



Photo by Richard Fenwick



PATRONATO

Mission San Xavier del Bac Summer 2020

Patronato secures \$250,000 Sacred Places Matching Grant for East Tower Project

In October 2018, Patronato's East Tower Project was selected by the National Fund for Sacred Places, a program of *Partners for Sacred Places* in collaboration with the *National Trust for Historic Preservation*, to receive up to \$250,000 as part of their grant making program. As a result, the Patronato set out to secure \$500,000 to qualify for the maximum \$2 to \$1 match.



Mission accomplished! Over the past 19 months, Patronato donors have responded generously, fully funding the \$500,000 match requirement. This positioned Patronato to be awarded the highest level of grant offered by the nation's only funder of preservation of American historic houses of worship. In addition to providing this grant, *Sacred Places* is assisting us expand our donor footprint by taking our message about the importance of conserving this fragile and culturally significant site to both National and International audiences.

Patronato extends our thanks to all supporters of the *Sacred Places* match. Having met this first challenge we are now moving to leverage these gifts against the final \$1 million needed to complete the conservation of the East Tower.

COVID-19 Virus: Impact on the Mission

Mission San Xavier joined sacred and culturally significant sites across the globe, closing its doors to worshipers and visitors due to the COVID-19 virus in mid-March. Being an anchor attraction for Southern Arizona and a cherished pilgrimage site, members of the Parish and the community were concerned that people visiting this National Historic Landmark could potentially bring the virus into the Wa:k community, part of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Although plans to fully reopen the Mission are still in development, conversations are taking place between Patronato and the Parish about significant differences in the ways people will access and experience Mission San Xavier in the foreseeable future. The Parish expressed a need early-on for support from Patronato Docents to help manage visitor access to the church, beginning with a soft reopening of only a small portion of the entrance to the church. This is the first, in a cautious series of reopening phases shaped with input from the Parish, the Wa:k Community, the San Xavier District and the Tohono O'odham Nation.

There are many physical and operating logistics that will impact how and when the Mission San Xavier reopens fully. Please watch for updates on the status of the Mission's reopening stages on the homepage of our website www.PatronatoSanXavier.org via our emailed up-dates and posts to our Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Gianfranco Grande Visits the Mission

In early February, Patronato hosted a visit by Gianfranco Grande, Executive Vice President from *Partners for Sacred Places*. Gianfranco participated as a featured speaker in Saving San Xavier events in both Tucson and Phoenix. He underscored the significance of Patronato and the Mission being selected for this prestigious funding as the *first* grant applicant in Arizona to do so.

It was Gianfranco's first visit to the Mission and, despite having seen thousands of churches both in this country and in Italy where he was born, he was visibly moved by his experience of Mission San Xavier.

Patronato is grateful for the ongoing assistance of Gianfranco Grande and the *Partners for Sacred Places*.



Gianfranco Grande, Executive Vice President from Partners for Sacred Places



[2]

Miles Green and Gianfranco Grande

Bringing the Mission to You

Access the Mission 24/7 from our website

Phases for reopening will take place gradually. With this in mind, Patronato has made it possible to access the Mission in new ways with more resources than ever to educate and inspire at www.PatronatoSanXavier.org:

Tour the Mission » Virtual Tour



Take 360-degree Self-guided Virtual Tour of the Church, the Mortuary Chapel and the Museum Rooms

Resources » Docent Favorites



Access a treasure-trove of our Docents' favorite videos and reading materials all tied to Mission San Xavier and its history.

Resources » Teacher Resource Guide



Download Patronato's Teacher Resource Guide for kids of all ages. It includes a timeline of the Mission, a crossword puzzle, word search games and more.



Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and keep an eye out for Patronato's new YouTube Channel launching soon. We'll be sharing photos, news, interviews with conservators and more!

Conservation during COVID-19

Patronato's critical conservation activities remained ongoing throughout the Mission closure, while observing safety and social distancing best practices. Highlights include:

Conservation Studio Projects

Statue of San Francisco de Asis / Virgin of Guadalupe

In Fall 2019, the Choir Loft was temporarily transformed into a Conservation Studio where Interior Art Conservators Tim Lewis and Matilde Rubio, accompanied by intern Susie Moreno, have continued their work. They are addressing the first-ever conservation of the life-size wooden statue of San Francisco of Assisi, removed from the West Transept last October, as well as a fragile 18th century canvas of the Virgin of Guadalupe, which traditionally hangs over the door to the East Tower on the ground floor to the church.



