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**MESSENGERS OF HEALING WINDS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$1 MILLION  
GIFT FOR NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM**

**Gift Launches Public Phase of Museum of New Mexico Foundation's 'Shape the Future'  
Campaign to Support History Museum, Other State Museums and Monuments**

**Santa Fe, N.M.**—Messengers of Healing Winds Foundation announced a \$1 million gift for the New Mexico History Museum at the Museum of New Mexico Foundation's Annual Meeting on Aug. 2, launching the public phase of the Museum Foundation's \$22 million "Shape the Future" endowment and capital campaign for the history museum and other state museums and monuments.

The gift is the largest ever made in New Mexico by the Santa Fe-based Messengers of Healing Winds Foundation, whose primary focus is to support environmental, animal dignity, and select fine arts, education and social service projects in New Mexico, Northwest Iowa, South Dakota and Southern Florida. The gift will help build exhibitions at the new 95,000-square-foot New Mexico History Museum in downtown Santa Fe, which is expected to open in 2009.

Andrea Waitt Carlton, founder and president of Messengers of Healing Winds Foundation, says the history museum's goal of representing the wide-ranging experiences and perspectives of all New Mexicans through its exhibitions and collections is part of what inspired her Foundation to make such a major investment in the project.

"The history of New Mexico is just as important as its future, and we understand that by giving this much, we can make a difference in the lives of many New Mexicans," Waitt Carlton says. "Too often people don't know their own personal history, but they need to know where they came from and what their great-grandfather did because it shapes how they believe. The history museum will teach us all a lot about New Mexico and each other that we haven't known before."

Located adjacent to the centuries-old Palace of the Governors, which has served as the state history museum since 1909, the New Mexico History Museum will anchor a cultural complex that includes a restored Palace of the Governors, the Fray Angelico Chávez History Library and Photo Archives, and the Palace Press. As the repository for the state's historic patrimony—including more than 800,000 artifacts, historical documents, photographs, and books representing key periods in New Mexico history—the innovative new museum will stand as the largest cultural investment ever made in historic downtown Santa Fe.

"This gift also reflects our Foundation's civic-mindedness in helping move Santa Fe forward," Waitt Carlton says. "I like doing new things that haven't been done before. I like the design of the building and the exhibits. I think the museum will be an exciting new destination that every age will love."

**Shape the Future**

The New Mexico History Museum is the cornerstone of the private nonprofit Museum of New Mexico Foundation's \$22 million "Shape the Future" campaign to support endowment and capital projects for cultural initiatives and growth at Foundation-affiliated institutions. These institutions

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## **Messengers of Healing Winds/Shape the Future pg. 2**

include the New Mexico History Museum/Palace of the Governors, New Mexico Museum of Art, Museum of International Folk Art, Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology, six state monuments and the Office of Archaeological Studies.

To date, more than \$16 million in private funding has been raised through the Shape the Future campaign, including \$3.25 designated for the New Mexico History Museum. The total private fundraising goal for history museum exhibitions is \$6.5 million. The museum previously has received significant public funding for construction, including \$21 million in state funds and \$15 million in federal funds.

Museum of New Mexico Foundation Trustee Eileen Wells, Chair of the Shape the Future Campaign, notes that the \$1 million gift from the Messengers of Healing Winds Foundation is the largest cash gift to date for the history museum. She says the gift presents the perfect opportunity to take the campaign public and give other private donors the chance to invest in the state's cultural heritage.

"The Museum of New Mexico Foundation has been working closely with our partners at the Museum of New Mexico and the Department of Cultural Affairs to secure the endowment and capital funds that will allow us to serve the important needs of our cultural institutions today and in the future," Wells says. "Thanks to Messengers of Healing Winds Foundation and others, we are pleased and grateful that things are going well. We are now reaching out to private donors who want to help our institutions achieve even greater excellence and success."

Messengers of Healing Winds Foundation Executive Director Steve Rasmussen adds that the Foundation's gift will be even more valuable when it encourages other private donors to support the state's cultural institutions through the Shape the Future campaign. "We always want to make the most of our gifts to the community. "If our \$1 million can be transformed into \$3 million or \$4 million through the generosity of others, we'll know we've made a significant impact," he says.

Shape the Future, which will conclude in 2009 during the Museum of New Mexico's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is the Museum of New Mexico Foundation's largest campaign ever. Successful recent campaigns include Milner Plaza on Museum Hill; the Museum of International Folk Art Neutrogena Wing; the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture Amy Rose Bloch Wing, Living Traditions Education Center, and Masterpiece Gallery; and the Palace of the Governors Fray Angelico Chávez History Library.

"The Shape the Future campaign is our gift from the foundation and its members to begin shaping the future of our museums and monuments for the next 100 years," says Foundation Executive Director Tom Aageson.

**To learn how to give to the Shape the Future Campaign, contact Development Director Colleen Kelly at 982-6366, ext. 107, or [colleenk@museumfoundation.org](mailto:colleenk@museumfoundation.org).**

Founded in 1962, the private, non-profit Museum of New Mexico Foundation raises funds for exhibitions, education, collections, capital improvements and other valuable programs and projects at the Palace of the Governors/New Mexico History Museum, New Mexico Museum of Art, Museum of International Folk Art, and Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology; six state monuments; and the Office of Archaeological Studies. For more information visit [www.museumfoundation.org](http://www.museumfoundation.org).