



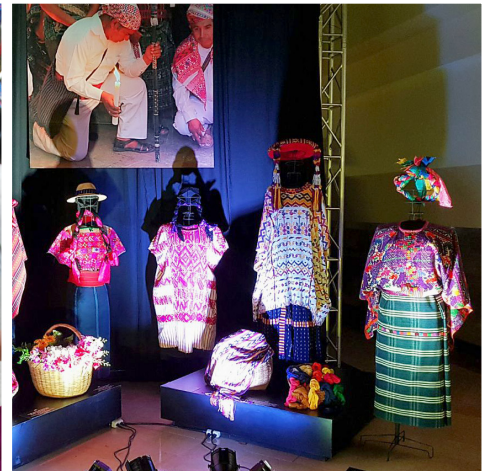
FRIENDS OF THE IXCHEL MUSEUM

VOLUME TWENTY NINE · NUMBER ONE · JUNE 2018

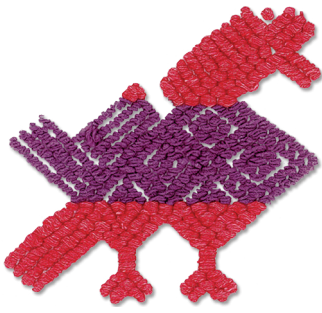


SHOWCASING TEXTILES VIA EXHIBITS

Mark your calendars—
Friends of the Ixchel
Museum will be at the
San Jose Museum of
Quilts and Textiles
July 21-October 13, 2019



CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



IN THE MUSEUM



✦ The last semester was busy for the Ixchel, and by year-end we had received over 10,000 visitors. Last October, the Museum celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a Gala, a lovely and lively event with dancing and a band that played music from the 70's to the present to showcase how far we have come. Our honorees were the employees at the Museum -- a long overdue recognition of their work. Amparo López (administrative director) and Angelina García (seamstress) received special plaques for over 30 years of service. It was a well-deserved and emotional honor for them.



✦ Beyond our walls, we set up three off-site exhibits. One showing the evolution of San Antonio Aguas Calientes was set up in the Swedish residence for their National Day with the theme of Sustainable Fashion. A collaboration with the Canadian Embassy featured huipiles from the highlands at the Museo Miraflores. And the third was a larger *cofradía* exhibit for employees at the Banco de los Trabajadores during our independence month of September.

✦ We're about more than textiles. We beautifully photographed the entire jewelry collection of over 200 pieces. This was a hidden treasure in our collection room that is now ready for display and publication. Kix Nottebohm presented her book *Jardines de Guatemala* to a full house in our galleries, which featured stunning garden

photographs. Early in 2018, the US Ambassador's wife started hosting Tuesday Talks, a monthly event with speakers on subjects of interest to the international community. The inaugural talk was given by Maya Fledderjohn and was a big success in promoting interest in the Museum.

✦ As reported in the last bulletin, we sponsored a Fulbright Specialist, Kelly Cobb, from the U. of Delaware. Her work centered on sustainability as well as bridging traditional textile techniques and contemporary fashion culture. She and Violeta traveled to Panajachel, Santa Catarina Palopó, Santiago Atitlán and San Juan La Laguna to speak with weavers and co-ops. Her findings and progress were presented in a talk held at the Museum and also later at the FOIM annual meeting in March. She plans to return to Guatemala to continue her research, and we hope her work on innovation and best practices will lead to business opportunities for Guatemalan weavers.

✦ Finally, work is underway to renew the Mini Gallery and install a men's attire exhibit. It will open in May and be called *Hombres de Tradiciones y Costumbres*. As we all know, men are shedding the traditional attire in favor of modern western dress at a much faster rate than women, hence the importance of this exhibit.

By Maya Fledderjohn

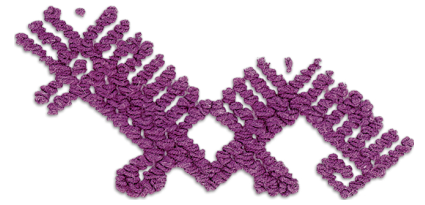


Cover: Ixchel Museum and Friends exhibits, large and small

Top: Bantrab off-site exhibit for employees

Middle: "Tuesday Talks" inaugural presentation

Bottom: Kelly Cobb (Fulbright Specialist) and Violeta Gutiérrez (Technical Director and Adjunct Curator)



DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO SAN JOSE?



One of the most important activities undertaken by both the Ixchel Museum and the Friends is to support exhibits large and small.

