxwell Museum opened an ambitious new exhibition tracing a path of Chinese ceramics from the Neolithic age to the 21st century. Combining ancient vessels and contemporary critique by Ai Wei Wei, the exhibition explores culture, political discourse and aesthetics. The exhibit is created by Maxwell Director David Atlee Phillips and Curator of Exhibition Deborah Romanek and features the Eason Eige collection and contemporary Chinese ceramic artists.

Early China included dozens of cultures spread over many centuries. Imperial rule absorbed disparate groups and was itself replaced by a republic. Over time, the rough-hewn and hand-built evolved to the elegant, reflecting changes in Chinese culture and political life. Earth, Fire and Life:

Six Thousand Years of Chinese Ceramics chronicles a changing culture through the quintessentially Chinese technology, ceramics. Ritual vessels, tomb offerings, and cutting edge sculpture portray a culture in transformation. Chinese ceramics epitomize the country's lasting contributions to world civilization. China's historical role in the global ceramics market is so pervasive that in English, "china" is a synonym for porcelain and similar wares.

The exhibition celebration opened with a traditional Lion Dance viewed by an overflow crowd of two hundred, who also enjoyed food from local Chinese restaurant Ho Lo Ma and music by Albuquerque native Mike Ning. Ongoing programming for the exhibit includes contemporary artists lectures, and the first, presented by Liya Wan whose porcelain ceramic landscape Thousands of Kilometers of Landscape is a favorite in the exhibition. Having travelled from Txingdogen (pronounced jingdojen) China via Los Angeles, Mr. Liya presented an overview of his work to an enthusiastic crowd.



*A traditional Lion Dance performed at the opening of Earth, Fire, and Life.*



*2012.91.212, painted jar, low-fired pottery; 2500–2300 B.C.  
Eason Eige Collection; photo, T. Ocken*

Funding for the exhibition and related public programming comes from the New Mexico Humanities Council, The Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies, the Chan Family, Ed Jeung and the PNM.

The companion exhibition Chinese Americans of New Mexico opened with Earth, Fire, and Life. Based on Census data, roughly 7,000 New Mexicans are Chinese-Americans. Many individuals are third or fourth generation citizens, and despite encounters with lingering prejudice they see themselves as Americans whose ancestors happen to have lived in China. The exhibition tells the story of Chinese settlement in New Mexico from railroad workers of the late 1880's to contemporary business people.

You can check it out on our Flickr album for photos of the entire Lion dance at the Maxwell Flickr site: <http://ow.ly/Abra300QLv4>

## Robert Holzapfel Donation to the Maxwell Museum's Ethnology Department

by *Lea S. McChesney, Curator of Ethnology*

In Spring 2016 the Maxwell Museum received a significant financial and object donation from Robert Holzapfel, UNM Professor Emeritus of German, as an accretion to his previous donations. With this new donation, the Robert Holzapfel Collection of the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology's Ethnology Program now consists of well over 100 items donated over a forty year period, from 1975-2016. The items were collected on Holzapfel's extensive travels across the globe, with the majority of the col-



*Handwoven and brocaded woman's huipil from the Holzapfel collection*



*Blue woven sash with small parallel bands of pink warps from the Holzapfel collection.*

lection representing the heart of his collecting interest in textiles from Mexico, Guatemala, and South America. These items represent Dr. Holzapfel's true avocation and devotion. In addition to objects, Dr. Holzapfel donated a small library of books on Maya culture and ephemera acquired on his travels.

Robert Holzapfel's lifelong interest has created a resource available to the Museum's staff, outside researchers, and continued generations of UNM students. The use of his collection for publication, exhibition, and public programs will reach wide audiences. Dr. Holzapfel's notable generosity of a \$250,000 gift enabled the establishment of an endowment that will benefit students, textile and cultural specialist in utilizing these collections. A portion of the Holzapfel gift will be used to upgrade the Museum's database and access to all of its holdings. For his foresight and largesse, the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology is truly grateful to Dr. Robert Holzapfel.

## 8th Annual Navajo Rug Auction November 19, 2016 Prairie Star Restaurant, Bernalillo

**11am Viewing**  
**1pm Auction**

*Coming Soon!*

More than two hundred traditional and contemporary handmade rugs by weavers of New Mexico and Arizona will be on display and available for purchase. The only local Navajo rug auction, it will feature a wide range of styles in both historic and contemporary rugs.

