

90
YEARS



MUSEUM of
NORTHERN
ARIZONA

Celebrating the Colorado Plateau since 1928

MUSEUM of
NORTHERN ARIZONA

MUSEUM

NOTES

SUMMER 2018

We're still here: MNA enters 90th year

Museum of Northern Arizona founded as a place for the past and future

IN 1928 MICKEY MOUSE DEBUTED ON SCREEN, sliced bread appeared in grocery stores, and the Museum of Northern Arizona opened. Since then, all three have become icons.

MNA invites the community to come celebrate on Thursday Sept. 6, from 5 to 9 pm, exactly 90 years after the original opening. The community welcomed the new museum with an outpouring of support and donations. Community pressure for a local museum had been building since 1901, when *The Coconino Sun* presented the idea:

"No better place could be found for a branch museum than Flagstaff, being easily accessible to the greatest storehouse of prehistoric relics on the continent – the Grand Canyon of the Colorado." (April 20, 1901)

The opening in 1928 was a second attempt. In 1924 a small museum had been set up in the same location, the Woman's Club on Aspen Street. That beta-version languished. In 1928

a community group formed to again attempt a museum, and this time they set up a governing board and structure. Most importantly, by 1928 Harold and Mary-Russell Ferrell Colton had moved to Flagstaff and were able to dedicate themselves to the nascent museum. The Coltons had the energy, inspiration and financial means to support the museum through its first four decades.

When it opened in 1928, the new museum included displays on many topics which continue to be featured at MNA, including the geology of the San Francisco Mountains, the vegetation zones from the bottom of the Grand Canyon to the top of the San Francisco Peaks, modern Hopi and Navajo wares, wildflower displays, and pottery of Northern Arizona.

In 1928 the pottery display was "an almost complete representative collection." Today the collection contains {}, one of the most extensive and complete collections anywhere.

INSIDE >> Upcoming Events > New Staff > Fall Venture Trips > 89 Acres > New Around Campus

>> Board of Directors

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Dear Members,

It seems unfathomable that we’ve been through our final Heritage Festival of the summer. The big tent under which we celebrated D.Y. Begay at the gala and brunch; enjoyed Zuni, Hopi and Navajo performers; took in the FlagShakes performances; and hosted many satisfied brides and grooms, is finally coming down. Our researchers are making appearances after long stretches in the field. The Colton Garden is becoming heavy with produce. The Discovery Campers have started back to school. And we have only a few Thirsty Thursdays remaining. Thank you for once again spending your summer with MNA.

It has been gratifying to see our member rolls grow since we opened our Native Peoples exhibition—and you have been sharing this beautiful new gallery with your friends and relatives. We hope you continue to take pride in the museum as a cultural resource for this region, as our own Convention and Visitors Bureau does! They nominated MNA’s Hopi Festival of Arts and Culture for the Governor’s Tourism Award for Outstanding Arizona Cultural and Historic Preservation...and we took that prize home!

We’ve got a lot to celebrate—so we hope you’ll join us for a community celebration, not only of MNA’s latest honor, but of a milestone much longer in the works. On September 6, MNA marks 90 years of excellence in exhibitions, research and programming on the Colorado Plateau. We hope you will come along for a year of exhibits, lectures, parties and programs that revisit some of MNA’s biggest moments and look forward to ways in which the museum aspires to fulfill its potential in the future. We also have a special Pendleton blanket in the works!

Of course our future looks bright because of your engagement here at MNA, so please continue visiting our shops, attending our lectures, volunteering for our programs and getting as much out of this remarkable institution as you can.

Carrie M. Heinonen
CEO & THE ROBERT BREUNIG DIRECTOR

...continued from cover

Several displays in the original exhibitions told the story of the peoples of Northern Arizona. Today the story of all 10 tribes is told in their own words and objects through the newly opened Native Peoples of the Colorado Plateau Exhibition.

The original opening also featured “great slabs or rocks with casts of prehistoric animal tracks.” These are now featured in the walls of the Jaime Golightly Courtyard, where we will celebrate Sept. 6 with music, cake and balloons.

The opening was informal and our celebration will follow suit. Period dress is encouraged and the event will be family friendly, with activities for children. It’s open to the public, but we welcome gifts in honor of our anniversary. To quote Museum Notes from September 1, 1928 “The public is cordially invited at this time.”