In Guatemala, the Museum usually mounts one stunning main exhibit every few years (see prior newsletters re the current *Cofradías*), plus several additional in the smaller galleries or off-site locations. As Friends, we show our textiles in many different types of venues, ranging across weaving events, schools, academic symposia, cultural fairs, art galleries, and even by lending pieces for important textile museum shows.

Exhibits require creativity, scholarship, and a lot of work! At present, the Museum is mounting a small exhibit called *Hombres*, which showcases a recent donation of rare men's *trajes*, and is developing a major refresh of *Cofradías* to rest and rotate displayed *huipiles* and entice another round of visitors. In the U.S., our Friends board members are planning more pop-up mini's at *Weaving for the Future* co-op events and Philadelphia area schools – plus putting together a large exhibit in San Jose.

The San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles (SJMQT) is located in downtown San Jose and is celebrating its 40th anniversary. It will be the venue for our most significant show since the Shiprock Gallery in Santa Fe (2008). Not only will we take up their two main galleries, but as the exhibit has been set to span Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 13), we will have a second "opening" and orchestrate special local events. The SJMQT is enthused at the prospect of bilingual labels (a first for them!) and the opportunity for community involvement. The core exhibit team is comprised of Ray Senuk (curator), new board member Abby Sue Fisher, Yolanda Alcorta, and Ana-María Zaugg, but we will need support from many more, including an extended circle of Friends.

Although online access to collection photographs has improved tremendously, physical exhibits are still the best way to really showcase the technical and artistic skills of past and current Maya weavers to the general public. From the actual presence of a living weaver, to the try-ons available to schoolchildren, to the 360 degree sight of a double-sided *huipil* from San Antonio Aguas Calientes...the ability to get "up close and personal" is an experience few organizations can provide. It's what makes Friends special.



By Ana-María V. Zaugg



FRIENDS OF THE IXCHEL MUSEUM OFRENDA SOCIETY

Consider Filling the Offerings Plate with a Bequest or Designated Gift

If you wish part of your legacy to be helping the work of the Ixchel Museum continue, consult with a qualified professional about making us the beneficiary of your will or estate plan. You may also be able to designate gifts from remainders of qualified retirement plans such as IRAs and 401(k) and 403(b) plans. Your bequest can help continue the work of today while enabling us to create long-term strategies for the future.

No part of this communication is intended as tax or estate planning advice

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NEW BOARD MEMBERS



We are delighted to welcome **Abby Sue Fisher** to our Board. She has been a collection care consultant throughout her career – specializing in preventive conservation, creative storage solutions, and collection planning. She recently retired from managing the Division of Cultural Resources for the US National Park Service at Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco, California. Abby Sue is a Latin Americanist and her academic work in textiles and clothing focused on the sociocultural aspects of dress and adornment. She is already “family”, having based her 1983 Master’s thesis on research conducted at Museo Ixchel in the late 1970’s; she earned her Ph.D. from the U. of Minnesota in 1992. Abby Sue is widely published, has taught numerous workshops and presented talks on a variety of preservation topics. We look forward to her contributions to FOIM.



We welcome **Maya Fledderjohn** to the FOIM board, where she will play a key role as a dual member of FOIM and the Ixchel Museum boards. Since 2013, she has been President of the Asociación of the Ixchel Museum, where she is actively involved in its day-to-day activities and maintains their relations with the diplomatic community.

Maya has a diverse cultural heritage and a degree in international relations and diplomacy. Her family originally arrived in Guatemala to work with US foreign aid projects. She considers Guatemala home and has raised a son and twin daughters there. She owns and operates two businesses: a relocation consultant company and a gift shop.



Located on 6a Calle final, zona 10, on the grounds of the Universidad Francisco Marroquín in Guatemala City.

Open 9 am to 5 pm M-F | 9 am to 1 pm Saturday.
Admission is Q35 for adults, Q15 for students and Q8 for schoolchildren.

For further information on library access and holiday closings and more, please visit museoixchel.org or telephone 502 2331 3622 facebook.com/MuseoIxchelDelTrajeIndigena/



FRIENDS OF THE IXCHEL MUSEUM

PO Box 30, Princeton, NJ 08542 USA

Members receive free entrance to exhibitions of FOIM in the U.S. and to the Museo Ixchel in Guatemala City and discounts on purchases in the Museum Shop.

Benefactor	\$1,000	Contributor	\$100
Patron	\$500	Family	\$50
Sponsor	\$250	Individual	\$25

Friends of the Ixchel Museum is an American 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation and donations are deductible by the donor for U.S. general income tax purposes.

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Check Enclosed Interested in Volunteering

Please indicate your donation amount: \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to Friends of the Ixchel Museum, Inc.

Please mail this form with your donation.

For more information e-mail foiminfo@gmail.com | ixchelfriends.org