

AMERIND
MUSEUM • ART GALLERY • RESEARCH CENTER

ANNUAL
REPORT **2024**



FROM LAURA BROWN, CHAIR, AMERIND FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Friends,

2024 has been a robust year for Amerind, welcoming more visitors to campus than before the pandemic. Without a passionate Board of Directors and fabulous staff, *all* dedicated to Amerind's mission, we would not be sharing this impressive annual report. I personally want to thank each of you—patrons, supporters, and friends. Your continued commitment has been essential to our success.

Your visits, your support of the Museum (attending events both in Tucson and at our Museum in Texas Canyon), and your financial contributions sustain our efforts to make our collections more outstanding, inspiring scholars and educating all on the importance of the past. We want to ensure Amerind continues to be recognized as an outstanding destination representing Native Peoples of the Southwest.

With gratitude,
Laura



FROM ERIC J. KALDAHL, PHD, PRESIDENT & CEO AMERIND FOUNDATION

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your tremendous generosity! Your donations and memberships strengthened Amerind's work in 2024. We welcomed over ten and half thousand people to programs, new exhibits, and beautiful outdoor experiences. We were able to increase support for innovative social science research and Indigenous artists. Your donations secured the funds we needed to improve handicapped accessibility in the Museum.

Thanks to you, we underwrote more programs in greater Tucson, allowing Amerind to serve a larger community. I hope you enjoy reading this report. You will see the positive effect *your generosity* has made to increase cultural understanding, advance our understanding of the human story, and create spaces for thoughtful conversations and wonder.

Thank you!
Eric

UPPER: Amerind Museum store. Photo courtesy of Bill Steen. LOWER: Texas Canyon Trail Run. Photo courtesy of Kerry Whelan (GoatOGRAPHER).



Amerind Highlights

Amerind is a unique institution with museum collections, galleries, meeting rooms, and residences all housed in unique historic buildings on a 1,900-acre landscape in the beautiful Texas Canyon environment of southern Arizona. We support communities, individuals, and the landscapes on which we dwell.

IN 2024, AMERIND

Hosted **10,630 visitors** to its Texas Canyon facilities, up 20% since the development of the Nature Preserve Trail System

Supported **over 80 Indigenous artists** through events, residencies, and exhibits

Supported **over 40 scholars** through events, residencies, and collections access

Housed valuable cultural collections including **more than 40,000 objects**

Engaged **13,852 followers** on social media

Hosted **1,179 people** who engaged with our Nature Preserve through hiking, running, and bicycling

Enrolled **622 members** who are the foundation of our community; 34% upgraded their memberships

Received financial support from **373 donors**

Expanded support for **dozens of professionals** through *Emerging Artists in Residence* for young Indigenous artists, and *Encuentro de los Arqueólogo/as de la Frontera* for young scholars



Pin made by A:shiwi (Zuni) lapidary Juanita Homer and silversmith Tom Weahkee. Photo by Eric J. Kaldahl.

WORDS FROM OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

“Amerind provides excellent educational, research, and exhibition opportunities to the community at large. Amerind offers all communities a better understanding of our past and inspires us to live our best lives both today and in future. Ahe’hee’ (Thank you).”

—GLORY TACHEENIE-CAMPOY, DINÉ

“I support the Amerind because of its unwavering commitment to cross-cultural understanding, through the advancement of meaningful archaeological and anthropological research, consequential engagement with Indigenous communities, and extensive public involvement.”

—ROGER ANYON



TOP: Texas Canyon Trail Run starting line. Photo courtesy of Kerry Whelan (GoatOGRAPHER). LOWER LEFT: Autum Fest performing artist Matthew Andrae (Jicarilla Apache). Photo courtesy of Bev Parks. LOWER RIGHT: Photo courtesy of Dr. Jeff S. Maltzman.



Research and Curation

For nearly 90 years, Amerind has supported research through fieldwork, gatherings of scholars, and curation of archives and objects. In 2024, we expanded the number and diversity of scholar gatherings and refined our curation practices.

2024 RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We hosted **eight scholars**, supporting their use of Amerind collections and archives.