Whether you are a collector or just learning, this is a great opportunity to view a variety of styles and learn the history of Navajo rug weaving. Browse, bid, and take home a unique handmade textile. Proceeds benefit Navajo weavers and the Maxwell Museum.

The auction will be led by auctioneers from The R. B. Burnham & Co. Trading Post. Bruce Burnham and his family are well known for their work in trading Native art of the four corners area for five generations. Their expertise in buying, selling, and trading has earned the respect of area collectors and peers nationwide.



*Volunteers display an historic Navajo*

# Uncovering the mystery of very early humans in New Mexico

*UNM archeologists and students follow the clues of stone and bone*

By Karen Wentworth

Shaggy, heavy-shouldered bison have grazed the wide open spaces of the American Southwest for thousands of years. They made a tempting target for the hunters who walked the empty landscape between 9,000 and 13,000 years ago. The bison were attracted to a lush landscape where wetlands created by mountain runoff stretched across hundreds of acres west of Socorro, New Mexico. The hunters were attracted to the bison.



*Excavation in progress in Water Canyon.*

In 2000, archeologist Robert Dello-Russo was hired by the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center (EMRTC) at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology to survey land where they wanted to build a new observation facility for explosives research. He contracted to look for archeological sites on the state-owned land, and found much more than anyone expected. “We found the Water Canyon Paleo-Indian site and a lot of other early Holocene sites because we were right at the edge of this big alluvial fan so there were other sites eroding out and basically, we said well if you are going to build this, you are going to have to move it some place that is not littered with archeological sites,” said Dello-Russo. The EMRTC scientists didn’t realize an obscure part of their 14-square-mile field laboratory was a major archeological site.

In the years since, Dello-Russo and colleagues have returned to the site to explore the scope of the ancient wetlands, finding more and more evidence that the best documented earliest humans, known as Paleo-Indians hunted here. Among the artifacts uncovered are spear and/or atlatl (throwing stick) points from the Clovis people, who hunted here more than 13,000 years ago; from the Folsom people who hunted here more than 12,000 years ago; from the Cody Complex hunters who butchered bison and left the bones around 10,800 years ago; and from the late Paleo-Indian people who hunted across this landscape around 9,200 years ago.

One possibility this particular archaeological site may offer is the opportunity to understand how bison evolved. “There is this evolutionary trajectory from the late Pleistocene where bison go from being *Bison antiquus*, which is a species that was 10 to 20 percent larger than modern day bison, to the Holocene when they became the smaller, modern bison or *Bison bison*,” said Dello-Russo.

Last summer Dello-Russo conducted a field school for undergraduate archaeology students at the site. The students learned how to document and catalog what they excavated, and heard from visiting experts about a wide range of related topics, including the finer points of how to trace the stone in tools found at Water Canyon back to a prehistoric stone quarry from which it came. Dello-Russo is searching now for graduate students to take back to Water Canyon to learn more about those quarries. The search for answers at Water Canyon will continue for years. There is endless opportunity for archeologists and students to learn about the elusive pre-historic hunters, the remains of their successful hunts, and the beautifully wrought stone spear points they left as part of the story of their effort to survive in the endless landscape of the American Southwest.



*The jaw, including teeth, of a bison as it looked during excavation in Water Canyon*

continued on page 7

## Pristine Prehistoric and Ranching Landscapes

### *OCA Conducts 10,000 Acre Survey on Historic Ranches in Northeastern New Mexico*

By Erin Hegberg

This spring OCA archaeologists have documented nearly 200 sites located on the historic Bell and Trigg Ranches, north of Tucumcari. The survey was conducted for NM Department of Game and Fish prior to habitat restoration for elk and antelope. The project was a unique opportunity to document nearly pristine archaeology in a region that has been private land since 1824.

Archaeologists documented artifacts ranging from the Paleoindian period until the 1930s. Sites include undisturbed rock shelters, lithic scatters, Hispanic homesteads, and a WPA rural schoolhouse from 1936.



