

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVES

Rick Miera, Vice Chair
Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales
Jimmie C. Hall
Dennis J. Roch
Mimi Stewart
Jack E. Thomas

State Capitol North, 325 Don Gaspar, Suite 200
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
Phone: (505) 986-4591 Fax: (505) 986-4338
<http://lesc.nmlegis.gov>

SENATORS

Cynthia Nava, Chair
Mary Jane M. García
Gay G. Kernan
Lynda M. Lovejoy

ADVISORY

Andrew J. Barreras
Ray Begaye
Eleanor Chávez
Nathan P. Cote
Nora Espinoza
Mary Helen Garcia
Karen E. Giannini
John A. Heaton
Sheryl M. Williams Stapleton
Shirley A. Tyler



ADVISORY

Vernon D. Asbill
Stephen H. Fischmann
Howie C. Morales
John Pinto
Sander Rue
William E. Sharer

Frances Ramirez-Maestas, Director
David Harrell, PhD, Deputy Director

August 23, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Education Study Committee

FR: Pamela Herman, J.D.

RE: STAFF REPORT: NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART EDUCATION WEBSITE

In 2007, the Legislature appropriated \$75,000 in capital outlay funds to the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) for the New Mexico Museum of Art to develop and implement an interactive fine arts outreach project. The purpose of the project is to pilot the use of a web-based format to teach New Mexico history using the holdings of the museum's art collection. The capital outlay funds successfully leveraged an additional donation of \$25,000 from a private anonymous source for the project.

Since then the Museum hired an historian who combed the Museum's collection book to identify six themes that could be used to portray New Mexico history based on state academic content standards and benchmarks. Those themes are:

- 1) pre-modern history of New Mexico;
- 2) Twentieth Century history of New Mexico;
- 3) economic growth and development in the West;
- 4) social and political trends in New Mexico;
- 5) New Mexico's landscape and environment; and
- 6) art and architecture of New Mexico.

The Museum also hired a researcher to develop historical content, and a manager and artist to edit that content, design the website, select images from the Museum's collection for the website, and develop questions and educational activities related to the images and themes.

As of late summer 2010, the project manager and the Museum's information technology staff are building the website, and the content, design, images, and educational activities are coming together to bring the first four themes to life. The Museum Foundation is seeking additional funds to begin work on the final two themes.

Presenters

Ms. Mary Kershaw, Director, New Mexico Museum of Art

Ms. Mary Jebson, Deputy Director, New Mexico Museum of Art

Ms. Lorraine Schechter, Project Director