Dear Friends,

2013 has been a banner year for the Amerind Foundation. Coming off our 75th anniversary in 2012 we continued this year to restore and renovate Amerind’s historic buildings, install new exhibitions in the Museum and Art Gallery, provide outstanding public and education programs, host advanced seminars and visiting scholars, and expand the scope of our research publications.

Notable 2013 achievements include:

- Renovation and opening of three first floor galleries of the Fulton-Hayden Memorial Library and Art Gallery
- Installation of a wheelchair ramp and lift for the art gallery (making the entire library and art gallery building handicapped accessible for the first time since its completion in 1959!)
- Renovation and opening of the Fulton Family Gallery on the second floor of art gallery building
- Naming of the Chapin Family Foundation, the Goodman Family, and the Friends of Western Art Galleries in the Fulton Hayden Memorial Gallery, and the Peter and Ann Johnson Family Gallery in the Museum.
- Opening of Amerind’s Retreat Center, housed in the Fulton Seminar House
- Opening of five new exhibitions in the museum and art gallery
- Launching a new Advanced Seminar and publication series with ASU and Cambridge Press entitled “New Directions in Sustainability and Society”.

This 2013 annual report of the Amerind Foundation highlights some of our recent accomplishments and recognizes the many individuals and institutions that helped us along the way.

Thank you for your support of Amerind’s important mission. Your contributions are an investment in a future that values our past.

Sincerely,

John A. Ware, PhD
Executive Director

John Davis
President
Since its founding in 1937 the Amerind Foundation has sought to foster and promote knowledge and understanding of the Native Peoples of the Americas through research, education, and conservation. Located on a 1,600-acre campus in spectacular Texas Canyon in Southeastern Arizona, the Amerind Foundation includes a world-class anthropology museum and art gallery, a 30,000 volume research library, 10-room seminar house and conference facility, and residences for visiting scholars and artists. Open year-round, the Amerind offers scholarly seminars, educational tours, and public events featuring Native American artisans, poets and storytellers, as well as hands-on educational programs for elementary and middle school students.

Key Accomplishments

Amerind's Historic Facilities

In 2012 Amerind’s collections were consolidated in a new state-of-the-art collection repository in the east wing of the Museum. In 2013 we added computer monitored digital climate controls to the repository to maintain constant temperature and humidity throughout the 5,000 square foot storage repository. Consolidation of collections in renovated repository space freed up over 2,500 square feet of public gallery space on the first floor of the Fulton-Hayden Art Gallery that had served as “temporary” storage of fragile organic collections since 1985. In April of 2013 we held a grand opening of the newly renovated art gallery with an exhibition of western art that included over 50 works from Amerind’s collections and an additional 50 paintings and sculptures borrowed from members of Friends of Western Art of Tucson.

To make the art gallery available to everyone, regardless of physical condition, in 2013 we installed a wheelchair ramp to the first floor gallery level and a wheelchair lift to the second floor—improvements were made possible by generous grants from Friends of Western Art, Frances Chapin Foundation, and Jack and Aline Goodman of Tucson. And to top off a year of unprecedented support, last month the Friends of Western Art board helped fund the renovation of the art gallery interior with a $100 thousand pledge that will pay for new lighting systems throughout the building and fund installation of a handicapped accessible restroom. We are profoundly indebted to the members of the Friends of Western Art, the Frances Chapin Foundation, and the Goodmans for their support of our efforts to create a center for western art in southern Arizona.

With the Fulton-Hayden Art Gallery now almost fully funded, we are turning our attention in 2014 to renovations of our 75 year old museum building. A generous pledge from Peter and Ann Johnson of Tucson got the ball rolling in 2013 and we are hoping for additional support next year. In 2014 we will begin the redesign of the museum’s archaeology and ethnology galleries, which haven’t seen a major installation change for nearly 30 years. We are also raising much needed support to replace antique wiring and an ancient boiler with modern heating and cooling systems.

Significant pieces of mid-20th Century Native American art came into the collections in 2013, as well as an impressive array of Katsina dolls, all donated by Mary Mack of Tucson. In addition, the estate of Jane Leininger of Tucson donated a significant collection of Native arts with particularly fine works by Native American painters.

On the conservation front, one of Amerind’s great treasures is a 110 year-old painting on elk hide, created by Shoshone artist Katsikodi. With the help of a $12,000 grant from Friends of Western Art of Tucson, the painting was cleaned.
and stabilized, tears in the hide body were repaired, and a conservation quality display case and hanging system were constructed, allowing us to safely display the piece for the first time in over 30 years. The hide now hangs in the Frances Chapin Foundation Gallery on the first floor of Amerind’s Fulton-Hayden Memorial Art Gallery.

Improvements to Amerind’s collection repository continued apace in 2013. A new computerized brain is now monitoring the climate control system in our collection storage room. The new system optimizes the HVAC equipment installed in 2012, ensuring its efficiency and continued performance. The advanced control system even communicates with curatorial staff via email, to let us know how the system is performing!