COLTON MEADOWS CONSERVATION EFFORT >>



“WHAT WE’RE TRYING TO DO WITH THESE 89 ACRES IS GET OURSELVES INTO A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND OPERABLE POSITION WHERE WE CAN CONSISTENTLY PAY OUR BILLS WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE SUFFICIENCY OF OUR CASH BALANCES,”
- {Board President} Kathe Shinham.

ELK, DEER, COYOTE AND PEOPLE all traverse the open meadows between Quintana Drive and Mt. Elden Lookout Road without noting the boundaries between parcels of private and public land. The only real boundary is Schultz Creek, which runs along the short base of a T-shaped parcel of nearly 90 acres belonging to the Museum of Northern Arizona. Since MNA bought this land for investment in 1977, the museum board has been regularly approached by developers offering to turn it into a revenue source. There’s no doubt the museum needs a stable source of operational funds (see sidebar).

Theoretically, the acreage could be divided into 89 separate building lots, since it’s currently zoned for 1-acre residential and surrounded by residences on three sides. The estimated market value of the property is \$3 million. However, MNA recognizes that the land, which has been dubbed “Colton Meadows,” also has value as an area for research, a wildlife corridor, community open space and absorbing monsoon rains to prevent downstream flooding or severe erosion. MNA researchers cite the potential research uses for Colton Meadows, including continuing long-term studies of how meadowlands recover from agriculture. Those studies were begun in 1957 by MNA researcher W.B. McDougall, about a decade after Mary-Russell Ferrell Colton set the fields fallow.

Neighbors enjoy the open views and being able to walk through the Colton Meadows. The general community uses the land for outdoor recreation, including bicycling, hiking, snowshoeing, and accessing the Schultz Pass trailhead.

A subcommittee of the MNA board has been looking for ways to put Colton Meadows under conservation easements, protecting it from development for perpetuity. At a members meeting on June 27, the board committee presented five possible plans for conserving the land while still bringing in needed revenue. The favorite of the committee and the members present was option 5, to form a broad-based coalition of stakeholders to preserve the land in five portions of about 18 acres each. For each 18-acre meadow, the coalition would raise \$600,000, to be put into an income-generating fund.

Other suggestions involved MNA selling the land with conservation easements, allowing a minimal number of home sites while still protecting as much as 80% of the property. However, most feedback from MNA members and staff has been that they would like MNA to keep the land. To do so requires generous philanthropists to recognize the intrinsic value of open space and invest the \$3 million to conserve the entire acreage. The board will consider the suggestions at their next meeting, September 21.

FINANCES

ELK, DEER, COYOTE AND PEOPLE all traverse the open meadows between Quintana Drive and Mt. Elden Lookout Road without noting the boundaries between parcels of private and public land. The only real boundary is Schultz Creek, which runs along the short base of a T-shaped parcel of nearly 90 acres belonging to the Museum of Northern Arizona. Since MNA bought this land in 1977, the museum board has been regularly approached by developers offering to turn it into a revenue source. There’s no doubt the museum needs a stable source of operational funds (see sidebar).

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While the board welcomes community comments on what should be done with the land (send to comment@musnaz.org), what’s really needed are people ready to roll up their sleeves or take out their checkbooks to help raise the funds so the land can be set aside. To join the coalition



CELEBRACIONES DE LA GENTE

October 20 & 21 • 9 am-5 pm |
Member Preview: October 20 • 6-8 pm
Courtyard After Dark • October 20 • 6-8 pm

VOTED ONE OF THE WEST'S BEST Day of the Dead celebrations by *Sunset Magazine*, our final Heritage festival of the season is not to be missed! This vibrant two-day event features 25 award-winning fine and folk artists and silversmiths from across the Southwest, Mariachi music, delicious Mexican food, and Day of the Dead inspired crafts for the kids. The Museum's Jaime Major Golightly Courtyard will be transformed into a colorful and vibrant expression of community and remembrance full of ofrendas (altars), papel picado (cut paper) streamers, calaveras (sugar skulls), candles, marigolds, and pan de muerto (bread of the dead). Don't forget to bring a photo or memento to honor a loved one for the community ofrenda—a special place of memory. Presented in partnership with Nuestras Raíces.