We hosted the annual seminar of scholars selected from among over 60 proposed seminars presented at the annual Society for American Archaeology—**Collaborative Archaeology: How Native American Knowledge Enhances our Collective Understanding of the Past**. This winning seminar features many Indigenous and non-Indigenous archaeological researchers discussing projects that are directed by Indigenous community interests.

We hosted a workshop of emerging scholars focused on Mexican-US borderland research—**Encuentro de los Arqueólogo/as de la Frontera**.

We organized a design workshop of the Coalition for Archaeological Synthesis on **Climate Change in Urban Environments**.

We hosted a **workshop of Native American scholars** (at the end of 2023) to discuss future seminars and publications engaging Indigenous scholars.

We hosted **more than 40 scholars** on Amerind's campus in Texas Canyon.

We helped bring to publication **two edited volumes** in the Amerind Studies in Anthropology series through University of Arizona Press—*Landscapes of Movement and Predation*; *Ancient Mesoamerican Population History*.

We published **two biannual reports** of Amerind's work—*Amerind Notebooks*.

We **celebrated the 50th anniversary** of the highly sought-after eight volume book reporting on the Amerind funded *Joint Casas Grandes Expedition*.

OUR COMMUNITY SPEAKS ABOUT THE VALUE OF AMERIND'S RESEARCH AND CURATION:

"(Amerind) is the ideal place to bring scholars from around the world to analyze how the past can benefit our understanding of contemporary issues. The Amerind belies its strength with grace and humility, inspiring scholars to stretch for new heights as we delve the past for clues to our future."

—JEFFREY ALTSCHUL

"I have an interest in archeology and anthropology. Amerind, as a research center, has helped to further my understanding of how the people in our area of the country lived centuries ago."

— PAT BRITTON



LEFT: Participants at the seminar Collaborative Archaeology: How Native American Knowledge Enhances our Collective Understanding of the Past. Photo by Eric J. Kaldahl. CENTER: Historian Dr. Marcus Macktima (San Carlos Apache) from Northern Arizona University speaks at Autumn Fest. Photo courtesy of Bev Parks. RIGHT: Participating scholars in Hermosillo, Sonora, for Amerind's Encuentro de los Arqueólogos/as de la Frontera. Photo by Eric J. Kaldahl.

2024 COLLECTIONS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We **collaborated with other institutions** through the loan of Amerind collections: Pima Community College, Tucson Museum of Art, Arizona State Museum of Natural History, Arizona State Museum, Tucson Botanical Gardens.

We **continued to improve the curation** of the materials from the *Joint Casas Grandes Project* by rehousing photographs (completed) and digitizing the archive of records (in progress).

We **grew our collections** through donations of baskets, textiles, quilts, jewelry, map, rugs, sculpture, prints, and documents.

THE FUTURE

We plan to **build the Amerind Endowment for Research**—established by the Margaret E. Mooney Foundation—so that the diversity of programs can continue.

We plan to **complete crucial digitizing tasks** for the *Joint Casas Grandes Project*.



“Based on five marvelous experiences at Amerind over the last 20+ years this is what inspires me to support Amerind: By hosting and sponsoring focused meetings of researchers, Amerind enables the intense and creative interactions that lead to tremendously important achievements in understanding past societies. For the participants, these meetings are always enjoyable and productive, and are often transformative. There is nothing else like it for American archaeology.”

— KEITH KINTIGH



UPPER: Amerind Library. Photo courtesy of Bill Steen. LOWER: Photo of Comcaác (Seri) master basket maker Maria Elena Romero from El Desemboque, Sonora, March 1999. The basket in the photo was purchased from the artist by collectors Bruce and Marsha Weber, who donated the basket to Amerind in 2024. Photo courtesy of Bruce and Marsha Weber.



The Arts

Amerind houses both an Anthropology Museum and Art Gallery. In these historic buildings we give special attention to Western Artists and Indigenous Artists. This year, we enhanced our support for emerging Indigenous artists and continued our valuable partnership with Friends of Western Art.

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We supported **three emerging Indigenous artists** (Tohono O'odham, Diné, and Cochiti) with month-long residencies on the Texas Canyon campus.

We designed **five exhibits** of Indigenous artists' works and hosted them at the Amerind Museum.

We hosted **seven events** to feature Indigenous artists on the Amerind campus.

We supported or featured artists in a **variety of media**: basketry, painting, photography, pottery, digital art, music, and writing.

