



**Western Association for Art Conservation
2016 Annual Meeting & Conference**

Tucson, Arizona

Angels Project

Saturday, November 5, 2016



Old Pascua Museum & Yaqui Culture Center, Tucson, AZ

This year's WAAC Angels Project will support the Old Pascua Museum & Yaqui Culture Center, located at 856 West Calle Santa Ana, Tucson, AZ, in the heart of the original Pascua Village. The project is being supported by a grant from the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC).

The museum is housed in a very small historic adobe house that was built in 1926 by one of the earliest residents of the village. In 2012, under the direction of the City of Tucson Historic Preservation Office, the building was restored for use as the community museum. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum opened its doors to the public in March of 2013, and in June of the same year the building was awarded a Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Award.

The museum's collection consists of approximately 50 three-dimensional objects, approximately 4,000 photographs, approximately 1,000 archival items, and a number of drawings and paintings. Only 1-2% of the collection is on display inside the tiny museum. The rest of the collection is in storage in the museum and in other community buildings within the village.

The museum has a staff of one part-time volunteer, Mr. Guillermo Quiroga, who wrote a grant for a MAP assessment which was conducted in 2014 and serves to guide the museum in addressing important areas of collection care and management. Currently, scholars from the University of Arizona, School of Information Knowledge River Program are volunteering with Guillermo to help the museum develop a collaborative community-based plan for processing and archiving the museum's photography collection. Through their work, the volunteers have identified a number of preservation and conservation issues and would benefit from the guidance of conservators as they move forward with a rehousing project.

In addition, this year's Angels Project will focus on documenting the condition of a selection of the museum's objects, paintings, and other pieces of two-dimensional art, most of which were made by members of the community. Conservators will work side-by-side with museum volunteers and Yaqui community members to examine and identify the objects, document their condition, and make recommendations for treatment, storage and exhibition. Conservators from all specialty areas are invited to participate.

Upon arriving at Old Pascua, participants will be given a tour of the museum by the museum director. Due to limited space within the museum, some work stations will be at the museum while additional workstations will be set up in the Yaqui Senior Cultural Center, around the corner from the museum. The Yaqui community will provide lunch for the participants.

The project is limited to 15 WAAC participants. Please indicate your interest when you register for the Annual Meeting. Please address any questions about the Angels Project to Teresa Moreno at president@waac-us.org.