Thanks to our capital campaign supporters, the Fulton-Hayden Memorial Art Gallery now has a greatly improved basic lighting system, a security system upgrade, a wheelchair ramp and mechanical chair lift, and a new paint job. Next year capital campaign contributions will allow us to install a handicapped accessible bathroom and begin to install new lighting systems throughout the art gallery. To better tell the story of our founding family’s legacy, the Fulton Gallery on the second floor of the art gallery building underwent significant renovation by demolishing part of a wall to unite two galleries into one interpretive space.

The Amerind sponsored four advanced seminars in 2013 and shepherded five publications destined for completion in 2014.

In February ten scholars from North America assembled at the Amerind to discuss the impacts of European colonization on native populations in the Americas. The symposium included a critical appraisal of various ‘germ theories’ of native population decline, challenging popular notions that Native Americans were particularly susceptible to Old World diseases. New World demographic declines were more the result, the symposium participants agreed, of various forms of structural violence, including widespread warfare, slavery, and other colonial insults. The publication of Beyond Germs is scheduled for spring of 2015 and will likely challenge many conventional views of New World History.

Our second advanced seminar in April 2013, entitled Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK for short), assembled 11 scholars, eight of whom were Native Americans, to discuss the time-tested ways that indigenous people perceive and interact with their environments. Chaired by Drs. Melissa Nelson of San Francisco State University and Dan Shilling of the Amerind Foundation, seminar participants presented papers and discussed the role of TEK in global sustainability strategies. The book coming out of the seminar will be one of the first publications in Amerind’s new series through Cambridge University Press entitled New Directions in Sustainability and Society, in collaboration with ASU’s School of Sustainability.

In September, 12 paleolithic archaeologists from the US, Canada, and England convened at the Amerind to synthesize recent research on ancient stone tool technologies. Stone tools were the principal human technology for 99% of human history, enabling humans to colonize virtually every continent in the world during the last ice age. There is every reason to believe that important features of the human body, including hand form and dentition structure, coevolved with stone tools in deep antiquity. Recent research on stone tool technology by the participants in this seminar will contribute to a groundbreaking volume, destined for publication in late 2015.

The final seminar of 2013 brought together 10 Southwestern archaeologists interested in the construction of social identities...
in frontier and borderland communities. In the multiethnic prehistoric Southwest, people’s lives regularly intersected with those of other cultures and linguistic communities, and the material evidence suggests that people living on frontiers may have interacted and participated in multiple cultural expressions, resulting in fluid social and cultural identities. The book that will come out of this seminar will be published by the University Press of Colorado.

In 2013 our members saw a significant increase in the number of cultural tours, workshops, and other public education programs. Amerind cultural tours connect members with archaeologists, Native Americans, and other experts who provide content-rich multi-day tours close to home and farther afield.

This year our cultural tours took us on a Hohokam World Tour, we explored The Geology of Southeastern Arizona, ventured north to see Rock Art & Archaeology of the Four Corners, toured historic Trading Posts in northern Arizona and New Mexico, and visited the important sites of the Apache Wars on the Battleground Arizona tour.

Amerind also held several multiday workshops in 2013. Our Textile & Basketry Collectors’ Workshop led by Terry Dewald explored the history of collecting southwestern basketry and textiles. Participants learned identifying characteristics of many historic and contemporary baskets, blankets, and rugs. Our Navajo Weaving Workshop saw participants create their very own Navajo style rugs with the tutelage of master Navajo weavers Barbara Teller Ornelas and Lynda Teller Pete. In December Mark Bahti led a workshop for Jewelry Collectors delving into the history of collecting Native American jewelry using Amerind’s extensive collection and included tips
EXHIBITS

On the exhibition front Amerind has had a busy year. Five major exhibits have been installed. The centerpiece was the grand reopening of the Fulton-Hayden Memorial Art Gallery. For the opening exhibition, Amerind teamed up with Friends of Western Art (FWA) to put on Artistic Visions of the West. Volunteers from FWA and Amerind worked closely together, selecting pieces from Amerind’s permanent collection and the private collections of FWA’s many members. The result is an engaging exhibit that explores the West through the eyes of over 60 artists.

The art gallery will become a much livelier place in the years ahead, with exhibits changing more frequently in more galleries.

A new permanent exhibit, “Ma Fulton’s FF Ranch,” focusing on Rose Hayden Fulton and her quarter horses, went up in November.

The “Interwoven Traditions” exhibit has seen its final rotation of Navajo textiles. In the Art Gallery changing galleries 2013 saw two new exhibits; “Rock Art: From Archaeoastronomy to Zoomorphs” featuring contemporary petroglyphs and pictographs by Choctaw rock artist David Morris and “O’odham Abstract” highlighting the contemporary work of four O’odham artists.

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Amerind’s 1st floor art gallery re-opened in 2013

Restored Katsikodi story robe on display in Amerind’s Art Gallery.

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