



PATRONATO

Mission San Xavier del Bac Spring 2022



A Major Challenge Gift: An opportunity to double your gifts to us.

Recently the Don Bennett Moon Foundation has promised one of the largest single gifts we have received. The Foundation has asked that we use this gift to match all contributions to the Conservation & Preservation Fund's Priority Projects; the preservation of the Façade and in the interior, conservation of the art in the Main Dome. So, from January 1st 2022, all gifts received for our priority project fund up to \$250,000, will be subject to a match by the Foundation gift.

Façade research:

In October and November, a temporary scaffold was erected across the face of the ornate sculpted façade at the Mission. This allowed our local conservators, Tim Lewis and Matilde Rubio, Patronato's conservator intern, Susie Moreno, and Patronato's Project Manager, Starr Herr-Cardillo to carry out a comprehensive conditions assessment of the façade. For a week they were joined by Frida Mateus Gonzalez, a Mexican conservator who three decades ago lead the preservation team that conserved the Missions of the Sierra Gorda in Queretaro, north of Mexico City. These Missions, also built by the Franciscan order, pre-date San Xavier by about twenty years, but architecturally and stylistically they have many of the baroque features seen at San Xavier.

Sixty years ago, the façade was restored by then resident priest, Celestine Chinn, working closely with the Mexican Architect Ed Herreras. Much of their work used tinted cement to match to the weathered color of the façade. However, it had long been known that when the façade was first built, it was highly colored. Working closely on the sculpted elements our team were amazed by how much original pigment they were able to identify. There were four primary colors found, but in sections the paint colors were blended to provide more relief. In some protected areas the team found evidence that the four sculpted saints had colored and patterned robes. This research phase will inform the preservation plan helping guide how this section of the Mission will be preserved.



(Above from the left) Starr Herr-Carrillo, Patronato's Conservation Project Manager, Art Conservators, Matilde Rubio and Tim Lewis joined by Patronato's Conservation Intern, Susie Moreno. (Top right) Nail heads discovered forming the mouse's eyes. (Bottom right) Remnants of original pigment.



East Tower Progress

As you receive this mailing, we are in the final weeks of the East Tower project. With scaffold now removed from much of the tower, the remaining sections will remain in place to support two smaller projects not included in the original East Tower scope. We are thrilled that Means Contracting were able to accomplish their work within two months of their original plan. Delays erecting the scaffold and additional repair work required to the buttresses and the volutes extended the time line by two months. The contracted budget also remained within the original parameters.

When you look at the two towers you will notice some subtle differences. On the west, the volutes were completely rebuilt by Danny Morales' team. With his master craftsman skill, he re-created these elements with exquisite precision.

On the east, these original features have been stabilized and preserved consistent with the "preservation" approach being taken with the East Tower. Our contractor Eric Means has had his team capture the idiosyncrasies of these original elements. No two volutes are exactly alike and the detail of the cornices also reflect the same approach; retaining what was, not imagining what might have been intended.

Two components remain to be completed: Conservation of the decorative elements above the windows; "the eyebrows" as they are affectionately called. This work will be performed by our conservators rather than the contractors. On the west tower these elements were completely recrafted, but on the east, these original features will be stabilized and preserved consistent with the preservation ethic.

The second component, the balcony, was originally part of the tower scope. But prior to the contract going to bid we realized that three balconies all required work and as such these elements should be treated as a separate scope of work. Planning is well advanced with how to recraft balconies that are more consistent with the historical photographic evidence than the ones currently in place.



Transept and follow-on work: Sacristy & The Dome

With the work in the West Transept completed, our interior conservator team is turning their attention to the highest section of the Mission, the interior of the main Dome. This project will require a most complex (and expensive) scaffold, so to justify this expense, we are looking to build a larger team of experienced conservators. The goal is to have the team and funding in place to begin this work in January 2023. In the meantime, the conservators will be working a range of smaller projects, including conserving the walls and domes within the Sacristy.



Patronato's Endowment and Legacy Gifts

Knowing that preservation at the Mission will be on-going, even after the first round of major conservation is complete, Patronato's Board in the late 90's established an endowment. The goal of the endowment is to provide funding on-going for conservation work at the Mission. The endowment yields about \$50,000 per year, funds which currently go towards assisting with the conservation of the interior art. (These projects typically cost around \$125,000 each year).

In an effort to build the endowment, last year the Patronato Board determined that a percentage of all unrestricted estate gifts received by the organization would be placed in the endowment. This way these legacy gifts (which can never be anticipated in a given budget year) effectively provide funding for the organization, in perpetuity.

If you are currently working on your estate plan, you might consider a gift to the Patronato's endowment. These will become the gifts that continue to give, ensuring that the Mission buildings are preserved for all time.



San Pedro (left) San Juan Bautista (right)

For Whom the Bell Tolls!

We have been reporting on the work Board member and Professor/Conservator Nancy Odegard has been leading; conserving the eight bells that hang at San Xavier.