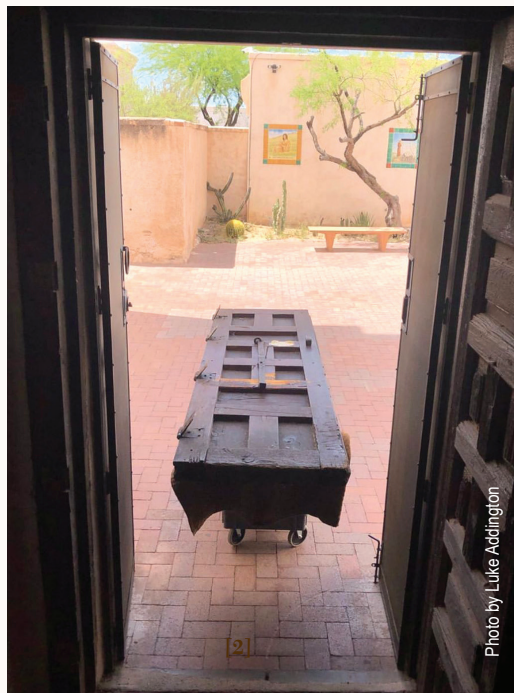
Photo by Sarah Smallhouse



West Doors Project

Thanks to generous support from the Southwestern Foundation who provided grant funding for this project, the first comprehensive conservation of the West Doors to the church is underway. The doors, which are severely weathered and have significant termite damage, were carefully removed in April. With evaluation and treatment planning complete, the conservation is currently in progress in the studio of Patronato's Wood Conservator, Luke Addington. The door jambs will be treated in place as the termites have left nothing more than a thin veneer of wood in some sections. Attempting to remove them would cause irreparable damage. Work will be completed towards the end of August.

Check our website
www.PatronatoSanXavier.org.
There you will find short videos
about a range of these projects



[2]

Photo by Luke Addington

Juan Diego Chapel Project

Patronato's Interior Art Conservators were also able to refurbish the interior of the Juan Diego Chapel during the Mission closure. This project had been delayed several times due to the small chapel's regular use by clergy for early morning services during the week. Refurbishment involved a thorough cleaning of the interior, to remove dust and debris that had collected in the beams and the saguaro rib ceilings, and the walls were refreshed with fresh plaster lime-wash. Work was completed mid-April and the results have been extremely well received by mission staff.

(Photos taken prior to closure)



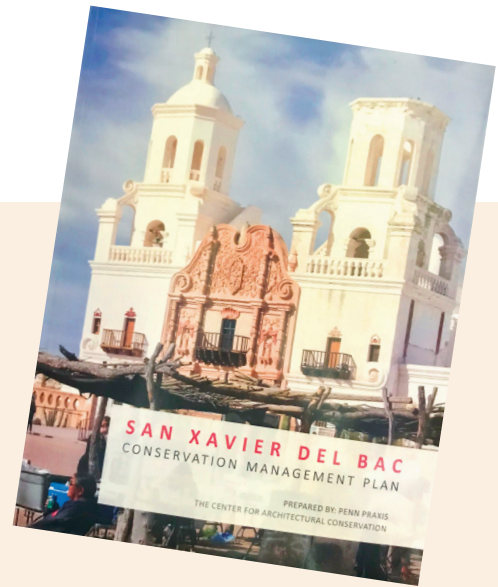
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Photo by Chuck Albanese

\$1 Million Campaign to complete the East Tower named in memory of Patricia O’Rielly Pettis

Last year we lost a long-time, former Board member and ardent supporter of Patronato and the Mission, Patricia O’Rielly Pettis. Not only was Patricia a two decade long Board member, she was responsible for providing initial funding for the Patronato Endowment through her family foundation. Pat, and husband Chuck, have played a hugely important role in ensuring the success of the conservation work at San Xavier across the last 25 years. The fund established to receive gifts for the completion phase of the campaign has been named the *Patricia O’Rielly Pettis Memorial Fund*.