*Prehistoric rock shelter with Christian Solfisburg.*

*Archaic or Late Prehistoric quartzite projectile point.*

### **Uncovering the mystery of early humans** From page 7

Since 2014, Dello Russo has been the director of the Office of Contract Archeology (OCA), a division of the Maxwell Museum that functions as a team of professional archaeologists that can be hired to do research. Students and OCA staff work under contract to various state and federal agencies and with private companies in need of surveys and reports on archeological sites. The work ranges from excavating artifacts to helping the U.S. National Park Service build their history exhibits to assisting pipeline companies find routes that won't damage historical treasures. Depending on the ebb and flow of contracts, Dello-Russo hires dozens of students to work in the field and in the laboratory.

*More on Water Canyon at <http://news.unm.edu/news/uncovering-the-mystery-of-very-early-humans-in-new-mexico>*

## Maxwell Laboratory of Human Osteology: Science at UNM

Take a walk down an unassuming hallway in The University of New Mexico's Maxwell Museum of Anthropology and you might just find a group of researchers looking to the dead for answers.

UNM's Laboratory of Human Osteology focuses on a number of aspects of biological anthropology. The lab serves as a repository of human remains and is one of the largest in the country, according to Curator Dr. Heather Edgar. As a component of the Maxwell Museum, students and researchers have the opportunity to work with materials many scientists never have access to. "We house approximately 4,000 sets of human remains and about 6,000 orthodontic records," said Dr. Edgar, who is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology. "We curate remains mostly in the form of skeletons, but we do have some mummies and other materials as well."



*Osteology Curator Dr. Heather Edgar*

The number and variety of human remains in the collection, ranging from prehistoric Native American to modern documented remains, are truly what set the program apart. "It's a unique resource. Very few other universities in the country have these kinds of materials readily available," said Dr. Edgar. "It's an amazing collection, both in terms of the documented collection and in terms of the Precontact remains," said Anna Medendorp Rautman, a Ph.D. candidate in Evolutionary Anthropology. "The collections are just phenomenal in terms of teaching, and what we can learn from the remains."

The lab's documented skeletal collection was established in 1984 and includes nearly 300 known individuals, all with varying amounts of demographic data. For the last 25 years, prospective donors or their families have been asked to provide

health, lifestyle, and occupational information, making the collection extremely valuable for a variety of research. Graduate students or visiting researchers are able to use the collection to examine skeletal manifestations of particular diseases like cancer or osteoporosis. The documented remains can also be used as a comparative sample to help identify unknown remains in forensic investigations. It is through this work that Dr. Edgar and her team are occasionally asked to assist the Office of the Medical Investigator with unsolved cases, including the high profile 'West Mesa Murders' in 2009.

Along with these practical applications, Dr. Edgar said the remains are also used for research into contemporary human variation and evolution. "If you want to understand some things about human evolution, it's required that you understand contemporary human variation," she said. "What are the factors that shape the bodies of people today? How are they reacting to the environment? How are people interacting with each other and how is that reflected in biological remains?" It's in answering these questions, Dr. Edgar said, that scientists use the remains at UNM to continue to understand how evolution works and how it has shaped the human body.

The lab also houses a large number of skeletal remains excavated from various prehistoric Native American sites around New Mexico. Many of them came to UNM after being unearthed by archaeologists at UNM and other institutions prior to 1960. Other Native American remains are curated at the University for federal agencies, like the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

continued on page 9

## Education Creates a 3D Makerspace

This summer, in addition to all the other fun, hands-on activities, Maxwell Museum summer campers digitally scanned and printed in 3D, objects in the education collection. Digital imaging offers a new way of exploring museum objects and 3D printing adds a whole new dimension. The pieces can be explored in a number of platforms, and printing scale models of special objects serves as keepsakes for campers. The digital files can be shared with schools, libraries and other institutions of learning to explore our collection, and for those organizations with 3D printers of their own, print replicas, providing opportunities for those that don't otherwise have access to the Maxwell Museum exhibits and collections.



