

## TODAY AND TOMORROW



THE BRANIGAR/CHASE DISCOVERY CENTER.  
PHOTO BY TONY MARINELLA. (MNA COLLECTIONS)

Dr. Colton established the precedent for the MNA Director to serve as unofficial steward of northern Arizona, and the geographic boundaries have now spread to include the Colorado Plateau. Director Michael J. Fox is often called upon by national officials for timely and thoughtful representa-

tion of the intricate affairs of the Plateau. Over the years, MNA has expanded its vision of stewardship to embrace the much larger relationship that exists between the Plateau and the global arena. Hence, the redefined MNA Mission Statement in 1994 portrays the Museum as more than a regional institution; rather, it intends to equip itself with tools and programs that will enable it to enhance national awareness of contemporary issues. A "Year 2000 Plan" outlines MNA's immediate future objectives.

Dr. Colton's successors have brought their own individuality to the place while maintaining MNA's role as the primary storyteller. Some directors have emphasized research, others the public programs, and today's administration seeks to balance the two. The Museum upholds its tradi-

tions while inaugurating new programs that reflect a maturing conception of its purpose and its role as an educator. The Museum administration continues the legacy of nurturing cooperative efforts with other institutions in northern Arizona and elsewhere, and has several initiatives in the planning and implementation stages.

The Board of Trustees comprises regional scientists, business people, educational leaders, community volunteers, and tribal leaders. This Board provides direction and sets policy based on staff