We partnered with Friends of Western Art to develop an exhibit **Ways through the West** and hosted their members on Amerind's campus.

We brought **Amerind to Tucson** by engaging with two institutions to feature Indigenous artists in music and painting:

Tucson Symphony Orchestra and American Composers Orchestra:
EarShot CoLABoratory

Tucson Botanical Gardens:
Indigenous Art in an Abundant Land

THE FUTURE

We plan to secure permanent funding for **Emerging Indigenous Artists**.

We plan to develop an **Arts Acquisition fund**.

We plan to secure permanent funding for **Peoples' Choice Artist Awards at Autumn Fest**.



Untitled painting from Texas Canyon by artist Santiago Romero (Cochiti), one of three talented young artists awarded Amerind's Emerging Indigenous Artist Residency. Photo courtesy of Santiago Romero.

WORDS FROM OUR FRIENDS:

"To us Amerind is The Jewel in the Desert. The history, the fabulous collections of Native American jewelry, artifacts and art, and the present support for emerging Native artists is outstanding."

—INGEBORG AND RALPH
SILBERSCHLAG



Historic Preservation

Amerind's cultural landscape includes a complex of museums, residences, and research space built in Spanish Colonial Revival style in the 1930–1950s. These historic buildings house artists, scholars, staff, exhibits, collections, archives, books, and seminars, and thus require upkeep and improvements year-round. We are deeply committed to the preservation of Amerind's historic buildings and their incorporation into all we do.

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We **improved the Art Gallery** temperature control system.

We **created an architecture series** in our new publication, *Amerind Notebook*, which shares aspects of the unique features of our historic buildings with our community.

We began a **tour and talk series** at Amerind campus to educate the public about our historic buildings and the Fulton family who built them.

We **repaired** the Fulton Seminar House, the Di Peso House, and one of the Scholars' Residences.

We **nearly completed funding** the new Museum HVAC system (\$450,000).

We created a **handicapped lift improvement plan** and fully funded it from donations.

THE FUTURE

Our primary goal in 2025 is to **paint the exterior of all buildings** to preserve and protect them into the future.

We plan to **improve the gallery lighting** systems in the Museum building's exhibit halls.

We plan to **complete another accessibility improvement project**—adding a wheelchair lift to the Museum building. We also plan to complete the drawing for an interior lift to better serve guests in the Museum building's grand gallery.

In the longer term we are planning to **renovate one of our historic buildings** into a Welcome Center.



ABOUT AMERIND'S HISTORICAL BUILDINGS:

"The triple-thick clay brick walls with hand-applied plaster, hand-adzed heavy timber ceiling beams and trusses, terra-cotta roof tiles, iron-oxide-stained concrete floors, ornate wooden doors and shutters, create a sense of time and permanence, of continuity with the past, when southeastern Arizona was considered part of La Nueva España."

—ROBERT VINT, ARCHITECT



UPPER: Di Peso House, available for vacation rental on Vrbo and Airbnb. Photo by Eric J. Kaldahl. LOWER: Photo of the Fulton House. Photo courtesy of Kerry Whelan (GoatOGRAPHER).



Nature Preserve

Amerind's natural landscape is part of its charm and an essential part of who we are. We endeavor to protect and preserve all aspects of it while ensuring access by our communities.

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We enjoyed the first full year of access by community members to the Texas Canyon Nature Preserve through our **new interconnected eight-mile trail system**, hosting over 1,800 hikers.

We offered **guided geology and botany hikes**.

We were **featured in Arizona Highways** for the beauty of our landscape and the benefit we offer through the trail system.

We partnered with Arizona Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to host **two endangered species of fish** and will be adding an **endangered frog** to our home in Spring 2025.

We **supported Tohono O'odham basketry makers** by providing access to key weaving materials native to the area.

We hosted over **600 mountain bikers, runners, and walkers** through our three annual trail events.

We supported **two plein air Paint Outs** for local artists

THE FUTURE

We plan to **install interpretive signage** in two languages for botany, history, and archaeology along the Nature Preserve Trail System.

We will create a new **outdoor meeting place** at the head of the Nature Preserve Trail System.

