



# PATRONATO

*Mission San Xavier del Bac 2015*

## New Executive Director has “dream job”



Photo by Balfour Walker

*Miles Green*

When Miles Green visited Mission San Xavier del Bac for the first time during travels around the world in his twenties, he watched a reenactment of Father Eusebio Francisco Kino’s historic ride. He has visited often over the years and each time “there’s been a special magic.”

Now the new Executive Director of Patronato, he describes the opportunity as a “dream job” because he can work with a variety of interesting and knowledgeable people who also care about this iconic structure and want to preserve it for generations to come.

“Miles brings the passion and desire to see us succeed to his new role with Patronato,” said Chuck Albanese, President of the Patronato board of directors. “His diverse skills and talents, combined with the interests and energy of our board members, will help us complete the final phase of a complex and thorough renovation of the structure of our beloved Mission and ensure that funds are available for its ongoing preservation and maintenance.”

Miles trained as a psychologist and has had a varied career spanning clinical services, education, and business. Throughout his life, community service has been an important value and he has been a volunteer and Board member with organizations focused on the arts, social service and advocating for social justice.

Originally from New Zealand, Miles has lived in Tucson since 1988. He continues to enjoy traveling to exotic locations, road biking, hiking in the Santa Catalina mountains, photography, and creating great food in 30 minutes or less.



Photo by William Steen



Photos by Richard Fenwick

## Visitors & Docents: Learning from one another

On a Monday morning earlier this year, participants on the free, docent-led tours came from as far away as Alaska and Ecuador. One of the docents on duty that day, retired K-12 administrator Stan Maliszewski, said that he likes being a tour guide for many reasons including the opportunity to meet and interact with guests from around the globe, and share the history, artistry, and spirituality of the Mission. Being a docent also motivates Stan, who moved to Tucson from Nebraska 15 years ago, to continually learn more about the history of the Mission, and enrich his own awareness of the spirituality behind the beauty and grandeur.

Other docents that day were retired sales manager Judith Tracy and retired attorney Mary Martin, who describe themselves as history buffs. Judith, who moved to Tucson from New Jersey nine years ago, was in the first docent class and volunteers, in part, because she too likes meeting people. She also enjoys the blending of cultures at the Mission, from Native Americans to Europeans, and the Moorish influence on the Spanish architecture of the beautiful structure.

Judith was especially touched by a 13-year-old Native American visitor who had a great devotion to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, a statue of whom was added to the interior of the Mission in 2012.

Mary, who retired to Tucson a year ago from Minnesota, finds the Mission a “magical place” and is always intrigued by others’ stories. She enjoys meeting guests from all over the world, and can share her love of this beautiful place with others.

“I love guests’ interesting questions, comments and observations. Some days I feel as if I learn more from them than they could possibly learn from me. Recently, as I was telling the story of the cat and the mouse depictions on the façade, a guest asked how often we take measurements to see if they’ve gotten any closer. I told her I would pass the idea along,” says Mary.

Tours are offered several times a day, Monday through Saturday. Tour times change with the seasons and the church services schedule. Check the website for details: [www.patronatosanxavier.org/visit](http://www.patronatosanxavier.org/visit)

### *We’re recruiting!*

The docent program began just four years ago. In 2014, our docents led 1,800 tours for 24,000 people; we’re on track to accommodate 27,000 visitors in 2015. More visitors, more docents needed!

Our volunteer docents are well-trained and have opportunities for enrichment and continuing education. For example, the author Richard Collins recently spoke to our docent group about Father Eusebio Francisco Kino, who Richard chronicles in his book “Riding Behind the Padre.”

We’re looking for volunteers who are flexible, curious and enjoy a variety of people. Interested? The next **information meeting for prospective docents is 10 a.m. on Wednesday, October 14th** in the St. Clare Room at the Mission. The 2015-16 training program includes 6 morning sessions so that new docents can begin to lead tours during the busy winter months. The dates for the training sessions are November 4, 11, 18 and December 2, 9, 16.