PIVOT: SKATEBOARD DECK ART

Member Preview: October 12, 2018 • 6-8pm
October 13, 2018 - March 31, 2018

Artists of many tribes and backgrounds transform 100 blank skateboard decks into a colorful and diverse collection. From traditional carvers to contemporary painters, the decks on display represent a pivotal moment in Native American art, as a young generation combines traditional imagery and techniques with modern interpretations and canvases. Guest curators Duane Koyawena (Hopi) and Landis Bahe (Navajo) chose decks as canvases in part to represent the way Native people must switch between the mass culture and their traditional culture, creating a cultural whiplash not unlike spinning around on a skateboard.



VENTURE TRIPS

Immerse yourself in the culture and history of the Colorado Plateau's people and places. on a Ventures Trip or in a Ventures Class.

Archaeology Sept. 8

\$80 Member/\$100 Non-member
Instructor: Dr. Peter Pilles, Archaeologist

Visit Elden Pueblo and Turkey Hill Pueblo. Both excavations produced hundreds of objects, and were important to the development of the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Red Mountain Hike Oct. 20

\$50 Member/\$75 Non-member
Guides: Dr. Kent Colbath, Geologist

This is Dr. Covlbath's nominee for the best short geology hike in Northern Arizona. Red Mountain is an extinct volcano that erupted approximately 700,000 years ago. A steam explosion from the northeastern flank of the cone exposed the interior of the volcano to erosion by running water, which carved a spectacular amphitheater from black, red and yellow eruptive materials, and sculpted exotic erosional landforms.

Petrified Forest Day Trip Nov. 3

\$100 Member/\$120 Non-member
Instructor: Dr. Kent Colbath, Geologist

Petrified Forest National Park includes some of the best localities found in the Chinle Formation, world famous as a source of Triassic fossils from the dawn of the "Age of Dinosaurs." This is a great trip for fans of fossils and Arizona's colorful landscape alike!

Death Valley Trip March 4-9, 2019

\$1,850 Member/\$1,750 Non-member
Instructor: Dr. Larry Stevens, Ecologist

Enjoy daily adventures into the diverse desert environment to see wildflower and other flora, then relax each evening at Furnace Creek Ranch.

Space is limited, register today! Call 928.774.5211, ext. 222, or visit musnaz.org.

TALE OF TWO SPECIES

"Are they the same or are they different? It's a pretty simple question."



Restoration by Bonnie Dalzell, skeleton drawing by Larry Isham

To explain, Dr. Dave Gillette pulls two plastic toys from his desk. Reminiscent of armadillos, these are models of the *Glyptotherium*. Each fits easily in the palm of a hand, though the actual *Glyptotherium* were as big as a VW Beetle.

"Mine doesn't have the fancy tail," says Gillette, referring to the spiky end of the South American genus *Doedicurus*, which looks like a medieval mace, but with spines more than a foot long and 3 inches thick. One population that lived in southern Arizona and New Mexico 2 million years ago got as far north as the eastern side of the Colorado Plateau. Gillette has earned the right to claim the North American *Glyptotherium* as his own. He's studied the species since 1972, when it was the focus of his dissertation. Through the years he's been able to establish that what was once thought to be 8 different genera in North America are actually all a single genus, *Glyptotherium*. Some of the specimens that had earlier been thought to be separate species were juveniles.

The *Glyptotherium* were relatively new to North America, having come up from South America about 4 million years ago across the Isthmus of Panama. In South America, where glyptodonts discovered. A question lingered -were the North American *Glyptotherium* just one of the genera from South America, or had they evolved enough to be their own genus?

In the 1980s, few paleontologists in South America had an interest in glyptodonts, so Gillette turned his attention to dinosaurs. In 2013 Argentinian researcher Alfredo Zurita emailed Gillette. "I knew the scientific contributions of Dr. Gillette about the North American glyptodonts," Zurita explained via email. "For some years we interchanged very interesting observations in that concerning the South and North American glyptodonts." In 2016 Zurita traveled to Arizona and for several weeks he and Gillette compared each detail of the North American *Glyptotherium* with the South American genus *Glyptodon*. They found distinct differences in the shape of the shell, the opening for the tail, the grooves in the shell plates and the cheekbones. Zurita and Gillette were able to conclude that the North American *Glyptotherium* had evolved enough to be considered its own genus. This summer they presented the findings at the Geological Society of America annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain and Cordilleran sections, and the collaborators published a longer paper in the journal *GeoBios* earlier this year. "It's fun to have collaborators, and when they become personal friends that's even better," said Gillette.

