



PATRONATO

Mission San Xavier del Bac Winter 2019

A New Mission Statement for Patronato

This Spring, members of the Board approved a new mission statement for our organization. A central concern was the original statement’s emphasis on Patronato’s “only purpose” which effectively ignored the educational components provided through our docent programming and the more research-based approach to conservation that increasingly defines Patronato’s work. Also, the original statement included the term “restoration” which in the world of preservation architecture, has a very specific meaning. Members of the Wa:k community also expressed their belief that locating the Mission “near Tucson” rather than in the community of Wa:k negates an important part of the Mission’s history. We believe the resulting redrafted mission statement better defines who we are and what we do.

“Patronato San Xavier funds and directs ethical conservation, conducts scientific research, and interprets the significance of Mission San Xavier del Bac, a National Historic Landmark, in the community of Wa:k, part of the Tohono O’odham Nation.”

Visit by Grant Partner from Sacred Places

Earlier this year Patronato welcomed Chad Martin, Director of the National Fund for Sacred Places, to Tucson for a two-day site visit. In October 2018, the Fund selected Patronato and the Mission project as one of 13 national projects to receive grant funding. In addition to meeting with parish, board and staff leadership, Chad took an in-depth tour of the Mission with particular interest in the East Tower project which will be their funding focus.

FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS:

- The National Fund for Sacred Places will be offering the Patronato a grant of up to \$250,000.
- This year, Patronato is committed to raising \$500,000 to match the maximum grant award of \$250,000.
- Every \$2 raised by Patronato will be eligible for a \$1 match, up to the total grant amount awarded.

Your support has been, and continues to be, vital as we position Patronato to qualify for full grant-award funding. Please partner with us as every gift matters. Thank you!



A program of Partners for Sacred Places
in collaboration with the
National Trust for Historic Preservation

Large Scaffold inside the Church

Visitors to Mission San Xavier across summer were surprised to find a giant scaffold erected in the West Transept of the Church. This scaffolding provided our conservators access to the domes and upper reaches of the transept. It has been nearly thirty years since a team of conservators from Europe (having just wrapped up projects at the Sistine Chapel) initiated the first conservation efforts in this section of the Church.

Our conservators have been carrying out deferred maintenance. Temperature extremes within the Church cause damage to the fragile painted surfaces requiring new evaluation. Gaps where the plaster had separated behind the painted surfaces were carefully filled. Loose paint fragments were painstakingly re-adhered.



In one quiet corner, the conservators discovered a dove's nest with a single egg! St Francis would appreciate the "White Dove" continues to be a refuge for all.

The West Nave Door

This Spring the first and most seriously impacted of the doors in the main church will be removed for conservation treatment by wood conservator, Luke Addington. (You may remember Luke's work on the conservation of the altar railings and the 18th Century beams in the Museum Rooms.) The doors are all original to the church and have never received comprehensive preservation. In the case of the West Nave door, the jambs have been severely damaged by termites, so that they no longer support the hinge hardware. These jambs will need to be removed and rebuilt, conserving as much of the original wood as possible. The goal of this work is not to make the door "like new" but rather to clean and stabilize the materials, protecting the wood from further deterioration. This way the originals can continue to serve their purpose for another 200 years.



Maintenance on the Domes

A building as complex as Mission San Xavier and subject to some of the world's harshest climate extremes, needs continual maintenance. Up on the roof, the protective layers of plaster develop fine cracks due to movement within the building. Routine maintenance must be carried out every other year; repairing the cracks and applying fresh coats of the traditional lime plaster. This year, on sections of the roof where damage is most extreme, new conservation techniques to address the cracking are being tested. Working with techniques used in other settings, our conservation experts are testing non-traditional materials in the cracks to create greater elasticity. Such trials need to ensure that nothing is attempted that cannot be reversed. The goal is to see if these approaches might extend the maintenance cycle by preventing the cracking occurring so quickly. Whatever the outcome, Patronato's findings will be shared with peer organizations, building upon our intent to serve as a resource partner to a global conservation community.





San Xavier Inspired Art: An Art Auction to Promote and Preserve

Friends of Western Art held a live auction at the Mountain Oyster Club on October 12 to benefit Patronato. Twenty-five renowned artists produced and donated art that was sold to support the conservation of the fragile artwork in the Mission interior. Event proceeds raised \$50,000 to support this vital work.

Patronato Welcomes New Board Members



MARISOL VINDIOLA

Marisol is the Director of Mexican Initiatives at “Visit Tucson”, the official destination marketing organization for Tucson and Southern Arizona. Her role is to work with business partners and local, State and International Governmental Agencies to promote and strengthen the relationship between Tucson and Mexico.”



FR. JOHN ARNOLD

Fr. John currently serves as pastor of St. Marks the Evangelist Parish in Oro Valley and is the Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Tucson. Fr. John studied law at Gonzaga University in Spokane, has dual masters degrees in Theology and Divinity from Sacred Heart School of Theology in Wisconsin and also studied Canon Law at the Catholic University in Washington DC. An avid student of history, he has helped lead tours of the Kino Missions for the Southwestern Mission Research Center since 2004.