In January, a third bell was the subject of an emergency repair that provided an opportunity to use Nancy's newly-developed protocols to carry out conservation treatment. This work, performed across two days, consists of cleaning, and then treatments involving a protective wax coating applied to the heated surfaces of the bell.

By now we know that all the bells at San Xavier have names, the largest in the belfry is the "San Xavier." The companion to this bell which was conserved last year is named "San Pedro"

But until treatment it had been impossible to decipher the name of this third bell. Once the cleaning removed built-up deposits clouding the letters, the name of the third bell became perfectly clear. Welcome "San Juan Bautista" to our trio of bells.

More About Doors

Thanks to the generous support of Vicki and Jim Click, a second set of doors will undergo extensive conservation this summer. Because the door leading into the East Tower from the Nave is subject to daily use and has developed some issues, this will be the next selected for conservation. Patronato's intern and a new apprentice who will train to become Patronato's wood expert, will work with our master wood conservator Luke Addington to undertake this project.



Support from the Catholic Foundation



For the last six years Patronato has been the recipient of a range of grants to support a variety of smaller conservation projects at the Mission. These grants, ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 have assisted with the conservation of the statue of the Inmaculada and the altar railings, support for the East Tower project (currently in progress) refurbishments within the Mission museum, and remaking the video that plays within the video room at the Mission. We are grateful to the Catholic Foundation and their support of the conservation work at Mission San Xavier.

Docent program up-date

Patronato's docent program has been on hiatus for two years since the church closed in March 2020. During this period, the program has been revamped and this month, docents begin retraining for when the Mission fully opens.

Ultimately it is hoped to offer two tour levels. Visitors arriving at the Mission can join a 30 minute "basic" tour which provides a general overview of the history along with noteworthy features of the Mission.

Once the Basic tours are fully staffed, it is hoped to provide a new offering. Led by our more experienced docents these more comprehensive tours will require people to book and be ticketed in advance through our website.

End of Year Giving:

Once again you were all so generous!

With the roll out of vaccines and with predictions that COVID would be under control, we embarked on plans to host a concert series at the Mission again in December, 2021.

As you know we, once again, were forced to cancel and instead, attempted to capture the essence of the concerts in a remake of last year's video.

With increased underwriting and exceptional support from you, our wonderful donors, we have been able to raise in excess of \$150,000 to be used specifically for conservation activities at the Mission.

We want to thank our family underwriters and our corporate sponsors for their support. And, as well, we want to thank you sincerely: with several major projects in the planning stages, your support this Christmas ensures these plans will move forward.

The San Xavier Ornament

To acknowledge the 25th anniversary of Patronato's "Christmas at San Xavier" concert series, we commissioned an exquisite hand-made ornament made for us in Poland. It features the Mission on one side, and the Mission's Patron, San Francisco Xavier, on the other. The Mission is lit by the feast-day fireworks as it normally is during the weekend before the Christmas concerts. We used the image of the ornament on the cover of this years concert DVD.



OUR PRESENTING SUPPORTER

The Bill Horst Family



In memory of Margaret Ann Horst

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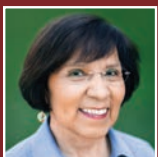
DESERT DIAMOND CASINOS



GENERAL SPONSORS AND IN-KIND GIFTS



New Board Members:



Alyce Sadongei

Alyce Sadongei (Kiowa/Tohono O'odham) has a career history of working with Native American arts and culture. She has worked at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian, the Arizona State Museum and is currently Project Manager for the American Indian Language Development Institute, University of Arizona.

Photo by Michelle Dillon, www.stonecrowphoto.com



Nancy Pollock-Ellwand

Dr. Nancy Pollock-Ellwand is Professor and Dean of the College of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture at the University of Arizona. Nancy is a Heritage Conservation Specialist and has served on the World Heritage evaluation panel for UNESCO's International Council on Monuments and Sites. Her specialization is Cultural Landscape.



Charlie Peck

Charlie Peck grew up in Tucson and is a proud wildcat having graduated from the Eller College of Management at the U of A. He is now Trading Manager and Shareholder with TCI Wealth Advisors. Charlie has been a volunteer with Patronato's "Christmas at San Xavier" for many years.

2022 has begun with a number of losses in the Patronato family.

In early January, Big Jim Griffith, Board member 1993 to 2018 passed. An anthropologist by training Jim provided the Board with great wisdom about culture and tradition within the Borderlands region. A week later we received word that Vern Lamplot, Patronato's Executive Director from 2005 to 2015 passed away, just months after his beloved wife, both from cancer. In February, Kathryn (Kathy) Hard (Board member 1997 to 2017) passed, less than a year after her husband of 61 years. Kathy had worked since its inception in 1997 to develop "Patronato's Christmas at San Xavier" a concert series that has raised more than \$2 million dollars towards conservation efforts at the Mission. We send our sincere condolences to the families.