# Saving the East Tower

The worst of the recession has come and gone and we've turned our focus again to the East Tower of Arizona's most significant historic building. Behind-the-scenes work by our board has resulted in \$800,000 in gifts towards the \$3,000,000 in charitable support needed to restore the tower. **Please help us raise the rest by making a donation today!**

The East Tower is showing serious signs of deterioration, with brick fragments and stucco crumbling in places. Workers have stabilized the tower so that it does not present any danger to people coming to the Mission. However, if left unrepaired for much longer, the risk of damage to the priceless interior artwork grows and becomes prohibitively expensive to fix.

"We are shoring up the foundation of the East Tower right now. As funds allow, we will be removing concrete plaster from the entire tower, replacing bricks where needed, and then re-plastering the exterior with a mixture of lime, sand and a glue made from the juice of prickly pear cactus," says Bob Vint, the Mission's preservation architect for the past 25 years. "It's

the same finish we used on the West Tower and other parts of the restored buildings."

Unlike the concrete plaster applied in the 1950s and now being removed, the new finish allows the building to breathe and "move," and protects the interior from rain and hail, heat and dust, and cycles of freezing and thawing.



Exterior restoration funded by Patronato began in 1988 with the rehabilitation of the roof and continued with the walls of the main church, the repair and restoration of the West Tower, and more recently the Sacristy Arcade on the west side of the church courtyard.

"We are deeply grateful to the generous individuals, corporations, and foundations that have already stepped forward and contributed to the White Dove Campaign,

including our initial corporate donors Snell & Wilmer and Freeport-McMoRan Inc.," said Patronato San Xavier Board President Chuck Albanese. "We now are turning to the wider community to fully meet our funding goal."

Tax-deductible gifts can be made securely online at [www.patronatosanxavier.org/donate/](http://www.patronatosanxavier.org/donate/) or by mail.

## Local Media tells East Tower story

Click "Media" on the new Patronato website ([www.patronatosanxavier.org](http://www.patronatosanxavier.org)) and you'll find links to read/view/listen to the terrific stories produced this year by local reporters about the East Tower renovation. Our thanks to Astrid Galvan from the Associated Press, Jennifer Delacruz from KGUN, Fernanda Echavarri and Mitchell Riley from Arizona Public Media, Jim Griffith and Johanna Willett from the Arizona Daily Star, and John Patrick from KVOA. You'll find links on our Facebook page as well: [www.facebook.com/pages/Patronato-San-Xavier](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Patronato-San-Xavier)



*Patronato Board Member Barbara Peck and Mission restoration architect Bob Vint, among others, were interviewed earlier this year by KGUN reporter Jennifer Delacruz*



*Patronato Board Chair Chuck Albanese and Mission restoration architect Bob Vint, among others, were interviewed earlier this year by KVOA reporter John Patrick.*

# Please vote in the November 2015 bond election

*Proposition 430 includes  
Mission San Xavier east tower/façade  
restoration and art conservation*

Photo by Chuck Albanese



A citizens advisory group with 25 members appointed by the Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator, each city and town, and two Native American tribal governments, held more than 100 public meetings seeking input from thousands of citizens over nine years.

In April of this year, the Pima County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution ordering a bond election to be held on November 3, 2015, and approving seven ballot propositions. If voters approve all of them, the County will be authorized to sell \$815,760,000 in general obligation bonds to fund projects that meet the purposes stated in each proposition.

The seven propositions are:

1. Proposition 425 Road and Highway Improvements
2. Proposition 426 Economic Development, Libraries and Workforce Training
3. Proposition 427 Tourism Promotion
4. Proposition 428 Parks and Recreation
5. Proposition 429 Public Health, Welfare, Safety, Neighborhoods and Housing
- 6. Proposition 430 Natural Area Conservation and Historic Preservation**
7. Proposition 431 Flood Control and Drainage

Proposition 430 encompasses seven projects, including “Mission San Xavier east tower/façade restoration and art conservation.”

“We are glad that the Mission has been recognized as an important priority,” said Miles Green, Patronato’s Executive Director. “It was difficult a few years ago when the State pulled funding for the renovation of the East Tower. Dollars from this bond election will go a long way in ensuring that critical renovation needed now can go forward and we can plan for ongoing preservation and maintenance.”

Patronato is raising up to \$3 million in charitable gifts to restore the east tower, \$2.5 million of which is a match for county funding. More than \$800,000 has already been secured towards this match. The charitable funding combined with the bond funding will ensure not only the completion of the east tower and façade restoration, but continuing interior art conservation and ongoing maintenance and preservation.