ROBERT ALPAUGH

Robert is the owner and principal in ALPAUGH + Associates, a consulting firm specializing in the non-profit sector. Formerly, he was a senior consultant with Campbell & Company, based in Chicago. Selected clients include; Tucson Museum of Art, City Center for Collaborative Learning, Minnesota Historical Society and Independence Historical Trust. Before joining Campbell & Company Robert enjoyed a career as a senior executive with The Joffrey Ballet, Williamstown Theatre Festival and Arizona Theatre Company (1989 – 1996).

Patronato's Docent Training

Last fall, 15 new Docents graduated training to bring our Docent Group to a total of 70 active members. And, it could not have come at a better time! During high season, October through April, tours are offered to the public every 30 minutes, up to 10 times a day, with over 35,000 visitors annually taking a *complimentary* Docent-led tour. To cope with anticipated growth in tour numbers, a new training class began last month.

If you haven't taken one of our Docent-led tours of the Mission, they provide excellent information about the history, art and architecture of Mission San Xavier. Docent-led Tours are offered year-round, every day (except Sundays and dates reserved by the Parish for weddings, funerals and special Masses). Schedules can be found on our website: www.patronatosanxavier.org.

For cultural and academic groups of more than 15 individuals, we can arrange a Special Tour. Complete the "Group Tour Request" form on our website and allow us a minimum of two weeks notice to set up these Special Tours.

If you have interest in becoming a docent, call our Development Director, Kimberly Ely 520 447-8940.

In 2018, Patronato received over \$30,000 from visitors inspired to partner financially with the us after taking a Docent-led tour.



Thank you for Supporting Patronato Events

It has been a busy year! On March 1st we hosted Grammy-winning Christian Music Pioneer, John Michael Talbot who performed at St. Thomas the Apostle Church to support conservation activities. At the end of the March, Tenor Carlos Zapien headlined Patronato's Spring Concert at San Xavier performing *An Evening of Spanish Bolero*.

In August our Docent educators hosted a workshop for teachers. Mission culture is part of several State Standards in the K-8 curriculum. 35 elementary and secondary teachers attended to learn more about San Xavier and how to plan tours at Mission San Xavier.

The beginning of October we launched our new Friends of Patronato Lecture Series. Lectures take place monthly, October to March and feature members of our Speakers Bureau who address a range of Mission-related topics. The lectures are free to our *Friends of Patronato* or, for guests, there is a small charge.

October 16th saw Dr. John P. Schaefer, former President of the University of Arizona, present a lecture at the Center for Creative Photography discussing his relationship with photographer Ansel Adams and sharing images of their respective take on the Mission's architecture.

Support Patronato's Conservation with your Year-end Gift

Imagine the astonishment of visitors arriving two hundred plus years ago, seeing this European-inspired megastructure dominating the community of Wa:k. An architectural wonder, an 18th century skyscraper standing in the vast plains of the Pimeria Alta.

Yet, it can be easy to forget when we get caught up in the beauty of San Xavier, this place where cultures, faiths and traditions intersect, that the Mission is one of the most significant, at risk, cultural sites in the world*

Your support helps ensure our "White Dove of the Desert" (a name originally coined by photographer Ansel Adams) will remain a beacon, greeting and inspiring visitors from around the corner and around the globe. We appreciate your support.

**As defined by its addition to the World Monument's Fund prestigious Watch List in 2015*



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Stay Connected and Partner with the Patronato by:

- Joining, renewing and increasing your annual fund giving as a *Friend of Patronato*
- Making a restricted gift to the East Tower or the 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
- Taking a Docent-led Tour
- Connecting with us on Facebook and Liking our Page, Patronato San Xavier
- Visiting our website and subscribing to our eNewsletter at patronatosanxavier.org/email-sign-up

We are here for you, please let us know how we can assist:

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SAN XAVIER**

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Patronato's 23rd Annual Christmas at San Xavier

This beloved series of 7 concerts, presented annually over 4 nights during the week of December 9th helps raise nearly 20% of the operating costs for the various projects we fund each year.

Tickets are available at our website www.patronatosanxavier.org. Join us and enjoy the magic of Patronato's Christmas at San Xavier.

Planning for the Next Decade

In the first week of February we are planning special events in Phoenix and Tucson to introduce our new Conservation Master Plan and to spotlight upcoming projects at the Mission.

2019 Sponsor Spotlight

Patronato wishes to thank our generous Christmas at San Xavier Family and Corporate Sponsors:

Pat and Chuck Pettis

Laura and Arch Brown

Barbara and Hank Peck

Fred and Mary Frelinghuysen

Kenneth J. and Margaret F. McNealy
Charitable Trust



Patronato thanks all audience members and sponsors for their participation and support!

Patronato San Xavier
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