EXPERIENCING THE TEXAS CANYON NATURE PRESERVE:

"Our family trip to Amerind was wonderful in every way. We were able to walk along the perfectly maintained trails through the unique enormous, rounded boulders typical of Texas Canyon and the Chiricahua mountains. There were beautiful pale soft grasses along the way and lovely evergreen Arizona oak trees..."

—LUCY BELDING

"Campus visitors interested in geology, anthropology, astronomy, and birding will find it all at Amerind. Texas Canyon [also] creates a special enchantment for photographers who want stunning images of wildlife, flora, and people."

—KAREN PEITSMAYER

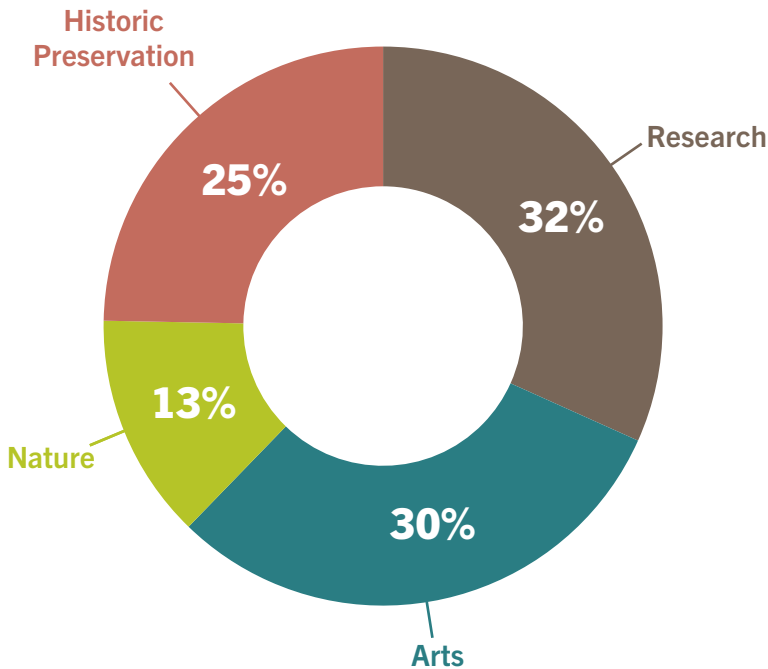


TOP: Texan Canyon Mountain Bike racers. Photo courtesy of Kerry Whelan (GoatOGRAPHER).

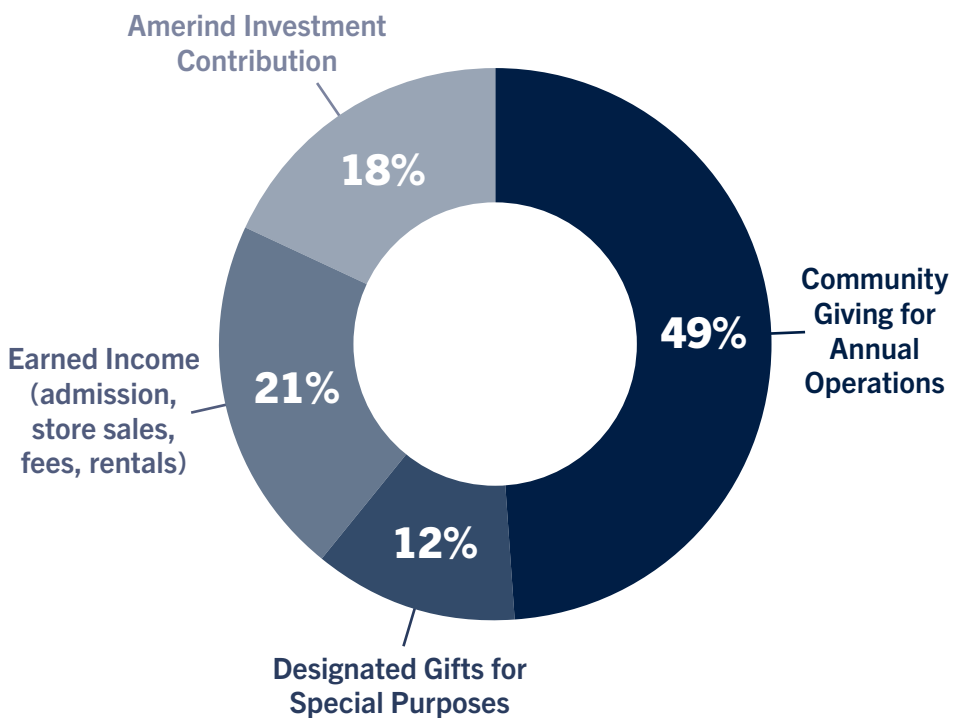
BOTTOM: Photo courtesy of Dr. Jeff S. Maltzman.