Are you a current *Friend of Patronato?*

Now is the time to ensure your status as a *Friend of Patronato* remains active by making a qualifying donation of \$50 or more before the end of our fiscal year, June 30.

All *Friends* are welcome to attend at no cost our *Friends of Patronato* Zoom discussions. Always interesting, these talks are uploaded to Patronato's YouTube channel so you also have access to a library of prior presentations.

Friends of Patronato at the \$100 "Concert Level" or above receive Patronato's Christmas at San Xavier classic invitation and early access to purchase concert tickets.

Visit our website to see all *Friend of Patronato* giving levels and associated benefits.

Donors making gifts of \$1,000

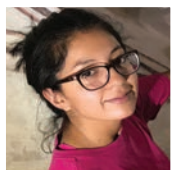
or more each fiscal year form part of our new Kino Society.

www.patronatosanxavier.org/friends. Please direct any questions to Kimberly Ely at k.ely@patronatosanxavier.org or 520.409.0025.



International recognition!

Recently our Mission project received important national and international recognition.



This summer our intern Susie Moreno was featured, working in the Mission's west transept, on the cover of "Preservation", the magazine produced by the National Fund for Historic Preservation. The article within contained an 8-page spread about the work currently underway at the Mission.

Then, in October, Patronato received global recognition during the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland. A three-minute video vignette on conservation work at San Xavier was submitted to The International Institute for Conservation and was selected to appear in a longer video presentation highlighting the impact of climate change on sensitive cultural heritage. Other sites featured include the likes of the Taj Mahal, Angkor Wat and the preservation of King Tutankhamen's fragile sash at Cairo's Egyptian Museum. We are so very proud!



Patronato San Xavier Board of Directors

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Starr Herr-Cardillo, *Conservation Project Manager*

Kathy Baily, *Scheduling Coordinator*

Susie Moreno, *Conservation Intern*

New Offices

After six years sharing office space at the YWCA, their expanding programs meant that the space we occupied was needed. We were fortunate to find a very similar arrangement literally across the road. Since October we have moved to the Kozolchyk National Law Center at 440 N Bonita. The Law Center is a not-for-profit organization like ourselves promoting equity and justice through trade policy. The new office space features event space and lots of parking so we look forward to a day when we might invite you to join us at a special event at our new location.



PATRONATO SAN XAVIER

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www.PatronatoSanXavier.org

Help Preserve San Xavier:

An Important part of our Cultural Heritage

Ways to Help. If you believe in Mission San Xavier's undeniable Power of Place, you can stay connected and make a difference by:

- Becoming a monthly donor supporting the Annual Fund, the Restricted Conservation & Preservation Fund or the Endowment
- Joining, renewing and increasing your fiscal year giving as a *Friend of Patronato*
- Making a gift to the Conservation & Preservation Fund which will be matched up to \$250,000 by the Don Bennett Moon Foundation
- Making a "forever" gift to our permanent Endowment Fund
- Making a gift in honor or in memory of someone special
- Leaving a Legacy Gift to the Patronato as a member of the 1783 Society
- Attending our interactive, live zoom events to stay informed all year
- Encouraging a friend to partner with us, or attend an event
- Taking a Docent-led Tour when available
- Connecting with us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube
- Visiting our website and subscribing to our eNewsletter at www.PatronatoSanXavier.org/email-sign-up

Make your gift today by:

Phone: 520.409.0025

Mail: Patronato San Xavier, PO Box 522, Tucson Arizona 85702

Online: www.PatronatoSanXavier.org

*Please let us know
how we can assist:*

Executive Director:

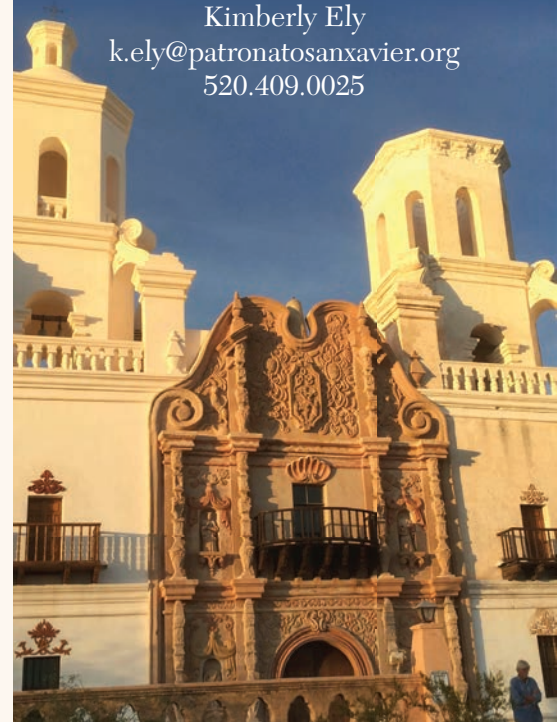
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