



FRIENDS OF THE IXCHEL MUSEUM

Supporting The Textile Arts of Guatemala

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Dear Friends of the Ixchel Museum:

And they're back! We did indeed hold our annual meeting in Guatemala this Spring and it was a total pleasure to be there again. The Museo Ixchel received us with a Barbara Knoke tour of the revamped Sala IV Main Gallery and a re-organized and replete gift shop. An additional treat was a post-meeting visit to the Miraflores Museum, an amazing and educational new space for which Board member Carlos Nottebohm was heavily involved. We are planning a return to Guatemala this coming Spring and hoping for a follow-on trip to the Lake Atitlán weaving villages.

At the Museo, work continues on the photographing of the main collection (for which we have just contributed a new high-tech camera) and also on the new custom cataloguing system. The demonstration of the system was impressive and they are currently in test mode. The store has new offerings, including fresh *ProTeje* lines. Now that COVID is under control, we look forward to their first field trip in a while – to the remote area of Huehuetenango.

Our work in the US is advancing on two fronts: small exhibits, and seeking exposure among fiber artists. Both initiatives are extremely active, hence the extra page in this newsletter. Our Instagram page is moving into prime time, and is piloting an on-line "Challenge Call for Artists" launched in time for Hispanic Heritage Month. You can also read about it on our website if that's your preferred access.

Finally, we have once again received a generous bequest – this one from Leslie Grace. Significant cash donations enable us to stretch beyond our operating costs and support major projects in Guatemala, as well as reach new audiences here in the US. Regarding textile donations, we have become increasingly selective as we're out of storage space! But Raymond Senuk continues to seek treasures and our exhibits are in need of male/children's attire and complete time-consistent *trajes*. Keep us in mind!

Wishing you all a wonderful Fall season,

Ana-María V. Zaugg

President, Friends of the Ixchel Museum

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