*3D Replica of Saint Francis holding birds 3"x 4"*

## New Staff: Archaeology Collections Manager



Archaeology Collections Manager Karen E. Price came to the Maxwell Museum from Virginia, she spent the past five years working as an historical archaeologist at George Washington's Mount Vernon. Karen has an MA in Artefact Studies from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London where her research focused on pre-Columbian Andean workbaskets that contain artifacts related to textile production. Karen also specializes in preservation photography, teaching workshops and consulting with archaeological institutions on manual field and studio photography. Her photographic work will be on display in the Lives Bound

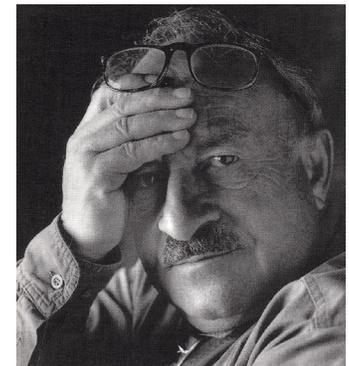
Together exhibition on slavery and George Washington a Mount Vernon. Her work can be seen at: <https://kp-preservation.smugmug.com/Archaeology/>.

## Maxwell Laboratory of Human Osteology From page 8

The Laboratory of Human Osteology is in compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and has worked with several local Native American groups to return remains to tribal lands. Dr. Edgar, one of seven members of the national NAGPRA Review Committee, takes the Lab's NAGPRA responsibility very seriously.

"Repatriating human remains and other NAGPRA objects to appropriate Tribes is the responsibility of any institution that receives funding from the federal government, like UNM," Dr. Edgar said.

The lab will soon be undergoing some major renovations, thanks to more than \$100,000 earmarked by the New Mexico Legislature. Dr. Edgar said they plan on updating the lab space, replacing the floor and lighting and putting in a new staircase to be able to safely access the collection space above the lab. These upgrades will greatly benefit the research currently being done in this world-class facility.



*J.J. Brody*

***Correction: The Maxwell Fall 2015 newsletter reported the Museum had hired its first Collections Manager. In fact Marion Rodey was the first, working under Director J.J. Brody beginning in 1983.***

## Maxwell Launches Social Media

Keep up with the Maxwell programs and research, check out images from collections and learn what goes on behind-the-scenes by joining Maxwell social media! In addition to all the latest on Facebook you'll find in-depth articles on our Tumblr blog, beautiful images from the collections and the latest items at the gift shop on Pinterest, and Flickr, plus at the moment activities on Instagram and Twitter. Like and follow us today!

 Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/maxwellmuseum>

 Flickr Maxwell Museum of Anthropology - <http://flickr.com/photos/142069155@N05/>

Instagram - [https://www.instagram.com/maxwell\\_museum](https://www.instagram.com/maxwell_museum)

 Pinterest - <https://www.pinterest.com/maxwellmuseum/>

 Tumblr: Maxwell blog - <http://maxwellmuseum.tumblr.com>

Youtube - <http://www.Youtube.com/channel/UCNGKdZiEJKwsoVzcEd9ZOgQ>

## Whats New in the Shop?

Our mission is to bring you pieces by local artisans, alongside ethically sourced goods from around the world reflecting the Maxwell's worldwide collections.



*These museum quality ceramics are made by Chinese artisans in a kiln at Jingdezhen. \$17 to \$70*

### **Mallery Quetawki**

*Mallery is a UNM student who creates beautiful coloring books featuring Zuni pottery designs.*

*\$9*

### **Zia Queenbee**

*Try some delicious and local raw honey from Truchas, New Mexico*

*\$9.50/4 oz.*

## *The Maxwell is going paperless!*

Members will have the opportunity to receive future Maxwell newsletters in pdf form. The electronic newsletter will be sent twice per year to member emails. Members who prefer print newsletters can specify that option when they renew in November. Help us save resources by receiving your newsletters through email.



The University of New Mexico  
Maxwell Museum of Anthropology  
MSC01 1050  
1 University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131

## MUSEUM HOURS:

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

## FREE AND OPEN TO ALL!

Info call: 505 277-4405

Visit: <http://maxwellmuseum.unm.edu>

Like us: <http://facebook.com/maxwellmuseum>

## CURRENT EXHIBITS



**Chinese Americans  
of New Mexico**



**Cross Currents:**  
*China Exports and the  
World Responds*



**Earth, Fire, and Life**  
*Six Thousand Years of  
Chinese Ceramics*



**People of the  
Southwest**



**Ancestors**

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

*The Maxwell* is produced by the staff at the Maxwell Museum. Edited and designed by Mary Beth Hermans and Mirjana Gacanich.

Increasing knowledge and understanding of the human cultural experience.