ACQUISITIONS

At first glance the new olla MNA bought during the Zuni Show is a skillful example of polychromatic pottery, but a second, closer look reveals something unusual. The deer painted in classic style are eating the other graphics, joking with each other, and even ending up as trophies on the wall. Tim Edaakie won the Director's Award for the *Comical Olla Pot*.



ON LOAN



Hopi Point, Grand Canyon, by Gunnar Widorss

The Ljungberg Museum - Kronberg County Art Museum in Ljungby, Sweden recently borrowed 6 works of art by Gunnar Widforss for their exhibit Gunnar Widforss: Watercolorist which will run from June 16 through September 16, 2018. Curated by Fredrik Sjöberg and MNA Fine Arts curator Alan Petersen, this exhibit highlights the work of artist Gunnar Widforss, a Swedish native, who was known in the United States as the Painter of the National Parks. Petersen traveled to Sweden to give presentations at the exhibition opening, then and continued his own research on Widforss in Stockholm. Some of that research will be published online later this year. Details can be read at gunnarwidforss.org. published online later this year. Details can be read at gunnarwidforss.org.



WE WON!

THIS JULY, The Hopi Festival of Arts and Culture won the Outstanding Arizona Cultural and Historic Preservation award from the Arizona Office of Tourism at this year's Governor's Conference of Tourism. MNA started the festival in 1930 to share and preserve Hopi culture and art.

"The Hopi Festival of Arts and Culture is one of many events in Arizona that help visitors, from near and abroad, better understand the way of life of American Indians indigenous to the Southwest," said Debbie Johnson, director of the Arizona Office of Tourism.



NIC BECKETT

Membership Manager

Membership hours 8:30-4:30
Nbeckett@musnaz.org
928-774-5211, ext. 219

Many members recognize Nic Beckett's easy smile from when he worked at the museum front desk. He's also lived in Flagstaff for more than 20 years.

Beckett attended Thomas M. Knoles Elementary, Mount Elden Middle School, and Sinagua High School. He studied sustainability and business at ASU and sustainable communities at NAU. He's moved away from Flagstaff a few times, but keeps returning.

"I'M NOT MEANT FOR THE BIG CITIES," he said.

In part that's because he's seen how a smaller city can pull together. Beckett celebrated his 17th birthday in the Flagstaff Medical Center Intensive Care Unit, recovering from brain surgery. He remembers people bringing meals for his family, the entire Sinagua basketball team packing into the hospital waiting room, and hometown crowds cheering him on when he returned to the baseball field.

"THAT'S ONE REASON I FEEL SO TIGHT WITH THIS COMMUNITY," said Beckett. **"IT REALLY SHOWED ME WHAT A COMMUNITY IS."**

Now Beckett lives with his dog, Dobie, and cat, Crash. When he has time off, Beckett plays disc golf and makes nut brittle following a family recipe he's updated to feature organic sugar, local nuts, and vegan butter. "so everyone could eat it."

LIZ MCGINLAY
Development Director
Lmcginlay@musnaz.org
928-774-5211, ext. 227

Development Director Liz McGinlay remembers field trips to MNA with her Sechrist Elementary School class. They hiked the nature trail and dissected owl pellets.

A second-generation Flagstaffian, McGinlay ran track for Flagstaff High School and sang in a traveling choir while studying history at NAU. After graduating, she taught high school economics and history for a few years.

The transition to non-profit work through the Goodwill seemed natural, since she was still educating people, just "in a different way." When the Flagstaff Goodwill merged with the Phoenix Goodwill, McGinlay found her position as VP of Workforce Development suddenly required more travel, which pulled her away from her family. McGinlay and her husband John have three children, Bryce, 21, John, 11, and Mary, 10. Working at the Museum of Northern Arizona allows McGinlay to juggle their needs between her many meetings. On weekends her family enjoys going on outdoor adventures.

"It's fun to see their faces and how they enjoy it so much," she said.

McGinlay still runs and sings, though not at the same time. She's currently training for the 17-mile Imogene Pass Run in September.



MELISSA LAWTON

Archivist

Library hours Thursday 1-4 pm
Library@musnaz.org
928-774-5211, ext. 256

The museum library is open to the public again, thanks to Melissa Lawton.

"IT IS A FANTASTIC RESOURCE, NOT JUST FOR OUR STAFF," said Lawton. The library holds theses, reports, scientific research papers, books and other published works concerning "every aspect of research that's ever been done by MNA researchers and staff."

Lawton's became interested in the past as a 7th grader in Collins, Iowa (population 500). She was assigned to do a report on paleontology. Her response was, "That's interesting, but how about people?"