**If you are a voter** in Pima County, please vote in this election. If you are **not yet a registered voter** and would like to be, go to [www.recorder.pima.gov/regvote.aspx](http://www.recorder.pima.gov/regvote.aspx)

# New foyer doors built to last

New foyer doors at the Mission are beautifully crafted from strong and stable mesquite that was sourced from the San Pedro Valley by Tumacacori Mesquite Mill owner Art Flores. Morales Construction & Builders contractor Danny Morales, together with master woodworker Tim Hulette, selected the wood for the new doors. Tim built them and Patagonia blacksmith Richard Connolly fashioned the hinges, and the pintle and stop.

“These foyer doors are well used,” says Danny, “so Tim built them to last well in to the future.” Tim is no stranger at the Mission, having crafted many other items over the last 25 years, including some of the benches in the walkways, spindles on the windows, balustrades on the west tower balcony and the door on the bell floor of the west tower.

As luck would have it, when Danny was measuring the old doors in order to build the new foyer doors, he realized that the old ones were the original doors of the Chapter Room at the Mission. These old doors, which are made of pine sourced from the Santa Rita Mountains, again grace the entrance to the Chapter Room.

*(Left to right) Morales Construction & Builders crew members Santiago Garcia and Vince Morales with contractor Danny Morales. The Morales family has worked on the Mission restoration for generations.*



Photo by Martin DeSoto

# Gabriel Ayala's Spring 2015 concert now available



We were thrilled to welcome our guests to the Mission in April for the 7th Annual Spring 2015 concert featuring popular Native American guitarist Gabriel Ayala and his full quintet. We're pleased to report that this sold-out concert was videotaped.

Gabriel's CD was released earlier this year and can be purchased online: [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com) and via iTunes.

You can have a sneak peek at his upcoming DVD on YouTube: [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) with this search term: Gabriel Ayala speaks about ENCORE

# New offices for Patronato



We're pleased to now office in the very visible and conveniently located YWCA Tucson building at 525 N. Bonita Ave., which is just west of I-10 and between Congress and St. Mary's roads. We have a very pleasant office, plenty of storage space, and access to great meeting rooms. Please note that our mailing address (on the back page) remains the same.



Photo © James Falka

# 19th Annual Christmas Concert at San Xavier: December 8th 9th & 10th

To be added to our invitation list, go to our web site, [www.patronatosanxavier.org](http://www.patronatosanxavier.org) "contact us" Please provide full mailing address and an email contact. Invitations go out the first week of October.

**With grateful thanks to our 2014 concert supporters.**

*Sponsor:* Ann Fallon

*Our Underwriters:*

Arch and Laura Brown

John and Georgiann Carroll

Pat and Chuck Pettis

*Significant support also provided by:* Desert Diamond Casinos & Entertainment, Snell & Wilmer, LLP and Tucson Electric Power.

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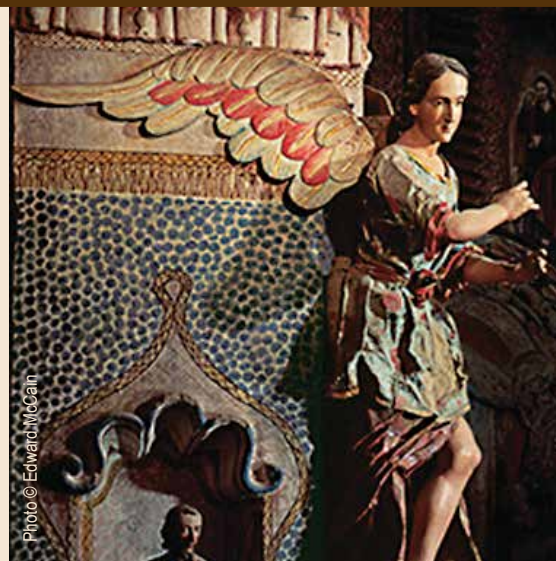
Robert Vint,  
*Vint & Associates, Architects, Inc.*

**Project Contractor:**

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**On the Web:**

[www.patronatosanxavier.org](http://www.patronatosanxavier.org)



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