The long awaited Conservation Management Plan is Here!*

The Conservation Management Plan, Patronato’s first comprehensive roadmap for conservation, which has been in development for almost two years, has just been delivered.



Starr Herr-Cardillo
*Project Manager,
Conservation
Management Plan*

Starr Herr-Cardillo, Project Manager, completed this multi-year project under the direction of Project Director, Professor Frank Matero, both with the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Architectural Conservation. After earning a Graduate Certificate in Heritage Conservation at the University of Arizona, Starr completed a Masters’ Program in Historic Preservation at the University of Pennsylvania. Growing up in Tucson, she was inspired to enter the field of historic preservation by a deep appreciation for the southwestern landscape, adobe architecture, and regional building traditions.

Now hired as an external consultant, Starr will be helping guide the Patronato’s Conservation Committee through the current priority, the completion of the East Tower, while assisting with planning for and implementing the remaining priorities to be accomplished over the next decade at the Mission.

**Digital versions of both the CMP Overview as well as the full Plan are featured on our website www.PatronatoSanXavier.org offering full access to this important planning document.*



Photo © iStockphoto.com / mitslav_1

Is your *Friend of Patronato* Status current?

Who are *Friends of Patronato* and why are they important?

Friends of Patronato support our Annual Fund providing critical dollars for general operations, which include funding for ongoing interior conservation maintenance projects as well as Patronato's Conservation Intern and Apprentice Programs.

Gift levels begin at \$100 per Family, \$75 per Couple and \$50 per Individual and your status as a Friend is active 12 months from the gift date.

How do I benefit from being a *Friend*?

Benefits include:

- Being sent the much-loved traditional invitation to the Christmas Concerts weeks before other supporters, with "priority access" to purchase tickets.
- Participating at no charge in the *Friend of Patronato* Lecture Series, running monthly, October through March. (This year we are exploring delivering our lecture series on a virtual platform if the virus continues to prevent in-person gatherings)
- Receiving invitations to Special Events with preferred *Friends of Patronato* ticket pricing.

How long does my status as a *Friend* last?

- *Friends* status remains active 12 months from the gift date. (Our website donation portal allows for both monthly giving and automatic annual renewal, both easy options to ensure your *Friend* status is always current). All gifts are deductible to the full extent allowed by the law.

How do I check my *Friend of Patronato* Status?

- Feel free to call Kimberly Ely at 520.447.8940 or email Patronato anytime at info@patronatosanxavier.org. You can also watch for our upcoming mailing.

An opportunity to join, renew or upgrade your *Friends* status is always available on our website: www.PatronatoSanXavier.org

Museum Rooms Update

Since the end of 2014, two of the four museum rooms in, and adjacent to, the East Tower were decommissioned so that construction work could take place in these areas. Initially the plan was to refresh the original exhibit items and to reinstall them once these rooms became accessible.

However, encouraged by members of the San Xavier District, a new plan was developed to repurpose these rooms to tell the story of the Walk O'odham, and the impact of Catholicism on the Community. A planning group comprising the Ethnographic Team, representing the San Xavier District, and Patronato's Executive Director have met across many months to develop the content of this new exhibit. This installation is supported in part by a grant from the National Parks Service. The newly installed Museum Rooms are expected to be completed in Fall 2020.



Board Transitions

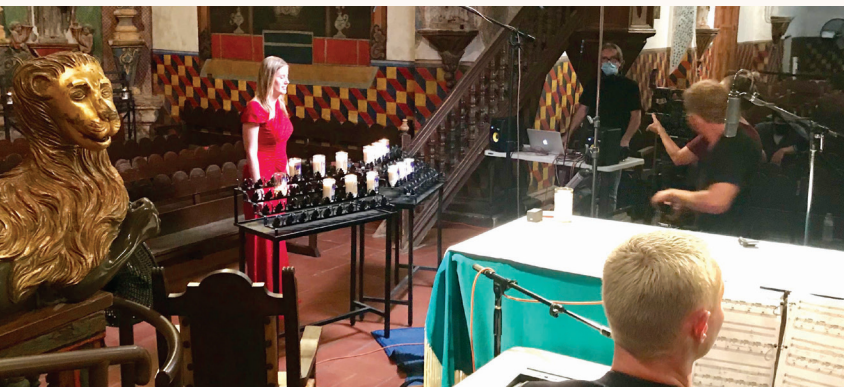
As part of newly instituted term limits, three long-time Board Members will be completing their board service as of June 30, 2020:

Dawn Cole (2001) has been an integral part of the team who built the very successful signature series, “Patronato’s Christmas at San Xavier”. A former Television producer, Dawn made a brilliant low-budget production of the concerts back in 2002 for promotional purposes. This production still plays nationally on PBS across the Christmas season. Dawn served as the Chair of the Board’s Membership Committee until 2018.