Lawton earned a BA anthropology and history from the University of South Dakota, then a Masters from Drexel University. After graduating, she took an internship at MNA. She left Flagstaff to become Photo Research and Permissions Librarian at the History Colorado Hart Research Library in Denver, but when the MNA archivist position opened she quickly applied.

"FLAGSTAFF WAS ALWAYS MY FAVORITE PLACE. IT'S BEAUTIFUL, IT'S A VIBRANT COMMUNITY AND IT HAS THE DARK SKY," said Lawton.

Lawton considers it an honor "being able to work with people who are represented in our collection, giving them a voice and giving them agency in their culture."



KRISTAN HUTCHISON

Director of Marketing

Marketing hours 8 am – 5 pm
Khutchison@musnaz.org
928-774-5211, ext. 273

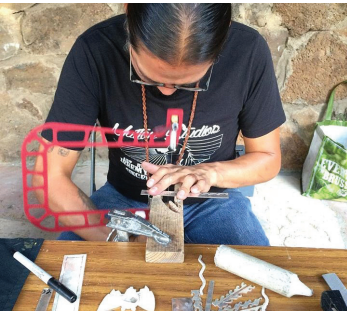
A recent transplant to Arizona, Kristan Hutchison explored many places and professions before settling in Flagstaff. Her varied background serves her well promoting the museum's wide-ranging activities, from art exhibitions to scientific research.

After growing up in the Pacific Northwest, Hutchison went to the East Coast for college, earning a BA in Political Studies from Bard College. Her journalism career took her to Alaska, and eventually Antarctica, where she ran a publication for the National Science Foundation.

If work took her far away, love and family brought her back. Hutchison ended up in California's Silicon Valley, where her husband, Joe Mastroianni, had an established career. There she worked with several science education non-profits.

When they became empty-nesters, Hutchison and Mastroianni began looking for their "forever home," which led them to Flagstaff and MNA.

THIRSTY THURSDAYS



DISCOVERY CAMPS



12TH ANNUAL GALA & FINE ART AUCTION

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of *Tselani/Terrain: Tapestries of D.Y. Begay*.





MUSEUM of NORTHERN ARIZONA

3101 N. Fort Valley Road • Flagstaff, AZ 86001
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*The mission of the Museum of Northern Arizona is to inspire a sense of love
and responsibility for the beauty and diversity of the Colorado Plateau.*

EVENT SCHEDULE >>

Exhibitions

THROUGH OCT 21 *Tselani/Terrain: Tapestries of D.Y. Begay*

OPENS AUG 25 *Photographs By George L. Beam
And The Making Of Arches National Monument*

OPENS OCT 12 *Pivot: Skateboard Deck Art*

OPENS NOV 16 *The Santa Fe Style - Transcending Duality*

OPENS NOV 23 *90 Years of Ideas*

Special Events

THROUGH LABOR DAY, 5-8PM Thirsty Thursdays

SEPT 6 90th Anniversary Party

SEPT 8 Colorado River Days

Heritage Festivals

OCT 20-21, 9-5PM Celebraciones de la Gente

OCT 20, 5-8PM Courtyard After Dark

Native American Heritage Month

NOV 1 Museum Practices and Native American Traditions

NOV 11 Hopi Flute performance

NOV 24 Benally Dancers

NOV 29 Jennifer McClerran, Navajo Weaving

NOV 30, 10AM-5PM Art market

Member Events & Previews

OCT 11 *Pivot: Skateboard Deck Art Member Preview*

OCT 20 *Celebraciones Member Preview*

Collections Tours *Limited, Call front desk to sign up*

OCT 19 *Botany with Kirstin Phillips*

NOV 16 *Archives with Melissa Lawton*

Lectures

AUG 25 *Gallery Talk by David Purcell*

Kids & Family

STEAM: 2ND SATURDAYS, 2PM

SEPT 8 The Buzz on Bees

OCT 13 Digging Dinosaurs

NOV 10 Venomous Creatures

TINY TALES, 10:30 AM

SEPT 24 Big Horns Don't Honk

OCT 29 Día de los Muertos

NOV 26 There Was a Coyote Who Swallowed a Flea

DEC 17 Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match/Marisol
McDonald no combina ald Doesn't Match

MORE AT **musnaz.org**

Sign up for e-news and stay up-to-date
with all of our programs and events!
Email membership@musnaz.org.