



FRIENDS OF THE IXCHEL MUSEUM

Supporting The Textile Arts of Guatemala

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September, 2021

Dear Friends of the Ixchel Museum:

We are keen to let you know about our Friends of the Ixchel Museum show at WheatonArts. A selection from our traveling exhibit **Mayan Traje: A Tradition in Transition** will be displayed from September 24th to December 31st at the *Down Jersey Folklife Center* in Millville, New Jersey. The 45-acre complex also houses a glass museum, craft studios, and a nature trail...plenty to justify a visit. The annual **Festival of Fine Craft** will be on October 2&3. We will provide a live weaving demonstration (via our co-op, "*Weaving for the Future*") and there will also be a sawdust rug created. You can also enjoy the two related *Wheaton Conversations* on their website. Concurrently, Penn Museum is offering a 5-weekly webinar course on Mayan textiles starting September 9th. Noted lecturers will speak on a variety of topics, including history, materials, and the woven symbols used in this constantly evolving art form. But -- Millville is accessible from Washington, DC to Philadelphia, so we hope to see you there.

We are really impressed by how the Museo in Guatemala continues to work on key projects. Noteworthy is the ongoing renovation of Sala IV, funded by a grant from us. The hall will be updated via several new technologies...and by featuring examples of current fashion, with fieldwork also sponsored by us. And staff are also busy organizing an international weaving symposium! Representatives from several countries will hold conferences – a combination of on-site and virtual – at the three-day *Encuentro Textil de las Américas*, which will cement the Museum's leadership in textile research and preservation. You really must visit their website; it has been enhanced and expanded and is wonderful.

I close on a sad note – the death of the Museum's former curator, Rosario Miralbés de Polanco, who passed away after a long illness. Rosario was instrumental in cataloging the collection and in acquiring wonderful pieces. Her presence and academic expertise enabled many important projects and publications, and she was elemental in teaching and sharing with Violeta all her knowledge on textiles.

As always, we are grateful for your support. It makes so much possible and it's a pleasure to thank you for our continued progress.

Ana-María V. Zaugg
President, Friends of the Ixchel Museum

Visit ixchelfriends.org