Laura Brown (2006) is an ardent supporter of the Mission’s Conservation. A tireless worker, she and husband Arch for years coordinated refreshments in the tent at the Concerts. She has held a number of positions on the Board including Patronato’s Treasurer for many years. Laura chaired the 2010 Capital Campaign and, from 2016, chaired Patronato’s Development Committee.

Fred Frelinghuysen (2007) has a deeply-rooted interest in conservation of the Mission. He has brought his significant business acumen to the Board as well as his insight and wisdom crafting core policies, always ensuring the best interests of the organization are upheld. Since 2016 Fred has served as Board Treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee.

As is the nature of all who have served on Patronato’s Board, Dawn, Laura and Fred all plan to maintain their strong connections to both the Patronato and to the conservation of Mission San Xavier.



2020: The year Patronato’s Christmas at San Xavier goes virtual

Our annual Concert Series raises 20% of the income we rely upon for our conservation work at the Mission. With no clarity about when the COVID-19 virus will end and when large gatherings might occur again, we are planning for a different kind of experience to celebrate the 2020 holiday season. If you are interested in partnering with us as a Corporate or family underwriter of this production; email Kimberly or Miles at info@patronatosanxavier.org Help us create this most memorable evening; allowing us all to share the best concert seat in the Mission from the comfort and safety of our own home.

An Unexpected Gift!



Since 1993 the Patronato has been the fortunate beneficiary of proceeds from the Silver & Turquoise Board of Hostesses’ Annual Ball. The Hostesses now count amongst the Patronato’s three largest supporters. This support has made a significant contribution across the years to many of our conservation projects at Mission San Xavier.

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Silver & Turquoise Ball was unable to be held this year. Imagine our surprise when, in June, a very generous gift arrived from the Board of Hostesses as an expression of their wish to ensure our conservation work proceeds. Special thanks to Amy Bhola, 2020/2021 Ball Chair for stewarding this gift and to all the Silver & Turquoise Board of Hostesses for such exceptional and unwavering support of our work, especially during these unprecedented and uncertain times.



Patronato San Xavier Board of Directors

Barbara Peck, *President*
Michael Urman, *Vice President*
Martin DeSoto, *Secretary*
Fred Frelinghuysen, *Treasurer*

Protecting Cultural Heritage

During these uncertain times, the healing and inspiring power of Mission San Xavier becomes even more critical. It also underscores the need to support the conservation of this great treasure now, more than ever.

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 Annual Fund giving as a *Friend of Patronato*
- Making a gift to the Restricted Conservation & Preservation Fund (Current Priority Project: The completion of the East Tower)
- Make 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 events throughout the 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: 520.447.8940

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

Text: “Kino” to 444999

Online: www.PatronatoSanXavier.org

Please let us know how we can assist:

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Development Director:

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Gerald Swanson[°]

Staff

Miles Green, *Executive Director*
Kimberly Ely, *Development Director*
Kathy Baily, *Scheduling Coordinator*

[°]deceased



Our 2019 Christmas Concert Series:

Thank you, Desert Diamond Casinos & Entertainment.



Patronato extends our thanks for such longstanding and significant underwriting support.

Patronato also wishes to thank:



Pat and Chuck Pettis

Laura and Arch Brown

Barbara and Hank Peck

Mary and Fred Frelinghuysen

Kenneth J. and Margaret F. McNealy Charitable Trust

Patronato's 2019 Concert Series was to be named in memory of Patricia O'Rielly Pettis. This recognition was included in the invitation but was unintentionally omitted from the Concert Program and we sincerely apologize for this oversight.

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

Photo © Balfour Walker

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