2024 Financial Statement

EXPENSE CLASSES 2024: \$1,423,856



ANNUAL REVENUE SOURCES 2024: \$1,423,856



UPPER AND MIDDLE: Photos courtesy of Kerry Whelan (GoatOGRAPHER). LOWER: Members of the No:liqk Traditional Singers and Basket Dancers at the Texas Canyon Trail Run. Photo courtesy of Bev Parks.



Comcáac (Seri) basket donated to Amerind in 2024 by Bruce and Marsha Weber. Photo by Eric J. Kaldahl.

THANK YOU Amerind Community!

Amerind depends on our community in every way. You connect people, tradition, and history with your dedication to our work. Generous annual donations and memberships are behind each discovery, creative expression, and learning opportunity we accomplished together in 2024. With you by our side, we look forward to growing together and tackling our plans for the future

“We support Amerind with gratitude for the benefits we receive from our association. We admire the way Amerind operates as a local museum with an international impact. As visiting scholars and participants in Amerind Seminars over the years, we have always been inspired and encouraged to greater productivity by the spectacular scenery, the freedom from distractions, and the supportive facilities and staff. We are also inspired by Amerind’s service to Cochise County as the community’s local arts and sciences museum while at the same time extending its impact internationally through the historic Joint Casas Grandes Project. Seminars, visiting scholars, and artist programs expand our knowledge of and appreciation for the human experience.”

—KELLEY ANN HAYS-
GILPIN AND DENNIS GILPIN

Photo: Kerry Whelan (GoatOGRAPHER)



“We believe that the Amerind Museum does such incredible and important work in preserving and celebrating Native cultures and the art of the Southwest, that we are compelled to support its mission. We do this through annual giving, and because of the timeless and enduring necessity of its work, we have included the Amerind in our estate planning. We encourage others to do the same!”

—ROBERT ALPAUGH AND ROB WATERS



AMERIND

MUSEUM • ART GALLERY • RESEARCH CENTER

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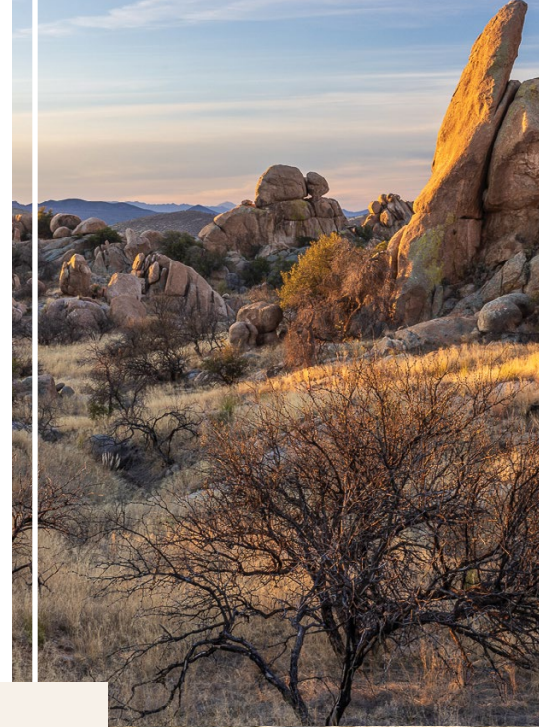
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UPPER: Photo courtesy of Dr. Jeff S. Maltzman.
MIDDLE: Jicarilla Apache master potter Sheldon Nuñez-Velarde at Autumn Fest. Photo by Maggie Ohnesorgen. LOWER: Amerind Museum. Photo courtesy of Bill Steen.

COVER: "Hilltop" by artist Maria Arvayo (Pascua Yaqui), exhibited in 2024 and purchased for Amerind's permanent collection. Photo by Eric J. Kaldahl.